

Council Meeting of
April 3, 2007

Honorable Mayor and Members
Of the City Council
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Mayors Climate Protection Agreement

Expenditure: No Funding Required

RECOMMENDATION

The Torrance Environmental Quality Commission recommends that your Honorable Body adopt a resolution endorsing the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

In December 2006, the Environmental Quality Commission heard a presentation regarding the Cool Cities Program, including the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. The Commission requested that an item be returned to them regarding the program and potential actions that could be taken by the City. In March 2006, the Commission discussed the Mayors Agreement and recommended that the agreement be forwarded to the Council along with their recommendation that the City of Torrance adopt a resolution endorsing the Mayors Agreement.

The U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement is an outgrowth of the international Kyoto Protocol, which is intended to reduce greenhouse gas production. The Mayors Agreement, which focuses on local action, sets a goal of reducing carbon dioxide pollution to a level at least 7% below 1990 levels. Since well over 360 cities have adopted the Mayors Agreement, a basic process and solutions plan have been developed which we can adapt to meet our needs. In addition, there are groups, such as the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), who provide information and technical assistance to its members. If we choose to join the ICLEI at a later date, there will be a membership fee of approximately \$1500; however, staff prefers to do some initial assessment prior to any recommendation for assistance.

The basic process involves establishing a baseline after conducting an inventory of carbon dioxide sources and then identifying ways of reducing emissions. There are a number of things that the City has done since 1990 that work toward meeting the reduction goal, including changes in city fleet composition, ride-share programs, and changes in lighting sources, to name a few. The process will help us to identify the

progress already made and plan for new programs to move us further along. In formulating our Solutions Plan we would typically focus on green vehicle fleets, energy efficiency and renewable energy.

To help us on our first step, staff is assembling a series of memos from City Departments outlining the programs that we already have in place that focus on energy efficiency, recycling and other green technologies, which will be reviewed by the Environmental Quality Commission. The Commission is very enthusiastic about this program, and looks forward to supporting the City Council in efforts to make Torrance green.

Respectfully Submitted,



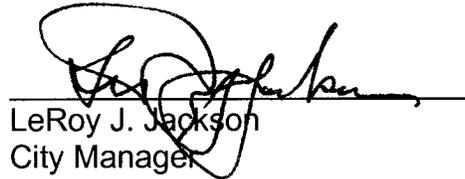
Linda Cessna
Deputy Community Development Director

CONCUR:



Jeffery W. Gibson
Community Development Director

NOTED:



LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

Attachments:

- A. Resolution
- B. TEQECC Minutes from 12-06 and 3-07
- C. TEQECC Item from 3-07
- D. TEQECC Presentation Information from 12-06

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, ENDORSING
THE U.S. MAYORS CLIMATE PROTECTION
AGREEMENT.**

WHEREAS, the City of Torrance is concerned that our stewardship of the environment be responsible; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement provides a framework for local action in reducing greenhouse gases that has been adopted successfully across our nation and throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, Mayors from around the nation have signed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, which, as amended at the 73rd Annual Conference of Mayors meeting, reads:

The U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement

- a. We urge the federal government and state governments to enact policies and programs to meet or beat the target of reducing global warming pollution levels to 7 per cent below 1990 levels by 2012, including efforts to: reduce the United States' dependence on fossil fuel and accelerate the development of clean, economical energy resources and fuel efficient technologies such as conservation, methane recovery for energy generation, waste to energy, wind and solar energy, fuel cells, efficient motor vehicles, and bio-fuels;
- b. We urge the U.S. Congress to pass bipartisan greenhouse gas reduction legislation that includes 1) clear timetables and emissions limits and 2) a flexible, market based system of tradable allowances among emitting industries; and
- c. We will strive to meet or exceed Kyoto Protocol targets for reducing global warming pollution by taking actions in our own operations and communities, such as:
 1. Inventory global warming emissions in City operations and in the community, set reduction targets and create an action plan;
 2. Adopt and enforce land use policies that reduce sprawl, preserve open space, and create compact, walkable urban communities;
 3. Promote transportation options such as bicycle trails, commute trip reduction plans, incentives for car pooling and public transit;
 4. Increase the use of clean, alternative energy by, for example, investing in "green tags", advocating for the development of renewable energy resources, recovering landfill methane for energy production and supporting the use of waste to energy technology;

5. Make energy efficiency a priority through building code improvements, retrofitting city facilities with energy efficient lighting and urging employees to conserve energy and save money;
6. Purchase only Energy Star equipment and appliances for City use;
7. Practice and promote sustainable building practices using the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED program or a similar system;
8. Increase the average fuel efficiency of municipal fleet vehicles; reduce the number of vehicles; launch an employee education program including anti-idling messages; convert diesel vehicles to bio-diesel;
9. Evaluate opportunities to increase pump efficiency in water and wastewater systems; recover wastewater treatment methane for energy production;
10. Increase recycling rates in City operations and in the community;
11. Maintain healthy urban forests; promote tree planting to increase shading and to absorb CO₂; and
12. Help educate the public, schools, other jurisdictions, professional associations, business and industry about reducing global warming pollution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Torrance endorses the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement as amended by the 73rd annual U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting and urges Mayors from around the nation to join in this effort.

Introduced, approved and adopted this 3rd day of April, 2007.

ATTEST:

MAYOR, of the City of Torrance

City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JOHN FELLOWS III, City Attorney

By _____

EXCERPT OF MINUTES

√ **Minutes Approved**
 ~~Minutes Subject to Approval~~

December 7, 2006

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
 THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND
 ENERGY CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission convened in a regular session at 7:04 p.m. on Thursday, December 7, 2006, in the West Annex Meeting Room at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners Chim, Minter, Reilly, Watson, and Chairperson McCabe.

Absent: Commissioner Griffiths.

Also Present: Deputy Community Development Director Cessna.

MOTION: Commissioner Reilly moved to grant Commissioner Griffiths an excused absence for this meeting. Commissioner Minter seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson McCabe so ordered.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

**7A. PRESENTATION BY VIRGINIA HILKER -
 "U.S. MAYORS' CLIMATE PROTECTION AGREEMENT AKA COOL CITIES"**

Virginia Hilker, Calle de Castellana, Redondo Beach, representing Environmental Priorities Network, Citizens for Global Solutions, and Sierra Club South Bay, provided information regarding the U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement started by Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels on February 16, 2005. In the Agreement, Mayor Nickels challenged U.S. Cities to meet or beat a 7% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions below 1990 levels by 2012. She reported that, as of December 4, 2006, a total of 333 Mayors in the U.S., 62 from California, have accepted the challenge and are now Cool Cities.

