

A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF DEKALB COUNTY, GEORGIA TO CREATE A “SUSTAINABILITY FUND” TO SUPPORT IN MITIGATING CLIMATE CHANGE, REDUCING GREEN HOUSE GAS EMISSIONS, REACHING CLEAN ENERGY GOALS, IMPROVING RESILIENCY IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS AND COUNTY FACILITIES, AND CREATING LOCAL, GREEN JOBS;

WHEREAS; the Earth’s climate is changing, due to human fossil fuel usage, resulting in extreme heat, flooding, and pollution. These effects are not just happening globally but are impacting DeKalb County residents; and

WHEREAS; Climate change, extreme weather, and pollution disproportionately affect people of color and underserved communities; and

WHEREAS; in 2021, DeKalb County joined in the global efforts towards fighting climate change by committing to reducing their emissions and set a goal of 100% Clean Energy and Clean Transportation by 2050; and

WHEREAS; Investing in reducing greenhouse gases, deploying clean energy, and ensuring resiliency not only helps us reach our clean energy goals but can also provide cost saving solutions. While these projects may have an upfront cost, they ultimately are proactive and provide long-term savings that often outweigh these upfront costs; and

WHEREAS; A Sustainability Fund will be able to capture savings and ensure funding is ready and available for the next clean energy or resiliency project with upfront cost; and

WHEREAS; the Federal Government has developed several plans and programs to reduce emissions, create jobs, improve infrastructure, and provide funds for local governments to deploy clean energy projects. These include but are not limited to the Inflation Reduction Act, the American Jobs Plan, and Build Back Better.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Authority of DeKalb County hereby create a “Sustainability Fund” as outlined herein:

- Funds allocated in DeKalb County’s SPLOST II for “Renewable Energy Project(s)” will be used to open and establish the “Sustainability Fund” and further be held in this fund.
- The money in the Sustainability Fund will only be able to be spent towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving resiliency in DeKalb County neighborhoods and county facilities, and reaching DeKalb County’s 100% Clean Energy Goals.
- Any funds saved by incorporating energy efficiency or clean energy methods or awarded or reimbursed to DeKalb County from the Inflation Reduction Act, the American Jobs Plan, Build Back Better, or any other or future federal government programs aimed at mitigating climate change and reducing greenhouse gas emissions will be divided as follows:
 - 50% of funds awarded or saved will go in the “Sustainability Fund”
 - 25% of funds awarded or saved will go to the department that assisted in securing funds
 - 25% of the funds awarded or saved will go back towards the General Fund