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Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, established in 2014, Florida Climate Week is observed in many cities throughout the state, and it is critical to bring awareness to the residents of the Tampa Bay area about the projected impacts of climate change on our communities, state, and nation; and

WHEREAS, it is reported that the year 2023 set a record for heat deaths in the United States with this year predicted to be deadlier, and sea level rise and coastal storm surge caused by climate change threaten our quality of life and biological diversity; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa published its Climate Action & Equity Plan and 100% Clean and Renewable Municipal Energy Plan, setting 56 actions across 10 climate action categories to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change by increasing resilience in our communities, reducing greenhouse gas emissions through the transition to 100% renewable energy, and engaging communities along the way; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa spends an estimated \$25 million annually on electric bills, and it installed over one megawatt of solar, enough to power nearly 3,200 homes, it purchased more than 50 electric vehicles, and is taking advantage of the Elective Pay tax incentive provided by the Inflation Reduction Act; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa furthered its commitment to a sustainable future through the hiring of two full-time staff positions and AmeriCorps service members and is increasing the capacity of its Sustainability and Resilience Officer to advocate for and accomplish climate action initiatives.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim the week of October 7-13, 2024, 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 the nation and in doing what we can as individuals and collectively to solve and mitigate its devastating effects.

Jane Contar

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 23rd day of September 2024.