

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-17

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE
COUNTY OF SUMMIT
STATE OF COLORADO**

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE PERIOD FROM 8:30 P.M. TO 9:30 P.M. ON SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2023 AS “EARTH HOUR”

WHEREAS, the World Wildlife Fund designated the period from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 25, 2023 as “Earth Hour” to remind everyone that, by working together, we can reduce greenhouse gas emissions with energy conservation and efficiency to thereby reduce our community’s carbon footprint; and

WHEREAS, during Earth Hour all citizens, businesses, and governments are being requested to turn off all non-essential lighting to conserve energy and reduce their impact on the environment; and

WHEREAS, cities and states across the country are joining together to raise awareness and demonstrate our nation’s commitment to fighting climate change by supporting Earth Hour; and

WHEREAS, during Earth Hour lights will be turned off at facilities around the world including the iconic landmarks of the Golden Gate Bridge, the Empire State Building, the Great Pyramids of Giza and the Eiffel Tower, and Summit County is proud to join the effort by turning off its non-essential lighting in government buildings during Earth Hour; and

WHEREAS, Summit County encourages all citizens, visitors and businesses to participate in Earth Hour by turning off non-essential lights and to commit to actions in the coming year to reduce their energy consumption and carbon footprint; and

WHEREAS, Earth Hour is a symbolic international event focused on the role we can all play in the global efforts to address the climate and nature crises to protect our future; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners is very concerned about the climate crisis and biodiversity loss, and is engaged in a number of steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect open space including:

- Adoption of the Summit Community Climate Action Plan with goals and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the County 50% by 2030 and 80% by 2050.
- Divestment of Summit County’s financial reserves from oil, gas, and arms equities.
- Adoption of an environmental and socially responsible investment policy for the County’s reserve fund.
- Adoption of the Summit Sustainable Building Code to increase the energy efficiency and reduce the environmental impact of residential and commercial buildings in the County.

- Construction of a Materials Recovery Facility to allow for large-scale, efficient recycling operations in Summit County to reduce waste and increase waste diversion.
- Completion of energy audits of County facilities and ongoing implementation of recommended energy efficiency and water conservation improvements such as LED lighting replacements, mechanical and control system upgrades, improvements to building insulation, and installation of low flow water fixtures.
- Construction of six solar systems totaling 48 kW at County facilities, which generate a total of 70,000 kWh/year of electricity. Each year, these systems save Summit County \$15,000 in electricity and offset 75,000 pounds of CO2 from electricity generation.
- Adoption of an Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan, installation of fifteen electric vehicle charging stations across County facilities, and the addition of four zero-emission electric buses to the Summit Stage fleet.
- Protection of almost 17,500 acres of land as open space through over 347 acquisitions and dedications while working with over 200 landowners in Summit County to protect biodiversity and reduce habitat loss due to development.
- Restoration and naturalization of more than two miles of the Swan River and river valley, which was decimated by historic dredge mining during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF SUMMIT, STATE OF COLORADO THAT March 25, 2023 from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. is hereby proclaimed as “Earth Hour” in Summit County and call upon all residents, businesses, and visitors to join us in supporting the goals of this effort by turning off all non-essential lighting.

ADOPTED THIS 14th DAY OF MARCH, 2023.



**COUNTY OF SUMMIT
STATE OF COLORADO
BY AND THROUGH ITS
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Joshua Blanchard

Joshua Blanchard, Chair

ATTEST:

Taryn Power

Taryn Power, Clerk & Recorder