She requested that the Commission support the organizations' endeavors to have the City of Torrance become a Cool City and offer suggestions on how to make the most effective report to the Mayor and City Council. She commended the Commission for its presentation to City Council at the November 21, 2006 joint meeting. She briefly discussed benefits for becoming a Cool City, as well as the four steps Torrance would need to take to accomplish the goal in the next six years: 1) Mayor Scotto to sign the Agreement, 2) Conduct a global warming emissions inventory, 3) Create a Solutions Plan, and 4) Implement and Monitor Progress.

David Dutra, Arlington Avenue, recommended the South Bay Energy Savings Center as a good resource for energy efficient solutions and cost justification for energy savings methods.

Chairperson McCabe noted that the Solutions Plan has short and long term goals. He suggested that, if adopted, the Agreement could serve as a framework for many of the goals that the Commission has outlined, but in a more structured way.

Commissioner Watson thanked Ms. Hilker for the Cool Cities booklet and commented that she was not aware that Sierra Club has taken a strong position on this. She suggested that the Commission talk with other Cities that have signed the agreement to get their feedback.

Ms. Hilker discussed the California Climate Action Registry that provides guidelines for California cities. She suggested that following the program would help City departments come together in a more unified effort and that the Commission would be the best liaison with City Council.

Commissioner Reilly thanked Ms. Hilker for her efforts in expanding awareness and shared information about sidewalk tiles used in Italy, made from a titanium material, that chemically convert smog emissions.

Mr. Dutra suggested that some of the best solutions are the least expensive, such as installing office windows in the direction of the prevailing wind. He offered a means of quantifying 1990 levels of greenhouse emissions.

Deputy Director Cessna suggested that staff research the agreement and bring back its recommendations at the February 1, 2007 Commission meeting. She invited Ms. Hilker to attend that meeting and suggested that her organization hold off presenting the proposal to City Council until after the meeting.

Robert Carr, address unknown, stated that he was pleased that the Commission is approaching the proposal in an open-minded manner, noting that there is strong evidence for climatic change occurring.

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EXCERPT OF MINUTES

~~Minutes Approved~~
 Minutes Subject to Approval

March 1, 2007

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
 THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND
 ENERGY CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission convened in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 1, 2007 in City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners Chim, Decker, Griffiths, Minter, Reilly, and Chairperson McCabe.

Absent: Commissioner Watson.

Also Present: Deputy Community Development Director Cessna and Senior Environmental Quality Officer Jones.

MOTION: Commissioner Chim moved to grant Commissioner Watson an excused absence for this meeting. Commissioner Reilly seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson McCabe so ordered.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

7A. U.S. MAYORS CLIMATE PROTECTION AGREEMENT AKA COOL CITIES

Deputy Director Cessna reported that Virginia Hilker gave a presentation regarding the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement at the December 7, 2006 Commission meeting. In the Agreement, Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels challenged U.S. cities to meet or beat a 7% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions below 1990 levels by 2012. She noted that the City of Manhattan Beach recently signed the Agreement and that its staff report was included in the agenda material. She inquired if the Commission wanted to make a recommendation that City Council considers signing on to the Cool Cities program and Mayors Agreement.

Responding to Chairperson McCabe's inquiry, she advised that the cost of the program has not been quantified yet; however, it is her understanding that the City would sign on to make a good faith effort to meet the program's challenge. She noted that the City was already making strides in that direction and that staff was in agreement that the Commission should make the recommendation to City Council.

In response to Commissioner Chim's inquiry, Deputy Director Cessna stated that the City would need to do a baseline survey to determine carbon dioxide pollution levels in 1990 and at present before identifying ways to reduce emissions.

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

Commissioner Reilly stated that two phases should be to assess what current programs and projects the City can link together to meet the goal and then conduct a cost/benefit analysis to determine what can actually be done to reduce emissions.

Deputy Director Cessna advised that several City departments were in the process of preparing inventories of existing green practices and policies and that staff would provide this information at the April 5, 2007 Commission meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Decker moved to recommend that City Council sign on to the Mayors Climate Protection Agreement aka Cool Cities Program. Commissioner Chim seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Watson).

Virginia Hilker, Calle de Castellana, Redondo Beach, expressed appreciation to the Commission for its support and enthusiasm. She announced that as of today 413 cities have signed the Agreement, 74 in California. She stated that technical assistance is available from the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) and the Climate Registry.

Chairperson McCabe explained the policies and procedures of the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission, including the right to appeal decisions to City Council.

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TORRANCE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

March 1, 2007

To: Chairman McCabe and Members
of the Torrance Environmental Quality Commission

Subject: Cool Cities

In December, the Commission heard a presentation regarding the Cool Cities Program and the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, which is an outgrowth of the international Kyoto Protocol, designed to address greenhouse gas reduction.

As of January, 2007, 358 cities have signed on to the Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, with Manhattan Beach approving the Agreement on January 16, 2007. The Manhattan Beach staff report is attached for your information.

Should the City decide to sign on to the Mayors Agreement, we would be agreeing to set a goal of reducing carbon dioxide pollution to 7% below 1990 levels. To do this, we would need to conduct an inventory of current carbon dioxide sources, establish a baseline and then identify ways of reducing emissions. The solutions plan focuses on green vehicle fleets, energy efficiency and renewable energy. The final step would be to implement the plan and monitor progress.

Assistance is available from organizations such as the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), who has a successful initiative called the Cities for Climate Protection Program, which provides information, technical assistance and support in establishing a Cool Cities program for participating jurisdictions.

Currently, several city departments are preparing inventories of existing green practices and policies. This information will be available for the Commission in April and should be helpful in assessing our current status and areas for improvement.

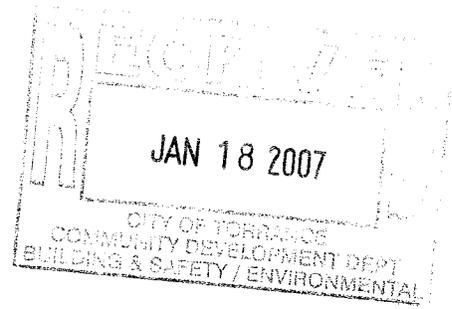
Respectfully Submitted,



Linda Cessna
Deputy Community Development Director

Attachments:

1. Manhattan Beach Climate Protection Agreement Report



Agenda Item #: _____

Staff Report City of Manhattan Beach

TO: Honorable Mayor Tell and Members of the City Council

THROUGH: Geoff Dolan, City Manager

FROM: Neil Miller, Director of Public Works
Richard Thompson, Director of Community Development

DATE: January 16, 2007

SUBJECT: Approval of Resolution No. 6077 Endorsing the U. S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council consider Resolution Number 6077 which endorses the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.

