

1 Sponsored by: Councilmembers Shawn Bunney, Timothy M. Farrell, Calvin Goings, File No. 467  
2 and Terry Lee  
3 Requested by: County Council  
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7 RESOLUTION NO. R2007-48  
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10 **A Resolution of the Pierce County Council Supporting the County's**  
11 **Participation in the Green Ribbon Climate Action Task Force**  
12 **Established by the City of Tacoma to Develop Enforceable**  
13 **Goals for Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions;**  
14 **Requesting the County Executive to Pursue Greenhouse Gas**  
15 **Reduction Goals for County Operations and to Promote**  
16 **Public Awareness about Climate Change Issues; and**  
17 **Supporting International Efforts to Reduce Greenhouse Gas**  
18 **Emissions Meeting the Kyoto Protocol.**  
19

20 **Whereas**, the world's leading climate scientists have documented a clear global  
21 warming trend caused by greenhouse gases trapped in the atmosphere near the earth's  
22 surface; and  
23

24 **Whereas**, this trend has alarming implications for serious and costly disruption to  
25 human and natural systems throughout the world; and  
26

27 **Whereas**, estimates indicate that though the United States accounts for less than  
28 5 percent of the world's population, it is responsible for producing approximately 25  
29 percent of the world's global warming pollutants; and  
30

31 **Whereas**, the 1997 Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change ("Kyoto Protocol")  
32 represents a first step, by nations worldwide, to provide for the purposeful reduction of  
33 greenhouse gases in the atmosphere; and  
34

35 **Whereas**, the Climate Impacts Group, University of Washington, commissioned  
36 by the Puget Sound Action Team to study climate change and its effects on Puget  
37 Sound, issued a final report, "Uncertain Future," in October 2005; and  
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39 **Whereas**, the Puget Sound Action Team report described the dangers and risks  
40 of climate change and called for local analysis and policy development; and  
41

42 **Whereas**, the federal government has, thus far, refused to sign the Kyoto  
43 protocol; and  
44



1           **Whereas**, actions of local governments can provide a collective response in lieu  
2 of federal action and may provide benefits of testing and developing model programs,  
3 methods, and technologies for greenhouse gas reduction; and  
4

5           **Whereas**, over 200 cities in the United States and over 400 cities worldwide are  
6 inventorying greenhouse gas emissions and adopting reduction goals; and  
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8           **Whereas**, regionally, King County, Whatcom County, the City of Seattle, and the  
9 Puget Sound Clean Air Agency are developing climate protection plans or policies; and  
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11           **Whereas**, the City of Tacoma established and appointed a Green Ribbon  
12 Climate Action Task Force to undertake an analysis of greenhouse gas emissions in the  
13 City of Tacoma, develop numeric gas reduction goals, and coordinate with other  
14 agencies and jurisdictions; and  
15

16           **Whereas**, local governments influence a community's emissions by exercising  
17 key powers over land use, transportation, construction, waste management, and energy  
18 management; and  
19

20           **Whereas**, reducing the magnitude of climate change may reduce its harmful  
21 effects on public health and safety by decreasing the impacts of severe weather and  
22 reducing harmful emissions; **Now Therefore**,

23  
24           **BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of Pierce County:**  
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26           Section 1. The County Council hereby supports Pierce County's participation in  
27 the City of Tacoma's Green Ribbon Climate Action Task Force and its efforts to  
28 inventory greenhouse gas emissions and establish gas reduction goals.  
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30           Section 2. The County Council requests the County Executive to pursue the  
31 establishment of greenhouse reduction goals for County operations and to promote  
32 public awareness about climate change issues.  
33



1        Section 3. The County Council supports international efforts to reduce  
2 greenhouse gas emissions that meet or exceed the greenhouse gas reduction  
3 requirements of the Kyoto protocol and calls on national leaders to support a strong,  
4 enforceable international greenhouse gas reduction treaty with targets and timetables at  
5 least as aggressive as those in the Kyoto protocol.

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7        **ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.**

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9 ATTEST:

**PIERCE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
Pierce County, Washington

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13 \_\_\_\_\_  
14 **Denise D. Johnson**  
15 Clerk of the Council

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**Terry Lee**  
Council Chair

