



# Albemarle County

## Legislation Text

---

**File #:** 18-458, **Version:** 1

---

**AGENDA DATE:** 9/5/2018

**TITLE:**

Climate Action - "We Are Still In" Declaration

**SUBJECT/PROPOSAL/REQUEST:** Authorize Chair Signature for "We Are Still In" Declaration

**ITEM TYPE:** Consent Action Item

**STAFF CONTACT(S):** Richardson, Henry, Harper, and Lowe

**PRESENTER (S):** N/A

**LEGAL REVIEW:** Not Required

**REVIEWED BY:** Jeffrey B. Richardson

**BACKGROUND:** On September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017, the Board of Supervisors passed a Resolution to Reaffirm Commitment to Support Local Actions to Reduce Climate Pollution (Attachment A). The September Resolution further commits Albemarle County to develop a community-wide Climate Action Plan (CAP). Albemarle County has a long history of supporting local climate action initiatives, including collaborating on the Local Climate Action Planning Process (LCAPP) with the City of Charlottesville and the University of Virginia beginning in 2009.

**STRATEGIC PLAN:** Natural Resource Stewardship: Thoughtfully protect and manage Albemarle County's ecosystems and natural resources in both the rural and development areas to safeguard the quality of life of current and future generations. Infrastructure Investment: Prioritize, plan, and invest in critical infrastructure that responds to past and future changes and improves the capacity to serve community needs.

**DISCUSSION:** As the County begins the difficult and detailed work to develop a local Climate Action Plan, we should not miss immediate opportunities to take action - even those as simple as a declaration of intent. While the Board reaffirmed its commitment to climate action by way of the September 2017 resolution, it also has an opportunity be a signatory to an open letter to the international community. The "We Are Still In" Declaration (Attachment B) is a means by which by US cities, state and tribes, businesses, and universities are committing to continued support of climate action to meet the 2015 Paris Agreement. This initiative began in 2017 and includes over 3,000 organizations representing a contingency more than half of all Americans. The State of Virginia and City of Charlottesville signed the declaration in June of 2017.

**BUDGET IMPACT:** Signing the declaration does not have direct budget impacts.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Authorize the Board Chair to sign the "We Are Still In" Declaration

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment A - September 6, 2017 Resolution to Reaffirm Commitment to Support Local Actions to Reduce

Climate Pollution  
Attachment B - "We Are Still In" Declaration