FISCAL IMPLICATION:

There is no immediate fiscal impact in adopting this resolution. Additional City resources may be necessary in the future if the City needs to research records and determine both baseline and future greenhouse emission quantities.

BACKGROUND:

At the November 21, 2006 City Council meeting, several residents addressed the City Council about signing on to the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. After testimony from several speakers, the City Council directed staff to prepare a report and resolution to consider the adoption of the principles of the Climate Protection Agreement.

DISCUSSION:

The Mayors Climate Protection Agreement is an outgrowth of the Kyoto Protocol to combat global warming. The Kyoto Protocol is an agreement signed by many nations that set forth greenhouse gas reduction goals. The United States of America federal government did not sign the Kyoto Protocol.

Since that agreement in 2005, several mayors of the nation's largest cities, including Seattle and Los Angeles, have created the Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. The intent of the agreement is to have as many cities as possible agree to the greenhouse gas reduction principles and therefore be able to put political pressure on the Federal Government to agree to the terms of the Kyoto Protocol.

City staff has evaluated the commitment aspects of the Climate Protection Agreement and finds the

Agenda Item #: _____

actions required to be reasonable and attainable. Our City has been proactive in engaging in energy saving programs such as:

- Retrofit to energy saving light fixtures throughout City facilities
- Acquisition of alternate fuel vehicles or high efficiency vehicles
- Retrofit of all major water and wastewater pump stations with state-of-the-art, energy efficient pumps and motors
- Built Police Fire Facility to Energy Saving Standards
- Retro-fitted traffic signals to energy saving LED light fixtures
- Reached 50% community recycling goal
- City provides an incentive for employee ride sharing
- Implemented tree preservation ordinance
- Utilize recycled water in parks and street medians
- Installed heat reducing window film to several City facilities
- Implemented recycled materials purchasing policy
- Participate in energy conservation public education campaigns
- Utilize solar power for irrigation controllers

According to information from Mayor Greg Nickels of the City of Seattle, more than ~~200~~ mayors of cities across the nation have signed the agreement. Other cities in the region which have adopted the Climate Protection Agreement include Los Angeles, Long Beach, Santa Monica and Hermosa Beach.

At some point in the future, as more cities join this campaign, there will be an effort to quantify the effects of implementing the provisions of this resolution. For instance, we may be asked to measure the reduction of greenhouse gases that resulted from our actions over the last five years. When this occurs, the City will need to engage the services of a consultant experienced in developing these types of reports. The cost of such an analysis is unknown at this time.

attachment: Resolution number 6077

RESOLUTION NO. 6077

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
MANHATTAN BEACH, CALIFORNIA, ENDORSING THE US MAYORS
CLIMATE PROTECTION AGREEMENT

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH,
CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY FIND, DETERMINE AND DECLARE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council hereby makes the following findings:

A. Recent, well-documented impacts of climate disruption include average global sea level increases of four to eight inches during the 20th century; a 40 percent decline in Arctic sea-ice thickness; and nine of the ten hottest years on record occurring in the past decade; and

B. Climate disruption of the magnitude now predicted by the scientific community will cause extremely costly disruption of human and natural systems throughout the world including: sea-level rises that interact with coastal storms to erode beaches, inundate land, and damage structures; more frequent and extreme heat waves; more frequent and greater concentrations of smog; and

C. Mayors from around the nation have signed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement which, as amended at the 73rd Annual U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting, reads:

The U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement

D. We urge the federal government and state governments to enact policies and programs to meet or exceed the target of reducing global warming pollution levels to 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012, including efforts to: reduce the United States' dependence on fossil fuels and accelerate the development of clean, economical energy resources and fuel-efficient technologies such as conservation, methane recovery for energy generation, waste to energy, wind and solar energy, fuel cells, efficient motor vehicles, and biofuels; and

E. We urge the U.S. Congress to pass bipartisan greenhouse gas reduction legislation that includes: 1) clear timetables and emissions limits, and 2) a flexible, market-based system of tradable allowances among emitting industries, and

F. We urge the U.S. Congress to pass bipartisan greenhouse gas reduction legislation that includes: 1) clear timetables and emissions limits, and 2) a flexible, market-based system of tradable allowances among emitting industries, and

G. We will strive to meet or exceed Kyototo Protocol targets for reducing warming pollution by taking actions in our own operations and communities such as:

1. Inventory global warming emissions in City operations and in the community, set reduction targets and create an action plan, if feasible;
2. Support land-use policies that preserve open space, and create compact, walkable urban communities;
3. Promote transportation options such as bicycle trails, commute trip reduction programs, incentives for car pooling and public transit;
4. Increase the use of clean, alternative energy by, for example, advocating for the development of renewable energy resources, recovering landfill methane for energy production, and supporting the use of waste to energy technology;
5. Support energy efficiency through retro-fitting City facilities with energy efficient lighting and urging employees to save energy which saves costs;

6. Where feasible, purchase "Energy Star" equipment and appliances for City use;
7. Practice and promote sustainable building practices using the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED program or a similar program;
8. Increase the average fuel efficiency of municipal fleet vehicles; launch and employee education program including anti-idling messages; convert diesel vehicles to bio-diesel;
9. Evaluate opportunities to increase pump efficiency in water and wastewater systems;
10. Where feasible, increase recycling rates in City operations and in the community;
11. Maintain healthy urban forests; promote tree planting to increase shading and to absorb CO₂; and
12. Support education of the public, school children, and other jurisdictions, service organizations; business and industry about reducing global warming pollution.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 2. That the City of Manhattan Beach endorsed the U.S. mayors Climate Protection Agreement as amended by the 73rd annual U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting and urges mayors from around the nation to join this effort.

SECTION 3. The City Clerk shall make this Resolution reasonably available for public inspection within thirty (30) days of the date this Resolution is adopted.

SECTION 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

SECTION 5. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Resolution and thenceforth and thereafter the same shall be in full force and effect

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 16th day of January, 2007.

