

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-05

A RESOLUTION COMMITTING THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM TO IMPLEMENT AN ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PURCHASING PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, on December 9, 2002, the Bellingham City Council endorsed the Earth Charter Resolution, Resolution No. 2002-44, which was adopted in order to "assure a healthy future for our community and for our Earth"; and

WHEREAS, the health and safety of Bellingham citizens is dependent upon the careful stewardship of natural resources and protection of the environment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bellingham is a highly visible model for the region's citizens, local governments, businesses, and industries; and

WHEREAS, purchasing that results from environmentally sustainable business practices furthers the City of Bellingham's goal of protecting our environment for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bellingham can demonstrate leadership by incorporating environmentally sustainable practices into its purchasing practices that preserve natural resources, conserve energy, eliminate waste and emissions, and lessen overall environmental impact; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bellingham can reduce the community's exposure to a group of pollutants known as Persistent Bioaccumulative Toxic chemicals (PBTs), which pose a risk to public health and the environment by purchasing products that do not result in the potential creation or release of PBTs when alternative, less toxic options are available; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2005 the Bellingham City Council resolved to participate in the Cities For Climate Protection Program, through Resolution No. 2005-08, which stated "the City of Bellingham influences the community's emissions by exercising key power over land use, transportation, construction, waste management and energy management"; and

WHEREAS, on May 9, 2005, the Bellingham City Council resolved to promote the use of LEED standards in construction and renovation of City buildings and in the construction practices of the private sector, through Resolution No. 2005-21, which requires the use of recycled materials and waste reduction for such projects; and

WHEREAS, on July 24, 2006, the Bellingham City Council resolved to purchasing 100% renewable energy credits from Puget Sound Energy equal to 100% of electricity used in municipally-owned facilities, through Resolution 2006-28; and

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WHEREAS, the City of Bellingham can protect the environment locally and globally and reduce its waste stream by purchasing paper products that are made from 100% post consumer waste; and

WHEREAS, nearly a ton of new recycled paper can be made from a ton of recycled stock, compared to the two to three and one half tons of trees required to make a ton of virgin paper; and

WHEREAS, production of recycled paper results in lower solid waste byproducts and uses less energy, water and chemicals than production of virgin paper products; and

WHEREAS, traditional cleaning products may contain chemicals associated with cancer, reproductive disorders, respiratory ailments, eye or skin irritation, and other human health issues, as well as result in air pollution, bioaccumulation of toxic substances in plants and animals, endocrine disruption in wildlife, ozone depletion and water pollution; and

WHEREAS, replacing traditional cleaning supplies with green cleaning products reduces these human health and environmental concerns for City of Bellingham staff and for the local community and environment,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM:

The City of Bellingham recognizes the positive impact that it can make on the environment through its purchasing decisions. It is the intent of the City of Bellingham to integrate environmental considerations into every aspect of purchasing. City Council will review this program after a one year period.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM:

All city departments are responsible for:

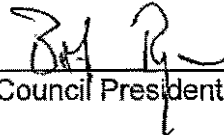
- A. Purchasing recycled, PBT free and other environmentally preferable products with the maximum amount of post consumer material, so long as the purchase is equal to or less than 120% of the price established by an annual bid.
- B. Specifying energy efficient equipment and appliances, such as Energy Star, whenever practicable.
- C. Requiring contractors and consultants to use recycled, PBT-free and other environmentally preferable products whenever practicable.
- D. Promoting the use of recycled, PBT-free and other environmentally preferable products by publicizing the City of Bellingham's environmental purchasing policy

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and its implementation, including such actions as posting this resolution on the City of Bellingham's website.


- E. Training appropriate personnel to evaluate opportunities for the purchase of recycled, PBT-free products and other environmentally preferable products when purchasing items for the City of Bellingham or when writing bid specifications, through the use of readily available databases, such as that developed by the Responsible Purchasing Network.
- F. Continuing to specify alternative fuel or hybrid vehicles when appropriate to the application.
- G. Continuing to evaluate all uses of alternative fuels, such as gas with at least 10% ethanol, ultra low sulfur diesel and biodiesel for appropriate applications.
- H. Choosing products that are PBT-free over those that contain PBTs when appropriate to the application.

PASSED by the Council this 2nd day of April, 2007.



Council President

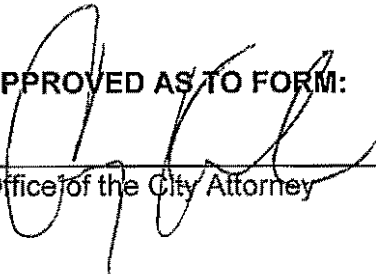
APPROVED by me this 12th day of April, 2007.



Mayor

ATTEST: 

Finance Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Office of the City Attorney

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