RESOLUTION #07-46

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL ESTABLISHING A “SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE” TO BE ADVISORY TO THE CITY COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the Albany City Council is concerned about both the local and the world environmental situation and wishes to develop initiatives to inspire, empower and educate its citizens to create a community that promotes environmental sustainability; and

WHEREAS, in January of 2007, the Albany City Council created a temporary “Clean and Green Business Task Force” to attract environmentally friendly businesses to Albany; and

WHEREAS, the final June 2007 recommendations of the “Clean and Green Business Task Force” included the establishment of a permanent “Energy and Environment Commission;” and

WHEREAS, the goal of the Albany City Council is to meet our community’s needs as locally as possible with minimal impact on both the immediate and the planetary environments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Albany City Council hereby establishes a “Sustainability Committee” to advise the City Council on policies, programs, and issues promoting environmental sustainability in the City of Albany and to provide leadership, technical assistance, education, and outreach to members of the public, schools, local businesses, and city agencies on innovative programs to promote environmental sustainability through energy conservation, solid waste reduction and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

1. The Sustainability Commission shall be composed of seven members, one each appointed by Council members, one at-large appointment, and one Youth member appointed by the Albany Unified School District Board of Education. The term of the City Council appointments shall be in accordance with the provisions of Section 3.23 of the City Charter. The School District appointment shall preferably be a Junior and the term shall begin at the end of the Sophomore Year, and shall be for two years.

2. The charge of the Committee shall be to work with City staff, other City Commissions, Committees and Boards, and with local and regional organizations and community groups to develop and implement programs and policies, and to engage in community building that promotes environmental sustainability for residents, businesses, local government and other entities within the City of Albany.

3. In creating the Committee, it is not the intent of the Council to duplicate or overlap the functions, duties or responsibilities assigned to any other Commission, Committee or Board. It is likely that the work of the Sustainability Committee may involve the areas of concerns of other City Commissions, Committees and Boards. In these situations, the Committee is urged to form work groups that can work constructively with the relevant Commissions, Committees, and Boards, keeping in mind the requirements of the Brown Act.

4. The City Council shall conduct a review of the Sustainability Committee in January 2010 to determine its continued necessity and/or change in charge.