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MISSOURI CHAPTER

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Kansas City Makes Bold Step Towards Renewable Energy

City Council to create new Climate Protection Plan, opens path to more renewable energy, energy efficiency for Kansas City

KANSAS CITY, MO - Today, the Kansas City City Council took an important first step towards the City's and region's 100% clean energy future. The Council passed **Resolution 200005** setting targets for an update to the City's 2008 Climate Protection Plan. It directs the City Manager, working collaboratively with community stakeholders across Kansas City, to submit a plan by March 31, 2021.

This legislation requires that the updated Climate Protection and Resiliency Plan:

- Achieve 100% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from electricity consumption citywide by 2030, and become "climate neutral" by 2040.
- Make climate protection and greenhouse gas reduction key factors in all city decisions.
- Include an inclusive stakeholder process prioritizing the meaningful and equitable involvement of community members and representative organizations.

Over 100 public comments on the resolution were submitted to the Council.

Statement from Kevin Grooms, Chair of the Sierra Club Thomas Hart Benton Group:

"The science is clear that cities, states, and countries need to rapidly move away from dirty fossil fuels. This transition must be centered in equity and protecting the health of our communities, and we are pleased to see that the City expressed that commitment here.

"The next steps to achieve these goals must include: strong energy efficiency building codes, expansion of renewable energy, electrification of vehicles, improved public transit, and green infrastructure. The city cannot do this alone, and we all need to work together to see our city grow and become resilient. We look forward to supporting robust public involvement in the upcoming stakeholder process."

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About the Sierra Club: The Sierra Club is America's largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization, with more than 3.8 million members and supporters. In addition to protecting every person's right to get outdoors and access the healing power of nature, the Sierra Club works to promote clean energy, safeguard the health of our communities, protect wildlife, and preserve our remaining wild places through grassroots activism, public education, lobbying, and legal action. For more information, visit www.sierraclub.org.