

**RESOLUTION NO. 25  
SERIES 2019**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CRESTED BUTTE TOWN COUNCIL ENDORSING THE  
DECLARATION OF A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REAFFIRMING CRESTED  
BUTTE'S COMMITMENT TO CLIMATE ACTION**

**WHEREAS**, in April 2016, world leaders recognized the urgent need to combat climate change by signing the Paris Agreement, agreeing to keep global warming “well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels” and to “pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C;” which is in itself not safe for humanity; and

**WHEREAS**, in October 2018, the United Nations released a special report which projected that limiting warming to the unsafe 1.5°C target this century will require an unprecedented transformation of every sector of the global economy over the next 12 years; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2018, the 4th Annual National Climate Assessment was released and illustrates the massive threat that climate change poses to the American economy, our environment and climate stability, and underscores the need for immediate action to address a climate emergency at all levels of government; and

**WHEREAS**, the increased and intensifying wildfires, floods, rising seas, diseases, droughts and extreme weather brought on by climate change demonstrate that the Earth is too hot to be a safe environment; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States of America has disproportionately contributed to the climate and ecological emergencies and thus bears an extraordinary responsibility to rapidly solve these crises; and

**WHEREAS**, humanity can no longer safely emit greenhouse gasses and must demand an emergency mobilization effort to rapidly reach zero emissions across all sectors of the economy; to rapidly and safely drawdown and remove all the excess carbon from the atmosphere at emergency speed and until safe, pre-industrial climate conditions are restored; and to implement measures to protect all people and species from the consequences of abrupt climate breakdown; and

**WHEREAS**, building a society that is resilient to the current, expected, and potential effects of climate change will protect health, lives, ecosystems, and economies, and such resilience efforts will have positive impact even when the most dramatic potential consequences of climate change are taken into account; and

**WHEREAS**, justice means that climate resilience efforts must simultaneously address the specific experiences, vulnerabilities and needs of marginalized communities within and

outside of our jurisdiction, and these members of our community must be centered, included and supported in actively engaging in climate resilience planning, policy, and actions; and

**WHEREAS**, addressing climate change equitably requires transition from fossil fuels to emissions-free, renewable energy that is ecologically sustainable for all people, especially those most impacted by climate change today and those who will be most impacted in the future; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Crested Butte is joined in acting on climate change by a global coalition of city, state and national governments and community and private sector leaders who have declared or officially acknowledged the existence of a global climate emergency and recognizes the importance of actions to protect and enhance the well-being of current and future generations; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Colorado has created a roadmap to reach 100% renewable energy by 2040, and in 2019, passed HB19-1261, which sets a statewide goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2030 and 90% by 2050.

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Crested Butte values a sustainable and healthy community, embraces resource efficiency and environmental stewardship, and has a history of working towards a more sustainable community from preserving open space to enacting policies and projects to reduce the Town's environmental footprint; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2018, the Crested Butte Town Council set an aggressive five-year goal to reduce the Town's municipal greenhouse gas emissions by 50% and the community at-large's emissions by 25%. and in 2019, created a Climate Action Plan through holding multiple community meetings and utilizing input from a wide variety of stakeholders to develop a roadmap to reach this goal; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Crested Butte is committed to reaching this goal but understands that it must do more to be a leader regionally and among mountain towns to achieve net-zero carbon emissions; and

**WHEREAS**, Crested Butte and our neighboring municipalities and counties have the insight, drive, and capacity for aggressive climate action, and when we work together across social and geographic borders, we can build transformative networks to combat climate change in our region.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CRESTED BUTTE, COLORADO THAT:**

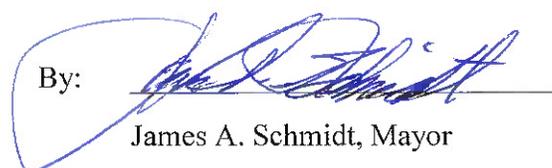
1. The Town of Crested Butte commits to a Town-wide mobilization effort to reverse global warming and the ecological crisis, starting with the adoption of the 2019 Crested Butte Climate Action Plan, as shown in Exhibit A, which, with appropriate financial and regulatory assistance from state and federal authorities, will meet the Town's five-year goal of 50% municipal greenhouse gas emissions reductions and 25% community-wide greenhouse gas emissions reductions by 2023.

2. The Town of Crested Butte will work to reverse global warming beyond this 5-year goal by striving to power the Town with 100% renewable electricity by 2030 and achieving Town-wide net-zero greenhouse gas emissions as quickly as possible, and no later than 2030.
3. The Town of Crested Butte will additionally initiate an effort to safely drawdown carbon from the atmosphere through land conservation and land use planning efforts supporting carbon sequestration.
4. The Town of Crested Butte will ensure a just transition for residents and accelerate adaptation and resilience strategies for the community in preparation for intensifying local climate impacts.
5. The Town of Crested Butte will work with neighboring entities, governments and organizations to work regionally towards reversing global warming through large-scale transit, waste, energy, and land use solutions.
6. The Town of Crested Butte will continue advocating at the state and federal level for climate change legislation through participation in Colorado Communities for Climate Action and by actively advocating for relevant climate policy.
7. Town staff will inform the Crested Butte Town Council of how projects and policies will have an impact on climate change and the Crested Butte Town Council will discuss and consider climate change impacts in their decision making.
8. The Town of Crested Butte recognizes that the full participation, inclusion, support, and leadership of the youth, local businesses, community organizations, visitors, and all members of the Crested Butte community are integral to the climate emergency response and mobilization efforts.
9. The Town of Crested Butte joins a nation-wide call for a regional, national, and international climate emergency mobilization effort focused on rapidly catalyzing a mobilization at all levels of government to reverse global warming and the ecological crisis.
10. The Town of Crested Butte calls on the State of Colorado, the United States Congress, the President of the United States, and all governments and people worldwide to declare a climate emergency, initiate a Climate Mobilization to reverse global warming and the ecological crisis, and provide maximum protection for all people and species of the world.
11. In furtherance of this resolution, the Mayor of Crested Butte shall submit a certified copy of this resolution to our state and federal elected representatives and request that all relevant support and assistance in effectuating this resolution be provided.

**INTRODUCED, READ AND ADOPTED BEFORE THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE  
TOWN OF CRESTED BUTTE, COLORADO THIS 21<sup>st</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, 2019.**

**TOWN OF CRESTED BUTTE, COLORADO**

By: \_\_\_\_\_



James A. Schmidt, Mayor

**ATTEST:**



Lynelle Stanford, Town Clerk

