

RESOLUTION NO. _____ (N.C.S.)

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SALINAS APPROVING PARTICIPATION IN
THE INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT'S RECOGNITION PROGRAM--THE
BEACON PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the City of Salinas is undertaking policies, programs and activities to save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, cities and counties statewide are leading by example by adopting innovative sustainability programs and policies, including working with community residents, business groups and others; and

WHEREAS, Salinas has undertaken a renewable energy program to reduce its \$2M annual energy operating expenses; promote a sustainable future and reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, the City of Salinas wishes to expand these activities, share its experiences with other communities, and be recognized for its accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, the Beacon Program is a voluntary program of the Institute for Local Government, the non-profit research and education affiliate of the California State Association of Counties and the League of California Cities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Salinas has determined that the proposed action of participating in the Beacon Program is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378). In addition, CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 includes the general rule that CEQA applies only to activities which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. Because the proposed action and this matter have no potential to cause any effect on the environment, or because it falls within a category of activities excluded as projects pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378, this matter is not a project. Because the matter does not cause a direct or foreseeable indirect physical change on or in the environment, this matter is not a project. Any subsequent discretionary projects resulting from this action will be assessed for CEQA applicability; and

WHEREAS, the Beacon Program recognizes and celebrates achievements of cities and counties that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save energy; and

WHEREAS, participating in the Beacon Program is an opportunity for the City of Salinas to be recognized for its efforts to promote sustainability, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save energy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Salinas City Council agrees to

participate in the Beacon Program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Salinas will continue to work toward achieving the Silver, Gold and/or Platinum Beacon Award levels.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 11th day of July 2017, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

APPROVED:

Joe Gunter, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patricia M. Barajas, City Clerk