Ayes:
Noes:
Absent:
Abstain:

Mayor, City of Manhattan Beach, California

ATTEST:

City Clerk

November 29, 2006

To Commissioner *Watson*

From Virginia Hilker,
Environmental Priorities Network

For your information for my Commission Meeting presentation, December 7, on
"U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement AKA Cool Cities".

Beyond my brief presentation and the attached material, the following web sites are very informative:

<http://www.seattle.gov/mayor/climate>

sierraclub.org/cool_cities

coolmayors.org

Thank you for your time and interest in the environment,

Sincerely,

Virginia Hilker

vthnews@earthlink.net

P.S. Your Presentation and vision for the City Council last month was awesome. I was cheering silently from the side lines.

ENDORISING THE US MAYORS' CLIMATE PROTECTION AGREEMENT

ENDORISING THE U.S. MAYORS CLIMATE PROTECTION AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the U.S. Conference of Mayors has previously adopted strong policy resolutions calling for cities, communities and the federal government to take actions to reduce global warming pollution; and

WHEREAS, the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the international community's most respected assemblage of scientists, has found that climate disruption is a reality and that human activities are largely responsible for increasing concentrations of global warming pollution; and

WHEREAS, recent, well-documented impacts of climate disruption include average global sea level increases of four to eight inches during the 20th century; a 40 percent decline in Arctic sea-ice thickness; and nine of the ten hottest years on record occurring in the past decade; and

WHEREAS, climate disruption of the magnitude now predicted by the scientific community will cause extremely costly disruption of human and natural systems throughout the world including: increased risk of floods or droughts; sea-level rises that interact with coastal storms to erode beaches, inundate land, and damage structures; more frequent and extreme heat waves; more frequent and greater concentrations of smog; and

WHEREAS, on February 16, 2005, the Kyoto Protocol, an international agreement to address climate disruption, went into effect in the 141 countries that have ratified it to date; 38 of those countries are now legally required to reduce greenhouse gas emissions on average 5.2 percent below 1990 levels by 2012; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America, with less than five percent of the world's population, is responsible for producing approximately 25 percent of the world's global warming pollutants; and

WHEREAS, the Kyoto Protocol emissions reduction target for the U.S. would have been 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012; and

WHEREAS, many leading US companies that have adopted greenhouse gas reduction programs to demonstrate corporate social responsibility have also publicly expressed preference for the US to adopt precise and mandatory emissions targets and timetables as a means by which to remain competitive in the international marketplace, to mitigate financial risk and to promote sound investment decisions; and

WHEREAS, state and local governments throughout the United States are adopting emission reduction targets and programs and that this leadership is bipartisan, coming from Republican and Democratic governors and mayors alike; and

WHEREAS, many cities throughout the nation, both large and small, are reducing global warming pollutants through programs that provide economic and quality of life benefits such as reduced energy bills, green space preservation, air quality improvements, reduced traffic congestion, improved transportation choices, and economic development and job creation through energy conservation and new energy technologies; and

WHEREAS, mayors from around the nation have signed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement which, as amended at the 73rd Annual U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting, reads:

The U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement

- a. We urge the federal government and state governments to enact policies and programs to meet or beat the target of reducing global warming pollution levels to 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012, including efforts to: reduce the United States' dependence on fossil fuels and accelerate the development of clean, economical energy resources and fuel-efficient technologies such as conservation, methane recovery for energy generation, waste to energy, wind and solar energy, fuel cells, efficient motor vehicles, and biofuels;
- b. We urge the U.S. Congress to pass bipartisan greenhouse gas reduction legislation that includes 1) clear timetables and emissions limits and 2) a flexible, market-based system of tradable allowances among emitting industries; and
- c. We will strive to meet or exceed Kyoto Protocol targets for reducing global warming pollution by taking actions in our own operations and communities such as:
 1. Inventory global warming emissions in City operations and in the community, set reduction targets and create an action plan.
 2. Adopt and enforce land-use policies that reduce sprawl, preserve open space, and create compact, walkable urban communities;
 3. Promote transportation options such as bicycle trails, commute trip reduction programs, incentives for car pooling and public transit;
 4. Increase the use of clean, alternative energy by, for example, investing in "green tags", advocating for the development of renewable energy resources, recovering landfill methane for energy production, and supporting the use of waste to energy technology;
 5. Make energy efficiency a priority through building code improvements, retrofitting city facilities with energy efficient lighting and urging employees to conserve energy and save money;
 6. Purchase only Energy Star equipment and appliances for City use;
 7. Practice and promote sustainable building practices using the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED program or a similar system;
 8. Increase the average fuel efficiency of municipal fleet vehicles; reduce the number of vehicles; launch an employee education program including anti-idling messages; convert diesel vehicles to bio-diesel;
 9. Evaluate opportunities to increase pump efficiency in water and wastewater systems; recover wastewater treatment methane for energy production;
 10. Increase recycling rates in City operations and in the community;
 11. Maintain healthy urban forests; promote tree planting to increase shading and to absorb CO₂; and
 12. Help educate the public, schools, other jurisdictions, professional associations, business and industry about reducing global warming pollution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The U.S. Conference of Mayors endorses the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement as amended by the 73rd annual U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting and urges mayors from around the nation to join this effort.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The U.S. Conference of Mayors will work in conjunction with ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability and other appropriate organizations to track progress and implementation of the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement as amended by the 73rd annual U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting.



SEATTLE GOV
Greg Nickels, Mayor



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Office of the Mayor

Making a difference in people's lives

Greg Nickels, Mayor

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US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement

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Nickels Newsletter



Get the mayor's inside view, delivered to your inbox.

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Citizens Service Bureau
(206-684-2489)

Clean & Green Seattle

Making our city a more livable place

On **February 16, 2005** the Kyoto Protocol took effect in the 141 countries that ratified it. That day Mayor Nickels challenged mayors across the country to join Seattle in taking local action to reduce global warming pollution.

On **March 30, 2005**, 10 mayors representing more than 3 million Americans, joined together to invite cities from across the country to take additional actions to significantly reduce global warming pollution. [Read the letter they sent to more than 400 other US mayors](#) or the [endorsed agreement](#) with signature page.

On **June 13, 2005**, the Mayors Climate Protection Agreement was passed unanimously by the U.S. Conference of Mayors. [Watch the video feature](#) Mayors inside and outside of the Conference continue to formalize their commitment by signing on to the agreement.

