

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, it is critical to bring awareness to the citizens of Tampa about the current and projected impacts of climate change on our communities, state, and nation, and promote actions to become a part of the solution to ensure a sustainable planet for future generations, and in 2022, the United Nations reports that harmful global warming gas emissions over the last decade are the highest ever recorded; and

WHEREAS, Florida is greatly impacted by the adverse effects of climate change and its hurricanes are projected to be more frequent and severe, and the Tampa Bay Climate Science Advisory Panel (CSAP) projects that the Tampa region can expect 11” to 2.5 feet of sea level rise by 2050 and between 1.9 to 8.5 feet by 2100, and the Union of Concerned Scientists warns without climate action, Tampa will likely experience eroded beaches, coastal flooding, and extreme heat; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, the United States House of Representatives House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis, chaired by Representative Kathy Castor, representing the 14th District of Florida, released “*Solving the Climate Crisis: The Congressional Action Plan for a Clean Energy Economy and a Healthy, Resilient, and Just America*” that provided recommendations to reduce America’s net greenhouse gas emissions to zero by 2050, support economic recovery through clean energy investment and job creation, and address environmental justice issues; and

WHEREAS, responding to the climate crises requires that frontline and marginalized communities participate actively in the planning and implementation of this mobilization effort and that they benefit from the transition to a climate-safe economy, and Florida can become a national leader in climate solutions; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa established its Sustainability and Resiliency Officer, who is charged with carrying out activities and strategic initiatives related to developing a climate action and equity plan, facilitating a transition to a clean energy future, promoting the creation of green jobs, ensuring environmental justice through the climate planning process, and advising that infrastructure and land development patterns take climate impacts into consideration, and the City of Tampa has earned Gold certification through the **USGBC LEED for Cities** accreditation process, which recognizes the environmental, social, and economic success achieved by the City; and

WHEREAS, it is critical that communities join to solve the climate crisis, and the **Florida Race To Zero** carbon emissions campaign provides a platform to bring attention to climate risks and necessary actions with businesses, industry, citizens, and frontline communities, and to bring awareness of the climate crisis, the **VoLo Foundation** whose mission includes accelerating change and global impact by supporting science-based climate solutions, enhancing education, and improving health is hosting events throughout **Florida Climate Week**.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, Mayor of the city of Tampa, do hereby commit the City of Tampa to the Florida Race to Zero pledge, and by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim October 3-7, 2022, as

“FLORIDA CLIMATE WEEK”

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all residents to join me in recognizing the impact climate change has on our community and in doing what we can as individuals and collectively to solve and mitigate its devastating effects.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 19th day of September 2022.



Mayor

