

**CITY OF BORDENTOWN**

**RESOLUTION 2007-54**

**ENDORISING THE U.S. MAYORS CLIMATE PROTECTION AGREEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors has previously adopted strong policy resolutions calling for cities, communities and federal government to take actions to reduce global warming pollution; and

**WHEREAS**, the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the international community's most respected assemblage of scientists, has found that climate disruption is a reality and that human activities are largely responsible for increasing concentrations of global warming pollution; and

**WHEREAS**, recent well documented impacts of climate disruption include average global sea level increases of four to eight inches during the 20<sup>th</sup> century; a 40 percent decline in Arctic sea ice thickness; and nine of the ten hottest years on record occurring in the past decade; and

**WHEREAS**, climate disruption of the magnitude now predicted by the scientific community will cause extremely costly disruption of human and natural systems throughout the world including: increased risk of floods or droughts; sea level rises that interact with coastal storms to erode beaches, inundate land and damage structures; more frequent and extreme heat waves; more frequent and greater concentrations of smog; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 16, 2005, the Kyoto Protocol, an international agreement to address climate disruption, went into effect in the 141 countries that have ratified it to date; 38 of those countries are now legally required to reduce greenhouse gas emissions on average 5.2 percent below 1990 levels by 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States of America with less than five percent of the world's population, is responsible for producing approximately 25 percent of the world's global warming pollutants; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kyoto Protocol emissions reduction target for the U.S. would have been 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, many leading US companies that have adopted greenhouse gas reduction programs to demonstrate corporate social responsibility have also publicly expressed preference for the U.S. to adopt precise and mandatory emissions targets and timetables as a means by which to remain competitive in the international marketplace, to mitigate financial risk and to promote sound investment decisions; and

**WHEREAS**, state and local governments throughout the United States are adopting emission reduction targets and programs and that this leadership is bipartisan, coming from Republican and Democratic governors and mayors alike; and

**WHEREAS**, many cities throughout the nation, both large and small, are reducing global warming pollutants through programs that provide economic and quality of life benefits such as reduced energy bills, green space preservation, air quality improvements, reduced traffic congestion, improved transportation choices, and economic development and job creation through energy conservation and new energy technologies; and

**WHEREAS**, mayors from around the nation have signed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement which, as amended at the 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting, reads:

**The U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement**

- A. We urge the federal government and state governments to enact policies and programs to meet or beat the target of reducing global warming pollution levels to 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012, including efforts to: reduce the United States' dependence on fossil fuels and accelerate the