RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: A scientific consensus has arisen that Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases (ghg) released into the atmosphere will have a profound effect on the Earth’s climate; and,

WHEREAS: Scientific evidence indicates that global warming is already beginning, with the 1990’s the hottest decade in recorded history; and,

WHEREAS: Based on scientific evidence, the United States has pledged along with 160 countries under the United National Framework Convention on Climate Change to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions; and,

WHEREAS: Energy consumption, specifically the burning of fossil fuels, e.g., coal, oil and gas, accounts for more that 80% of the U.S. greenhouse gas emissions; and,

WHEREAS: Local governments greatly influence their community’s energy usage by exercising key powers over land use, transportation, building construction, waste management, and, in many cases, energy supply and management; and,

WHEREAS: Local government actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase energy efficiency provide multiple local benefits by decreasing air pollution, creating jobs, reducing energy expenditures, and saving money for the Town government, its businesses and its citizens; and

WHEREAS: The Cities for Climate Protection Campaign, sponsored by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives, has invited the Town of Brattleboro to become a partner in the Campaign;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Brattleboro pledges to join with jurisdictions from all over the world in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign and, as a participant in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign, the Town of Brattleboro pledges to:

1. Take a leadership role in increasing energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from municipal operations.

2. Develop and implement a local action plan, which describes the steps Brattleboro will take to reduce both greenhouse gas and air pollution emissions; the plan will include:
• a greenhouse gas emissions analysis and forecast to determine the source and quantity of ghg emissions within the jurisdiction;

• a CO₂ or greenhouse gas emissions reduction target;

• the strategy for meeting the Town of Brattleboro’s greenhouse gas reduction target; e.g., an outline of the programs and measures that will be implemented to achieve the target.

Dated at Brattleboro, Vermont this 8th day of January, 2002.