



The Fairfax County Democratic Committee Supports Adoption and Implementation of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and School Board 2020 Joint Environmental Taskforce (JET) Goals

Whereas,

There is an overwhelming scientific consensus that climate change is currently underway, due largely to human causes.

The United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has determined that global greenhouse gas emissions must be reduced by at least 45 percent by 2030 in order to avoid potentially catastrophic impacts.

Surveys are increasingly finding climate change to be one of the most important issues for Democratic voters.

The impacts of unchecked climate change are already affecting Fairfax County, as was shown by the July 2019 rainstorms that cost more than \$14 million in damages.

As the largest county in Virginia, close to the nation's capital, with over 1 million residents, Fairfax County ought to lead on climate change and clean energy, not follow.

The Joint Environmental Taskforce (JET) of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and School Board completed a report in October 2020 proposing goals for the county government to lead on climate change and clean energy.

The JET Report proposes goals to attain the level of county governmental action needed to confront the climate emergency, including an overarching commitment by Fairfax County agencies to become energy carbon neutral by 2040.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Fairfax County Democratic Committee supports adoption and implementation of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and School Board 2020 Joint Environmental Taskforce (JET) goals and requests:

1. The Board of Supervisors and the School Board to:
 - a. Approve the JET Report; and
 - b. Adopt and budget for its recommendations, including the overall carbon neutrality goal as well as clear annual and sector-specific milestones to ensure successful achievement of these goals.
2. The School Board to set standards for K-12 environmental education and develop a curriculum to educate students on environmental challenges and sustainable solutions as an additional component of the School Board's environmental goals.

PASSED and APPROVED on this 26th day of January 2021.