



To: Roosevelt University Senate

From: Roosevelt University Strategic Sustainability Planning Team (Mike Bryson, Kiera Carpenter, Julie Dinquel, Sophia Gallo, Kayla Nelson, and Paegge Turner)

Date: 4 April 2024

RE: **Resolution to Endorse the 2024-29 Strategic Sustainability Plan**

Whereas sustainability is a defining issue in our age of climate change, biodiversity loss, toxic pollution, resource inequity, political instability, and environmental injustice;

Whereas colleges and universities play a critical role in advancing knowledge, developing solutions, educating citizens, and demonstrating leadership for a more just and sustainable world;

Whereas the three pillars of sustainability -- ecology, economy, and equity -- are congruent with Roosevelt's historic mission of advancing social justice;

Whereas in 2010, Roosevelt committed to greening its campus operations, launched new academic programs, developed university-community partnerships, and assumed leadership among local higher ed institutions in its efforts to advance sustainable development on campus and within the Chicago region;

Whereas in 2015, Roosevelt adopted its first Strategic Sustainability Plan for 2015-20, with the full endorsement of the Senate, the President's Executive Council, and the Board of Trustees;

Whereas in 2020 said Plan expired, necessitating the development of a new Plan with input from the entire RU community that takes stock of our progress, identifies areas of improvement, and prioritizes actions to create a culture of sustainability and environmental stewardship across every facet of our operations;

Whereas the work we do transforming our University into a truly sustainable institution will reduce our ecological footprint, strengthen our financial resilience, raise our academic reputation, attract and retain more students, improve our working and learning environments, and inspire alumni and potential donors;

Therefore, be it Resolved that the University Senate endorse Roosevelt's new Strategic Sustainability Plan for 2024-29 and forward its recommendations to our Executive Leadership.