



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL  
MAYOR

**EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 2017-1**

WHEREAS, the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (the "Paris Agreement") brought together 197 countries representing 99% of humans on the planet under a uniform framework for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, limiting global temperature rise to two (2) degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels; and

WHEREAS, the Paris Agreement embodies a global response to the decades-long scientific consensus that human activity is causing global temperatures to rise at unprecedented rates; and

WHEREAS, the Paris Agreement specifically cites the role local governments must play in reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, the Paris Agreement allows individual countries to establish Nationally Determined Contributions towards greenhouse gas emissions reductions, with the United States under the Obama administration committing to a 26-28% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 2005 levels by 2025; and

WHEREAS, President Trump is systematically attempting to dismantle the progress made on climate change during the Obama administration, including the planned rollback of the United States' commitment to the Paris Agreement, the Clean Power Plan, and threatened cuts to the United States Environmental Protection Agency budget that impacts not only our environment but our health as well; and

WHEREAS, Chicago has acted as a leader on climate change globally since the 2008 Chicago Climate Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, through efforts of environmental groups, businesses, community organizations, and everyday Chicagoans, with leadership from current and past mayoral administrations, Chicago has had success in reducing its environmental impact, with a 7% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions achieved in Chicago from 2010 to 2015, even while at the same time expanding the population and economy of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, the past six years have brought the closure of two coal-fired power generation plants located in Chicago, a commitment by the City and many Sister Agencies to shift their electricity use to 100% renewable power by 2025, and development of citywide efforts to increase recycling and reduce disposable bag use; and

WHEREAS, significant infrastructure enhancements have been made to establish new energy efficiency programs, rebuild and enhance Chicago's public transit, improve biking systems, and expand recreational areas on both land and water; and

WHEREAS, Chicagoans are already experiencing the harmful impacts of climate change locally with the frequency of heavy rainfall events doubling since the 1970s, and expectations that higher temperatures, more heat waves, greater precipitation, and more frequent and intense storms will occur in the future, disproportionately affecting our most vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, it is now more important than ever for Chicago to take a leadership role to further reduce our national greenhouse gas footprint; now, therefore,

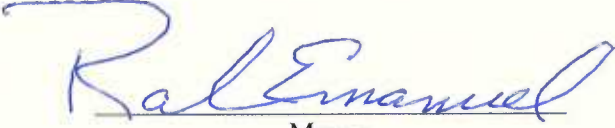
I, RAHM EMANUEL, Mayor of Chicago, do hereby order as follows:

**1. General Provisions**

- a. The City of Chicago commits to the goal of reducing citywide greenhouse gas emissions to levels equivalent to or greater than the percentage reduction outlined in the United States' Nationally Determined Contribution submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change ("UNFCCC") dated March 9, 2016.
- b. All City departments are directed to work jointly on and accelerate the development of policies and strategies that will assist Chicago in meeting the aforementioned goal.
- c. All City departments shall, consistent with their authority under the Municipal Code of Chicago, develop and implement standards, policies and practices to implement this Order.
- d. The Mayor's Office and the Chief Sustainability Officer will seek input from Sister Agencies, environmental advocates, environmental justice groups, community organizations, scientific experts, other cities, state actors, and the business community on efforts to collectively reduce Chicago's greenhouse gas emissions and protect Chicagoans from the resulting effects of a changing climate.
- e. The Chief Sustainability Officer is directed to commission a measurement of community greenhouse gas emissions no less than on a biennial basis, beginning in 2018 with the measurement of 2017 emissions levels. This information will be made public on the City of Chicago data portal or its successor site.
- f. The Department of Law is directed to explore and report on additional methods, including by coordinating with other U.S. cities, that the City can employ to engage as a stakeholder in the Paris Agreement's implementation, the UNFCCC, and related platforms and processes.
- g. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to make the City of Chicago a party or signatory to the Paris Agreement or the UNFCCC or to seek such party status under the Paris Agreement or UNFCCC.

**2. Effective Date**

This Order shall take effect upon its execution and filing with the City Clerk.



Ral Emanuel  
Mayor

Received and filed June 7, 2017

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City Clerk