

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE ORANGE COUNTY HEAT ACTION PLAN

WHEREAS, extreme heat is the leading cause of weather-related deaths in the United States, and Orange County is experiencing a documented increase in the frequency and intensity of dangerously hot days and nights; and

WHEREAS, historical data indicates that Orange County averaged 8 days per year above 95 degrees Fahrenheit, while current projections show this could increase to between 28 and 41 days per year by the 2060s; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Carrboro is committed to climate action and environmental justice, recognizing that extreme heat disproportionately impacts vulnerable populations, including outdoor workers, low-income residents, children, and those living in areas with limited tree canopy; and

WHEREAS, the Orange County Heat Action Plan provides a comprehensive framework to increase community awareness, reduce heat-related health risks, and build long-term resilience through eighteen specific actions across three goals: Outreach and Education, Enhanced Emergency Response, and Cooling Homes and Neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the Town's participation in this regional plan aligns with the *Carrboro Connects* Comprehensive Plan and the Community Climate Action Plan's goals to protect residents from the inevitable impacts of climate change, and

WHEREAS, Orange County's Board of County Commissioners formally adopted the Orange County Heat Action Plan on Mar. 17, 2026,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Carrboro Town Council that the Town Council hereby formally adopts the Orange County Heat Action Plan as a foundational guidance document for municipal heat mitigation and adaptation efforts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Council directs the Town Manager to charge the Climate Action Team and relevant departments to collaborate with Orange County partners on high-priority local implementations, including continued integration of extreme heat notifications into the Town's emergency communication protocols, plantings of native trees to expand the urban canopy in high-heat-burdened neighborhoods, education and safety outreach specifically tailored for municipal and community outdoor workers, and prioritization of nature-based solutions and energy efficiency programs, such as home weatherization, to reduce indoor heat stress for low-income households.

This the 7th day of April, 2026.