December 4-8, 2005 Mayor Nickels traveled to Montreal, Canada for the United Nations Climate Change Conference. Representatives from all over the world gathered for international meetings and negotiations on climate protection.

[Read the Mayor's Blog Entries from the trip](#)

[Letter to Mayors from Mayor Nickels](#) | [FAQ on Montreal Events](#)

What's New

- ▶ 'Housing First' funding for Homeless Veterans
- ▶ Mayor announces Small Business Award Winners
- ▶ Plans to increase city investment in South Park
 - ▶ More News Releases

As of **October 12, 2006** 319 mayors representing over 61.4 million Americans have accepted the challenge. You can [read worldwide headlines](#) about this locally-started initiative.

Mayor Nickels continues to work on these and other environmental issues in Seattle. His [Environmental Action Agenda](#) includes City efforts to improve healthy habitats and clean water, to increase sustainable forests, and to reduce paper use and increase recycling. He is also studying the [Green Ribbon Commission's Report and Recommendations](#) and will release Seattle's Climate Action Plan in autumn 2006.

WHAT IS THE U.S. MAYORS' CLIMATE PROTECTION AGREEMENT?

Climate disruption is an urgent threat to the environmental and economic health of our communities. Many cities, in this country and abroad, already have strong local policies and programs in place to reduce global warming pollution, but more action is needed at the local, state, and federal levels to meet the challenge. On February 16, 2005 the Kyoto Protocol, the international agreement to address climate disruption, became law for the 141 countries that have ratified it to date. On that day, Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels launched this initiative to advance the goals of the Kyoto Protocol through leadership and action by at least 141 American cities. Mayor Nickels, along with a growing number of other US mayors, is leading the development of a US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement; our goal was for at least 141 mayors to sign onto the Agreement by the time of the U.S. Conference of Mayors June 2005 meeting in Chicago.

Under the Agreement, participating cities commit to take following three actions:

- Strive to meet or beat the Kyoto Protocol targets in their own communities, through actions ranging from anti-sprawl land-use policies to urban forest restoration projects to public information campaigns;
- Urge their state governments, and the federal government, to enact policies and programs to meet or beat the greenhouse gas emission reduction target suggested for the United States in the Kyoto Protocol -- 7% reduction from 1990 levels by 2012; and
- Urge the U.S. Congress to pass the bipartisan greenhouse gas reduction legislation, which would establish a national emission trading system

[For Mayors: Agreement Q & A - Acrobat PDF](#)

In addition to building a coalition of at least 141 cities to sign onto the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, Mayor Nickels, along with the other participating mayors, led a successful effort to win endorsement of the Agreement by the U.S. Conference of Mayors, through passage of a resolution at their June 2005 meeting.

[U.S. Mayor's Conference website](#)

[Mayor Nickels' Web conference](#)

[Media Coverage](#)

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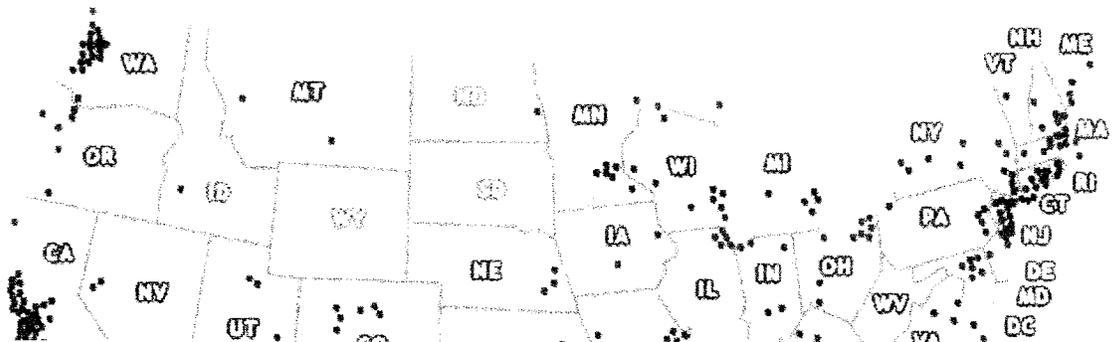
WHO IS INVOLVED?

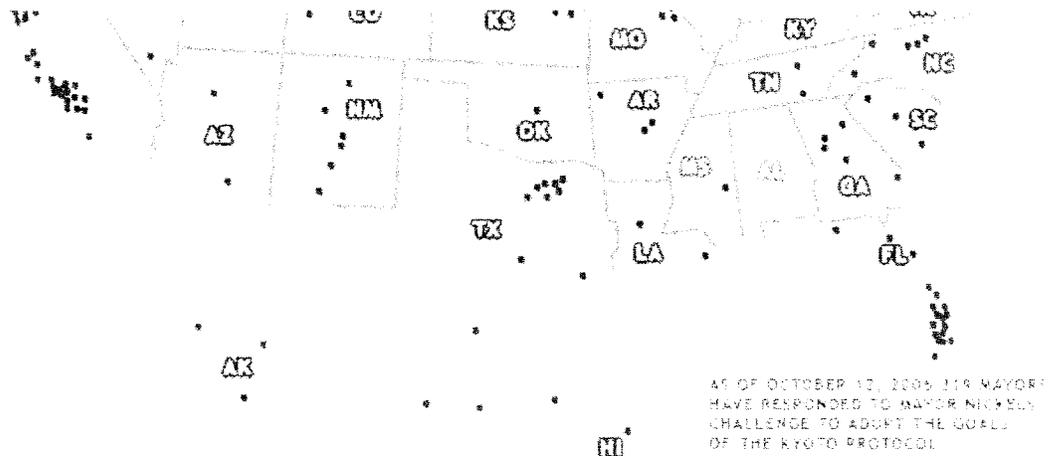
On March 30, 2005 Mayor Nickels, along with nine other US mayors, sent a letter, and a draft resolution to over 400 mayors across the country, seeking their participation.

Participating Cities

As of October 12, 319 mayors have signed onto the agreement. To view these names, click [here](#).

Pass your cursor over each state to view a list of participating cities.





[Read the text of the US Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement](#) (Endorsed Language)

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HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE?

The [2005 Conference of Mayors](#) is the official nonpartisan organization of the nation's 1183 U.S. cities with populations of 30,000 or more. The Conference might be over and the resolution passed, but there is still work to be done. If your city is interested in signing on to the [US Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement](#), we urge you to complete the [participation form](#) and return it via email to kim.drury@seattle.gov or john.mauro@seattle.gov. You can also fax your form to us at: (206) 684-3013.

