WHEREAS, traditional non-renewable fossil fuel energy sources make up over 95% of the energy used in the United States; and

WHEREAS, increasing demand for fossil fuels, along with diminishing supplies, has caused energy prices to become increasingly unstable, causing Michigan energy costs to rise rapidly in three years; and

WHEREAS, money spent on renewable energy sources stays in the local economy, supports local businesses and farms and keeps petroleum dollars from leaving the country; and

WHEREAS, renewable energy is a new economic sector for Michigan investments, and the purchase of renewable energy will lead to creation of new jobs and investment in this sustainable technology which will create a competitive edge for all of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, renewable energy sources greatly reduce global warming emissions compared to fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, renewable energy sources produce less air pollution than fossil fuel based energy and contribute to making our air cleaner and meeting EPA clean air standards; and

WHEREAS, renewable energy sources, like wind, allow for long-term, fixed-price contracts that can help to stabilize the energy budget for Michigan, its municipalities and its citizens, and can further provide a hedge against future increases in non-renewable fossil fuel energy costs;

RESOLVED, that the Urban Core Mayors sets a goal of meeting 15% of Michigan’s energy demand from renewable energy by 2015; and

RESOLVED, that the Urban Core Mayors urges the State of Michigan to adopt a Renewable Portfolio Standard based on a “15 by 15” renewable energy pledge; and

RESOLVED, that the Urban Core Mayors encourages the staff of their respective communities to jointly explore available technologies for energy efficiency and renewable energy use in municipal operations in support of this renewable energy challenge and to prepare and implement a plan to reach a goal of at least 15% renewable energy for all municipal operations by 2015.

Adopted: January 10, 2007, Detroit, Michigan

George K. Heartwell                   Kwame M. Kilpatrick
Mayor, City of Grand Rapids          Mayor, City of Detroit
Co-Chair                             Co-Chair