

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE APPROVING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CONTRACTOR INCENTIVE PILOT PROGRAM WITH A COST NOT-TO-EXCEED \$100,000 TO ENCOURAGE LOCAL CONTRACTORS TO INSTALL ELECTRIC HEAT PUMPS IN LIEU OF PROCEEDING WITH AN ELECTRIC LEAF BLOWER INCENTIVE PILOT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, staff evaluated two pilot program options: a contractor incentive to increase participation in San José Clean Energy (SJCE)'s EcoHome Rebate program and a commercial electric leaf blower (ELB) incentive; and

WHEREAS, after evaluating the greenhouse gas reduction potential, implementation effort, and staff resource requirements, staff recommends implementing only the contractor incentive pilot program; and

WHEREAS, the contractor incentive pilot program aims to increase the number of local contractors installing electric heat pumps by offering direct payments for early installations; and

WHEREAS, this would support market transformation ahead of upcoming Bay Area Air District regulations restricting emissions of nitrogen oxides from space and water heating appliances; and

WHEREAS, by encouraging more contractors to gain experience with heat pump installations, the program aims to expand consumer access; and

WHEREAS, staff does not recommend proceeding with the ELB pilot incentive at this time; and

WHEREAS, upfront costs for electric equipment are a barrier for many landscaping businesses, the greenhouse gas reduction potential of this pilot program is minimal and not guaranteed to benefit San José residents, and the implementation would require a significant investment of staff time; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends instead focusing on advocacy to the Bay Area Air District and the California Air Resources Board for additional funding and support for electric landscaping equipment in San José;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE THAT:

The development of a contractor incentive pilot program with a cost not-to-exceed \$100,000 to encourage local contractors to install electric heat pumps in lieu of proceeding with an electric leaf blower incentive pilot program is approved.

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ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2025, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

DISQUALIFIED:

MATT MAHAN
Mayor

ATTEST:

TONI J. TABER, MMC
City Clerk