

CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW
RESOLUTION NO.
SERIES 2022

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW
SUPPORTING A PLANT-BASED EATING PROGRAM

WHEREAS, on October 22, 2019, the City Council adopted Environment Sustainability Action Plan 4, which includes Action S4.7 to “[d]evelop a resolution and outreach in support of a plant-based diet” in order to reduce consumption-based emissions in the community; and

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2020, the City Council passed a resolution adopting a community-wide carbon neutrality target of 2045, which involves enacting policies and programs to achieve the emissions reductions needed to meet that goal; and

WHEREAS, the City Council established a major goal for Fiscal Years 2019-20 and 2020-21 to “Promote Environmental Sustainability and the Quality of Life for the Enjoyment of Current and Future Generations with a Focus on Measurable Outcomes”; and

WHEREAS, scientific analysis has shown that one of the most effective ways for a person to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions is to reduce or eliminate their consumption of meat and dairy products; and

WHEREAS, in the Bay Area, food accounts for nearly 20% of the greenhouse gas footprint of an average household; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization estimates that the livestock sector contributes 14.5% of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions, more than the entire transportation sector combined; and

WHEREAS, a plant-based diet helps preserve our grasslands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat and reduces pollutants of our waterways, including the Tuolumne River, Mountain View’s primary drinking water source; and

WHEREAS, a growing number of cities, including Los Angeles, California; Berkeley, California; Durham, North Carolina; and Cleveland, Ohio, have passed resolutions encouraging residents to explore a plant-based diet to protect their health, the environment, and the welfare of animals; and

WHEREAS, in Santa Clara County, fewer than one in five adults (19%) ate the recommended three or more servings of vegetables per day, and only about one quarter of adults (27%) ate the recommended two or more servings of fruit per day; and

WHEREAS, nearly one in two adults (46%) in Santa Clara County are estimated to have prediabetes or undiagnosed diabetes; and

WHEREAS, the Mountain View Whisman School District and Mountain View Los Alto Union High School District offer a vegetarian option each day as part of their nutrition program; and

WHEREAS, Mountain View has a thriving and diverse restaurant community, many of which already offer a variety of plant-based dishes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Mountain View passes this resolution in support of:

1. Increasing awareness of plant-based diets, encouraging community members to eat more plant-based food and fewer meat, seafood, and dairy products.
2. Incorporating equity into the plant-based eating program.
3. Collaborating with restaurants, grocery stores, and other food establishments to offer a greater variety of more sustainable plant-based options.
4. Avoiding increased expenses by supporting food establishments to offer cost effective plant-based options and through provision of a low- or no-cost certification program.

MS-SA/6/RESO
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