

RESOLUTION NO. 40/2025

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CORTE MADERA SUPPORTING THE POLLUTERS PAY CLIMATE SUPERFUND ACT

WHEREAS, climate change, resulting primarily from the combustion of fossil fuels, is an immediate, grave threat to the people, communities, biodiversity, environment, and economy of the state of California; and

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2020, the Town Council approved Resolution No. 43/2020 declaring a climate emergency; and

WHEREAS, on December 15, 2020, the Town Council approved a Climate Action Plan for the Town of Corte Madera; and

WHEREAS, on May 18, 2021, the Town Council approved the Climate Adaptation Assessment; and

WHEREAS, California communities are under siege by escalating fires, floods, droughts, and other disasters. In all of the 1980s, California experienced two climate disaster events with losses exceeding \$1 billion (CPI adjusted). In the past five years, California has endured eight such disasters¹; and

WHEREAS, in January 2025, fatal firestorms raged across Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, killing 30 people, destroying entire communities, and forcing tens of thousands of residents to evacuate. Over 12,000 homes, businesses, and institutions burned. The devastation is estimated to cost a staggering \$250 billion, which Californians will feel in the form of higher insurance costs, higher rents, higher utility bills, taxes, and other affordability challenges; and

WHEREAS, Corte Madera is at risk for a variety of climate disasters, including fire, drought, flooding, and rising sea levels; and

WHEREAS, across the state, local governments and taxpayers are bearing the immense, mounting costs of rebuilding from climate damages. State and local budgets are stretched to the brink as climate risks rise, jeopardizing public services. Meanwhile, federal disaster support is under attack from the very administration responsible for providing it; and

WHEREAS, the Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act will make the multinational oil and gas companies that are responsible for—and profit from—the climate emergency pay for their damages; and

WHEREAS, Polluters Pay Superfund Act will direct CalEPA to complete a first-of-its-kind comprehensive study of the true cost of climate damage to ensure polluters pay their fair share. The Act will hold the largest polluters accountable for the costs to California from climate damage

¹ <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/billions/state-summary/CA>

caused by their products, with compensatory fee amounts proportional to companies' self-reported emissions from 1990-2024; and

WHEREAS, the policy advances California's commitment to equity and environmental justice. At least 40% of the funds from law will go to disadvantaged communities to remedy past climate damages and build a more resilient and equitable California, supporting urgently needed projects like wildfire prevention, home hardening, stormwater management upgrades, and solar and energy storage installations. Revenues could also fund programs to support first responders and additional resources for fighting climate disasters; and

WHEREAS, the states of New York and Vermont have already enacted versions of a climate superfund like this one, and it is time for California to demonstrate its long-heralded environmental leadership.

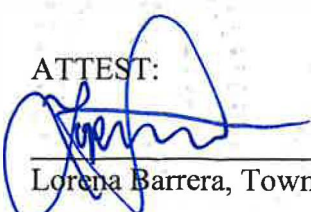
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Corte Madera strongly supports the Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act legislative package of AB 1243 (Addis, et al) and SB 684 (Menjivar, et al), and encourages State representatives to pass it and the Governor to sign it into law; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution will be sent to Governor Gavin Newsom, Attorney General Rob Bonta, Senate President Pro Tempore Mike McGuire, Speaker Robert Rivas, and Assemblymember Damon Connolly (AD12).

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the forgoing Resolution No. 40/2025 was duly and regularly adopted by the Town of Corte Madera of Marin County at a regular meeting thereof held on the 21st day of October 2025, with the following vote to wit:

AYES: Councilmembers: E. Beckman, F. Casissa, P. Ravasio, R. Thomas
NOES: Councilmembers: J. Andrews
ABSTAIN: Councilmembers: - None -

ATTEST:


Lorena Barrera, Town Clerk


Pat Ravasio, Mayor