There are several national non-profits that are active in assisting local and national leaders on environmental issues. For more information on what others are doing, and how they might assist you on getting your leaders involved, please visit: [Climate Solutions](#), [Natural Resources Defense Council](#) (NRDC), [Sierra Club](#), [Kyoto USA](#), the [Climate Crisis Coalition](#), [The Virtual March](#), or [ICLEI](#).

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WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

Mayor's
Green Ribbon
Commission on
Climate Protection

Learn more about the effects of [climate disruption and general climate information](#), [a range of actions and best practices](#) that reduce emissions, [what Seattle is doing](#) to meet the Kyoto target, and [what other cities are doing](#).

Media Coverage

Note: some articles require a subscription to access

- [Seattle's green mayor brings Kyoto home](#) -- Reuters, August 4, 2006
- [Laurie David: Ticked Off in Seattle: A Tale of Two Washingtons](#) -- The Huffington Post, April, 2006
- [A Green Santa Monica](#) -- Santa Monica Mirror, April 20, 2006
- [Press Conference: Green Ribbon Commission on Climate Protection](#) -- Seattle Channel, March 24, 2006
- [In Our View - Mayors Take Lead](#) -- Vancouver Columbian, March 28, 2006
- [How to Seize the Initiative](#) Climate change cover story -- Time Magazine, March 24, 2006
- [Spreading the Word on Global Warming](#) -- ABC World News Tonight, March 24, 2006

- [Seattle to Kyoto: you can't get there by car](#) -- Seattle Times, March 24, 2006
- [City commits to big cut in greenhouse gas emissions](#) -- Seattle PI, March 24, 2006
- [Seattle Cools Down Global Warming](#), - Seattle PI, March 22, 2006
- [Climate of change in Seattle](#), Seattle PI, March 17, 2006
- [U.S. grassroots warms up to global-warming fight](#) *Globe and Mail*, December 3, 2005
- [Seattle Tackles Greenhouse Gases](#), *NPR*, November 28, 2005
- [Dateline Earth Seattle PI \[Blog\]](#), November 23, 2005
- [Greg Nickels, The Pied Piper](#) from "Warriors & Heroes - Twenty-five leaders who are fighting to stave off the planetwide catastrophe" *Rolling Stone Magazine*, November, 2005
- [A rapid warm-up for the Northwest](#) *Christian Science Monitor*, October 23, 2005
- [Clearing The Air](#) *PBS*, August 15, 2005
- [Seattle leads the US in rallying cities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions](#)  *BBC News*, August 15, 2005
- [Major Cities' Efforts to Curb Global Warming](#)  *The News Hour with Jim Lehrer*, August 15, 2005
- [U.S. Mayors Abide by Kyoto Treaty](#) *PBS*, August 8, 2005
- [Seattle leads cities in reducing greenhouse gases](#) *Aspen Times*, July 23 2005
- [Blue Skies, Green Cities](#) *IPS*, July 19 2005
- [Mayors brainstorm green ideas](#) *North Lake Tahoe Bonanza*, July 15 2005
- [The Revolution will be Localized](#) *Grist Magazine*, July 14 2005
- [Mayors brainstorm green ideas](#) *A.P.*, July 14 2005
- [Mayors showcase 'green cities' at meeting](#) *Seattle P.I.*, July 12 2005
- [Climate issues heat up](#) *Desert News*, July 10 2005
- [State to tackle climate change](#) *Arizona Republic*, July 10 2005
- [Missouri mayors commit to combating global warming](#) *Joplin Independent*, July 8 2005
- [At G8 we'll be watching our leaders on global warming](#) *Whitier Daily News*, July 5 2005
- [Seattle's a hothouse of green power](#) *Houston Press*, June 29, 2005
- [Not Easy Being Green](#) *Houston Press*, June 23, 2005
- [U.S. mayors take stand against pollution](#) *Lansing Pulse*, June 22, 2005
- [Mayors taking up mandate on Kyoto](#) *Pasadena Star News*, June 19, 2005
- [Bush May Be Trying To Pretend That Global Warming Isn't Real](#) *The Record*, June 16, 2005
- [Political Climate Change](#) *The Stranger*, June 16, 2005
- [City City Bang Bang](#) *Grist Magazine*, June 15, 2005
- [US mayors support Nickels' climate plan](#) *Seattle P.I.*, June 14, 2005
- [World's Mayors Sign Global Warming Mitigation Plan](#) *E/The Environmental Magazine*, June 14, 2005
- [Mayors flex their opinions](#) *Long Beach Press Telegram*, June 13, 2005
- [Nickels pushing pro-Kyoto resolution to mayors](#) *The Seattle Times*, June 9, 2005
- [By any means necessary](#) *The Daily Texan*, June 6, 2005
- [Global-warming fight goes grass roots](#) *The Christian Science Monitor*, June 6, 2005
- [Cities lead the way to greener world](#) *New Scientist*, June 4, 2005
- [Schwarzenegger unveiling global warming plan at UN conference](#) *AP*, June 1, 2005
- [World's mayors seek to fight global warming, make cities greener](#) *AP*, May 30, 2005
- [California's record on pollution control acts as role model for city leaders](#) *Financial Times*, May 22, 2005
- [Kyoto treaty embraced at local level](#) *Denver Post*, May 22, 2005
- [Beyond Kyoto](#) *Living on Earth*, May 20, 2005
- [Maui, Big Isle mayors join national eco-pact](#) *Honolulu Advertiser*, May 17, 2005
- [US cities snub Bush and sign up to Kyoto](#) *The Guardian [London]*, May 17, 2005
- [U.S. Mayors Support Global Warming Treaty](#) *ABC News [AP]*, May 16, 2005
- [US mayors pledge action against global warming](#) *New Zealand Herald*, May 16, 2005
- [Seattle leads U.S. cities joining Kyoto Protocol](#) *International Herald News Tribune*, May 15, 2005
- [Bipartisan Action on Climate Change](#) *Charging Rhino [Blog]*, May 15, 2005
- [Rebuffing Bush, 132 Mayors Embrace Kyoto Rules](#) *New York Times*, May 14, 2005 (subscription needed)
- [Companies make peace with Kyoto Protocol](#) *LA Weekly*, March 4-10, 2005
- [American Cities Show Solidarity with Kyoto Signatories](#) *e/The Environmental Magazine*, March 2, 2005
- [Cooperation in the Air](#) *Los Angeles Times* - February 28, 2005
- [Santa Monica Joins Initiative to Lower Emissions](#) *Santa Monica Look Out News* - February 25, 2005
- [Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce - February 23, 2005 \(Note: need Subscription to access\)](#)
- [Seattle Dreams of 'Green' Team](#) *Seattle PI* - February 17, 2005
- [Activist touts local initiative to cut pollution](#) *Seattle Times* - February 17, 2005
- [Seattle mayor promotes climate protection](#) *KTVB.com (Idaho News)* - February 17, 2005
- [Mayor Is on a Mission to Warm U.S. Cities to the Kyoto Protocol](#) *L.A. Times* - February 22, 2005

