

RESOLUTION
By Cunningham

Supporting Earth Hour 2018 on Saturday, March 24, 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and also supporting Audubon's Lights Out campaign which encourages building owners to turn off their lights during spring and fall bird migration.

Whereas, our Minneapolis community is deeply concerned about the impacts of climate change and the future health and well-being of our planet and believes energy efficiency and natural resource conservation are important elements to combat climate change; and

Whereas, Earth Hour is both an international and local symbolic event organized by World Wildlife Fund to raise awareness about climate change issues, to encourage businesses, individuals, and government to take actions to reduce their carbon emissions and their impact on the environment in their daily lives and operations; and

Whereas, cities from around the world, including Minneapolis since 2008, have participated; and

Whereas, Earth Hour invites individuals, businesses, governments, and communities to turn off all non-essential lighting for one hour on Saturday, March 24, 2018, at 8:30 p.m. to show their support for environmentally sustainable action; and

Whereas, the Minneapolis Climate Action Plan, adopted in June of 2013, provides a roadmap for reducing citywide greenhouse gas emissions; and

Whereas, Minneapolis' Clean Energy Partnership, which has received national recognition for addressing climate change, is a first-of-its-kind City-utility partnership that sets an example nationwide for reducing energy usage in buildings; and

Whereas, in Minneapolis more than one-third of greenhouse gas emissions comes from electricity; and

Whereas, those Minneapolis buildings participating in Audubon Minnesota's "Lights Out" campaign are to be commended for turning off lights during spring and fall bird migration in order to reduce the risk of birds hitting buildings which also has a secondary positive effect by saving energy and reducing greenhouse gas emissions;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That on March 24, 2018, from 8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. the City will participate in Earth Hour by turning off all uses of electricity in municipal buildings not required for life, safety or operations for the entire night as a symbol of the City's commitment to being part of the solution to climate change.

Be It Further Resolved that residents of Minneapolis are encouraged to participate in Earth Hour and reduce their energy usage during every hour of the year.

Be It Further Resolved that we encourage all Minneapolis businesses to participate in Earth Hour, and thank the businesses that participate in Earth Hour and the Audubon's Lights Out campaign for their leadership and participation.