RESOLUTION 2011–12

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL CERRITO ADOPTING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTION TARGETS OF 15% BELOW 2005 EMISSIONS LEVELS BY 2020 AND 30% BELOW 2005 LEVELS BY 2035

WHEREAS, there is a scientific consensus, as established by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and confirmed by the National Academy of Sciences, that the continued buildup of anthropogenic greenhouse gases in the atmosphere threatens the stability of the global climate; and

WHEREAS, there are significant long-term risks to the economy and the environment of the United States, California, and the City of El Cerrito from the climatic disruptions that are projected to result from increased greenhouse gas concentrations; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Cerrito has adopted resolutions supporting state and local actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including Resolutions 2006-61 endorsing the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, and 2006-93 endorsing the reduction targets of the California Global Warming Solutions Act (AB 32); and

WHEREAS, local governments greatly influence their community's greenhouse gas emissions by providing leadership and by exercising key powers over land use, transportation infrastructure, building construction, and waste management; and

WHEREAS, local government actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions provide multiple local benefits by decreasing air pollution, creating jobs, reducing energy expenditures, and saving money for City government, its businesses, and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, on May 5, 2008 the City of El Cerrito adopted Resolution 2008-33 accepting El Cerrito's 2005 baseline greenhouse gas emissions inventory and directing staff to develop a Climate Action Plan, which includes the establishment of greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets; and

WHEREAS, the State of California's *AB 32 Scoping Plan* recommends that local governments reduce emissions by 15% below "current" levels by 2020, and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District also recommends that local government Climate Action Plans use this goal; and

WHEREAS, meeting these targets will require a steady decrease in emissions over the next 25 years and will be the result of implementing an array of strategies across all sectors, which will be considered in the El Cerrito Climate Action Plan.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of El Cerrito that it does hereby adopt the following greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets for the El Cerrito community and its own city operations: 15% below 2005 emissions levels by 2020 and 30% below 2005 levels by 2035.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall become effective immediately upon passage and adoption.

I CERTIFY that at a regular meeting on February 22, 2011 the City Council of the City of El Cerrito passed this Resolution by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Abelson, Benassini, Jones, Lyman and Mayor Cheng

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

IN WITNESS of this action, I sign this document and affix the corporate seal of the City of El Cerrito on February 23, 2011.

Cheryl Morse, City Clerk

APPROVED:

Ann Cheng, Mayor