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CONTACT

For more information, or to sign on to the Mayor's Climate Agreement, please contact [Kim Drury](#) or [John Mauro](#) with the Office of Sustainability

- [Office of the Mayor](#)
- [Office of Sustainability and Environment](#)
- [Office of Intergovernmental Relations](#)

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The California Climate Action Registry (the Registry) was established by California statute as a non-profit voluntary registry for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The purpose of the Registry is to help companies and organizations with operations in the state to establish GHG emissions baselines against which any future GHG emission reduction requirements may be applied.

The Registry encourages voluntary actions to increase energy efficiency and decrease GHG emissions. Using any year from 1990 forward as a base year, participants can record their GHG emissions inventory. The State of California, in turn, will offer its best efforts to ensure that participants receive appropriate consideration for early actions in the event of any future state, federal or international GHG regulatory scheme. Registry participants include businesses, non-profit organizations, municipalities, state agencies, and other entities.

The Registry has developed a General Protocol and additional industry-specific protocols which give guidance on how to inventory GHG emissions for participation in the Registry: what to measure, how to measure, the back-up data required, and certification requirements. When organizations become participants, they agree to register their GHG emissions for all operations in California, and are encouraged to report nationwide. Both gross emissions and efficiency metrics will be recorded. The Registry requires the inclusion of all direct GHG emissions, along with indirect GHG emissions from electricity use.

The Registry requires the reporting of only CO₂ emissions for the first three years of participation, although participants are encouraged to report the remaining five GHGs covered in the Kyoto protocol (CH₄, N₂O, HFCs, PFCs, and SF₆). The reporting of all six gases is required after three years of Registry participation.

Specific Registry responsibilities include the following:

- Enable the voluntary recording of GHG (greenhouse gas) emissions in a consistent, certified format.
- Qualify third-party organizations that have the capability to certify reported baseline emissions
- Maintain a record of all certified GHG emissions baselines and emissions results.
- Adopt industry-specific reporting metrics.
- Encourage voluntary actions to increase energy efficiency and reduce GHG emissions.
- Provide participants with referrals to approved providers for technical assistance and advice on programs to monitor, estimate, calculate, report, and certify GHG emissions; establish emissions reduction goals; and improve energy efficiency.

- Recognize, publicize, and promote participants.
- Recruit broad participation from all economic sectors and regions of the state.
- Biennially report to the Governor and Legislature on Registry successes and challenges.
- Provide additional services for participants such as workshops, training seminars, and "best practices" exchanges

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Registry contact information: info@climaterregistry.org
Registry Webmaster contact: webmaster@climaterregistry.org



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About ICLEI



ICLEI—Local Governments for Sustainability is an international association of local governments and national and regional local government organizations that have made a commitment to sustainable development. More than 475 cities, towns, counties, and their associations worldwide comprise ICLEI's growing membership. ICLEI works with these and hundreds of other local governments through international performance-based, results-oriented campaigns and programs.

We provide technical consulting, training, and information services to build capacity, share knowledge, and support local government in the implementation of sustainable development at the local level. Our basic premise is that locally designed initiatives can provide an effective and cost-efficient way to achieve local, national, and global sustainability objectives.

ICLEI was founded in 1990 as the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives. The council was established when more than 200 local governments from 43 countries convened at our inaugural conference, the *World Congress of Local Governments for a Sustainable Future*, at the United Nations in New York.

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What we do

ICLEI is a democratic, international association of local governments and national and regional local government organizations that have made a commitment to sustainable development.

As a movement, ICLEI develops and runs a broad range of campaigns and programs that address local sustainability issues while protecting global common goods (such as air quality, climate, water), and link local action to internationally agreed goals and targets. We help local governments generate political awareness of key issues; establish plans of action towards defined, concrete, measurable targets; work towards meeting these targets through the implementation of projects; and evaluate local and cumulative progress toward sustainable development.

As the international sustainable development and environmental agency for local governments, ICLEI provides information, delivers training, organizes conferences, facilitates networking and city-to-city exchanges, carries out research and pilot projects, and offers technical services and consultancy.

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City of Seattle
Greg Nickels, Mayor

US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement

How many mayors have signed the Agreement?

As of January 18, 2007, 367 mayors from both political parties representing over 55 million Americans in all 50 states and Washington, D.C. have signed on. Mayors of seven of the ten largest US cities have signed along with mid-size and smaller cities.

What does the Agreement do?

Mayors who sign on to the Agreement are making a commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in their own cities and communities to 7% below 1990 levels by 2012 through actions like increasing energy efficiency, reducing vehicle miles traveled, maintaining healthy urban forests, reducing sprawl and promoting use of clean, renewable energy resources. The Resolution also encourages the federal government to assist cities in sharing best practices on local climate protection programs. The Agreement also calls for Congress to pass legislation that sets meaningful timelines and limits on emissions through a flexible, market-based cap and trade system.

What is the connection to the US Conference of Mayors?

The US Conference of Mayors (USCM) unanimously endorsed the Agreement in June 2005 and now urges all mayors to participate. A partnership of the USCM and ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) was formed to help participating cities implement the Agreement and to track progress. A Mayors Council on Climate Protection has formed under the auspices of the USCM that will provide oversight and work on climate protection policy at the federal level.

What's happened since the USCM Endorsement?

Cities throughout the country are taking action on climate disruption. In addition to the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, there's been a lot of other activity, such as:

- Coordinated state leadership in the Northeast (the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative) and in California to set emissions targets and implement cap-and-trade systems.
- Major business leaders, including several Fortune 500 Companies like GE, DuPont and Wal-Mart have made strong commitments to clean energy and emissions reductions.
- The US Mayors Climate Action Handbook (www.iclei.org/us), a short resource guide for mayors to take climate action was launched.
- Building on the Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, the US Conference of Mayors endorsed the 2030 Challenge,

Why is this agreement important to mayors?

