



## Town of Orono

### COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PARTNERSHIP RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Orono has completed the Community Resilience Partnership's Community Resilience Self-Assessment and List of Community Actions, and held a community workshop on January 26, 2022 which prioritized the following action areas: weatherization and electrification, including transitioning the municipal fleet to electrical vehicles and installing heat pumps in Town buildings to increase efficiency and decrease dependence on fossil fuels as well as investing in municipal infrastructure to support public use of electric vehicles; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Orono experiences intense rainstorms, riverine flooding, ice jams, drought, wildfires, high heat emergencies, and other natural hazards and seeks to better prepare for future conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, planning for community and infrastructure resilience will protect people, preserve businesses and the local economy, and reduce the impact and costs of natural disasters; and

**WHEREAS**, investing in energy efficiency and weatherization improvements is proven to lower municipal electricity expenses and make buildings more comfortable for employees and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, transitioning municipal fleet vehicles to electric vehicles lowers fuel and maintenance costs and reduces the uncertainty of variable fuel prices on municipal budgets; and

**WHEREAS**, the Gulf of Maine is warming 99% faster than other oceans around the world, and ocean acidification and warming ocean temperatures pose a serious economic and cultural risk to Maine maritime industries, heritage, and tourism; and

**WHEREAS**, shifting seasonal temperature and precipitation patterns threaten local natural ecosystems, economic activity such as tourism and seasonal recreation, and public health due to increased incidence of heat-related illness and tick-borne illnesses such as Lyme disease; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Orono is prepared to demonstrate leadership in reducing energy use and greenhouse gas emissions, and increasing the resilience of people, infrastructure, and businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, addressing climate change will present economic opportunities for the Town of Orono as well as opportunities to invest in the public good and cost-saving practices; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Maine's four-year climate action plan, *Maine Won't Wait*, seeks to put Maine on a trajectory to decrease greenhouse gas emissions 45% by 2030 and 80% by 2050, and achieve carbon neutrality by 2045; and

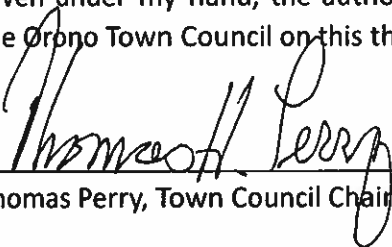
**WHEREAS**, achieving these emissions and resilience goals will require Maine to act with urgency to slow the causes of climate change and prepare people, communities, and the environment for climate-related impacts to come; and

**WHEREAS**, the Community Resilience Partnership provides grants to municipalities and Tribal Governments for activities that lower energy expenses, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and increase community resilience in alignment with the state's climate action plan and goals; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Orono commits to participating in the Community Resilience Partnership, which supports community leadership in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing resilience to extreme weather and climate change impacts; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town of Orono designates the Town Manager, or designee, to coordinate planning, implementation, and monitoring of energy and resilience projects and to be the primary point of contact to the Community Resilience Partnership.

Given under my hand, the authorized representative of the duly elected municipal officers of the Orono Town Council on this the 31st day of January, 2022:

  
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Thomas Perry, Town Council Chairperson