RESOLUTION NO. 2006-71

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FOSTER CITY SUPPORTING EFFORTS OF ALL GOVERNMENTS TO DEVELOP POLICIES AND PROGRAMS TO REDUCE GLOBAL WARMING

CITY OF FOSTER CITY

WHEREAS, the U.S. Conference of Mayors has previously adopted strong policy resolutions calling for cities, communities and the federal government to take actions to reduce global warming pollution; and

WHEREAS, the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the international community's most respected assemblage of scientists, has found that climate disruption is a reality and that human activities are largely responsible for increasing concentrations of global warming pollution; and

WHEREAS, recent, well-documented impacts of climate disruption include average global sea level increases of four to eight inches during the 20th century; a 40 percent decline in Arctic sea-ice thickness; and nine of the ten hottest years on record occurring in the past decade; and

WHEREAS, climate disruption of the magnitude now predicted by the scientific community will cause extremely costly disruption of human and natural systems throughout the world including: increased risk of floods or droughts; sea-level rises that interact with coastal storms to erode beaches, inundate land, and damage structures; more frequent and extreme heat waves; more frequent and greater concentrations of smog; and

WHEREAS, on February 16, 2005, the Kyoto Protocol, an international agreement to address climate disruption, went into effect in the 141 countries that have ratified it to date; 38 of those countries are now legally required to reduce greenhouse gas emissions on average 5.2 percent below 1990 levels by 2012; and

WHEREAS, the U.S., with less than five percent of the world's population, is responsible for producing approximately 25 percent of the world's global warming pollutants; and

WHEREAS, the Kyoto Protocol emissions reduction target for the U.S. would have been 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012; and

WHEREAS, many leading U.S. companies that have adopted greenhouse gas reduction programs to demonstrate corporate social responsibility have also publicly expressed preference for the U.S. to adopt precise and mandatory emissions targets and timetables as a means by which to remain competitive in the international marketplace, to mitigate financial risk and to promote sound investment decisions; and

WHEREAS, state and local governments throughout the U.S. are adopting emission reduction targets and programs and that this leadership is bipartisan, coming from Republican and Democratic governors and mayors alike; and

WHEREAS, many cities throughout the nation, both large and small, are reducing global warming pollutants through programs that provide economic and quality of life benefits such as reduced energy bills, green space preservation, air quality improvements, reduced traffic congestion, improved transportation choices, and economic development and job creation through energy conservation and new energy technologies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Foster City supports efforts of all governments to develop polices and programs to reduce global warming.

PASSED AND ADOPTED as a resolution of the City Council of the City of Foster City at the regular meeting held on the 5th day of September, 2006, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Cox, Frisella, Wykoff, and Mayor Koelling

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Councilmember Kiramis

Linda Koelling

LINDA KOELLING, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Therese Calic

THERESE L. CALIC, CITY CLERK