

RESOLUTION NO. 25

ADOPTING AN ENERGY BENCHMARKING POLICY FOR CERTAIN MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS IN THE COUNTY OF ALBANY

Introduced: 2/13/17

By Public Works Committee and Mr. Bullock and Ms. Lekakis:

WHEREAS, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) has announced a new Clean Energy Communities program which would allow the County access to significant grant funding to further implement clean energy actions reducing both energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions, and

WHEREAS, One of the Clean Energy Communities “High Impact Actions” requires the legislature establish a policy which mandates the public reporting of building energy benchmarking, and

WHEREAS, Establishing a building energy benchmarking system will benefit the County and its residence by making available good actionable information on municipal building energy use to help identify opportunities to cut costs and reduce pollution in the County of Albany, and

WHEREAS, The Commissioner of General Services has requested that the legislature adopt a policy that directs that monthly building energy usage for all fuel types including but not limited to electricity, natural gas, fuel oil, chilled water, steam and diesel fuel be collected and formally tracked for all buildings that are 1,000 square feet or larger that are owned or occupied by the County, using EPA Portfolio Manager already in use by the County, and

WHEREAS, Building reports shall be made available to the County in EPA Portfolio Manager regarding summary statistics for each covered property including Energy Use Intensity, annual greenhouse gas emissions, an energy performance score where available, and other descriptive information as required by EPA Portfolio Manager and for that data to be made available to the public via the internet on an annual basis, and

WHEREAS, The Commissioner may exempt a particular covered municipal building from the benchmarking requirement if the Commissioner determines that it has characteristics that make benchmarking impractical, and

WHEREAS, The Commissioner or his designee shall be the administrator of this local policy and promulgate procedures necessary for the administration of the requirements of this local policy, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the policy outlined in this resolution be hereby adopted and established for Albany County, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the County Legislature is directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the appropriate County Officials.

Adopted by unanimous vote. 2/13/17
Mr. Stevens abstained.