- Mayors recognize that climate disruption is a distinctly local issue and that action is urgent. Cities throughout the US are already feeling major climate impacts—and citizens turn to their local governments first for help during droughts, extreme storm events, dangerous heat waves, floods, and wildfires.
- Mayors know that actions to reduce global warming pollution provide additional benefits that are important to the quality of life in American cities, including cleaner air, decreased dependence on imported oil and gas, more livable and economically vibrant communities, healthy urban forests and reduced energy bills.
- Mayors understand the needs of their constituents. Public opinion polls demonstrate that citizens across the country know climate disruption is happening (more than 85%, according to a Time/Stanford poll in April 2006)—and they are calling for quick action.
- Mayors know that taking action now reduces the impacts – and costs – of climate disruption.

Visit www.seattle.gov/mayor/climate for more information,
including participation forms, media coverage, climate resource links and the latest list of signers.

Budget-Friendly Tips for Cutting Greenhouse Gas Emissions

By reducing greenhouse gas emissions, local governments of all sizes can cut energy costs, improve air quality, stimulate the local economy, and mitigate global warming. Below are six easy ways to get started.

Switch to LEDs

LEDs or light emitting diodes, are 90 percent more energy efficient and last 6–10 times longer than conventional lights. Save energy and maintenance costs by switching conventional bulbs to LEDs in traffic signals and exit lights. Because these lights are functioning 24 hours a day, the energy and cost savings accrue quickly.

Turn Out the Lights at Night

Instituting a “lights out at night” policy in city buildings is an easy and effective way to save electricity, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and save municipal dollars. This can be accomplished through educational campaigns and through technology, such as timers and occupancy sensors.

Buy Bikes for Law Enforcement Officials

Bicycles are inexpensive and people-powered. Downsizing some police sedans to mountain bikes in dense urban areas will significantly cut fuel costs, reduce tailpipe emissions, and in times of heavy traffic congestion, increase mobility.

Lighten Up Rooftops

Cool roofs absorb less solar energy and quickly release any heat that they store. Simply adding a highly reflective/emissive coating to a black or metal roof can reduce the need for air conditioning and produce huge annual cost and energy savings while decreasing greenhouse gas emissions at the same time.

Purchase Energy Efficient Equipment

Look for ENERGY STAR labeled equipment—ENERGY STAR computers use 70 percent less electricity than non-ENERGY STAR equipment. Some ENERGY STAR copy machines reduce paper costs by \$60 a month and reduce energy costs at the same time, and fax machines that have earned the ENERGY STAR label can cut associated energy costs by 40 percent.

Encourage Commuters to Ride the Bus

Providing incentives for commuters to ride a bus rather than drive a car to work is one way for cities to decrease traffic, free up downtown parking spaces, and reduce emissions too. These can include subsidized or free transit passes, parking cash-out programs, coordinated car or van pools, and programs such as a commuter challenge (for fun and prizes).

Local Government Leadership Through Innovation

All across the US, local governments are finding innovative ways to reduce emissions while achieving a host of other benefits.

Energy Efficiency

Minneapolis's Police Precinct Renovation

The City of Minneapolis recently turned an overcrowded police precinct into one of the community's most innovative green buildings. The city renovated and added on to the existing structure and carried out comprehensive energy modeling to examine the energy use impacts of all new and existing systems. The resulting benefits include approximately **40 percent savings** in annual energy costs, a reduction of more than **300 pounds of CO₂ emissions**, and an anticipated return on investment in less than seven years.

Chicago's Green Bungalow Initiative

The City of Chicago renovated four bungalow-style homes to determine if the benefits of green building, such as improved indoor air quality and energy efficiency, could be achieved affordably while remaining true to the original spirit of each home's design. Renovation of the homes was completed in 2002 and a subsequent energy analysis showed that the four bungalows together **saved ~37,000 kWh and ~4,300 therms of natural gas** each year. The renovation also **prevented 56 tons of CO₂ from being released** into the atmosphere annually. Simple payback periods for the additional green features of these homes ranged between 4.6 and 8.1 years. The green bungalows were projected to yield an average **savings of more than \$900 per home** for heating, cooling, and hot water use in comparison to standard rehab homes.

Ann Arbor's Municipal Energy Fund

Since 1998 Ann Arbor's Municipal Energy Fund has provided city facilities with a source of capital for energy efficiency retrofits. The Energy Fund provides initial capital for new projects and receives 80 percent of projected annual energy savings from each installed project for five years. The five-year payment plan allows projects that have a shorter payback to help support projects with a longer payback, and all savings accrued beyond the first five years remain with the departments implementing the improvements. The Fund was seeded by the city with **five annual investments of \$100,000, and quickly became self-sustaining**. Most installed measures have had payback periods of three to six years, and projects supported by the Fund have yielded a total of **685 tons of annual eCO₂ reductions**.



Renewable Energy

Montgomery County, Maryland's Green Power Purchasing

In 2004, Montgomery County led a group of local governments and local government agencies in a wind energy purchase that represents 5 percent of the buying group's total electricity needs. Under the two-year deal, the buying group will collectively purchase 38 million kWh of wind energy annually, translating into a **yearly reduction of 21,000 tons of CO₂, 95,000 pounds of nitrous oxides, and 1.4 pounds of mercury**. The County demonstrated the benefits of renewable energy in meeting the requirements of the federal Clean Air Act by including the wind energy purchase as a control measure for ozone pollution in a "State Implementation Plan" for air quality improvement. The County plans to offset the added expense of the wind power purchase by instituting employee energy efficiency programs such as turning off lights, computers, and office equipment when not in use.

Solid Waste

San Francisco's Organics Collection Program

The City of San Francisco instituted residential curbside collection of organic material as part of its Fantastic Three program. The program provides each household with a green cart for organic waste, a blue cart for commingled recyclables, and a black cart for all remaining trash. Residents and businesses are encouraged to place all food scraps and yard trimmings into the green cart, which is collected for composting at a regional facility. By instituting curbside organics collection, San Francisco became the first large city in the nation to collect food scraps citywide. The Fantastic Three program enabled the city to reach a reported overall **67 percent garbage diversion rate in 2004**. Through outreach and other methods, the City plans to expand the Fantastic Three program and increase both the amount of organics and recyclables collected. The program's expansion is projected to achieve an **annual eCO₂ reduction of 70,000 tons**.

Seattle's Ban on Recyclables from Garbage

Since January 2005 the City of Seattle has prohibited the disposal of certain recyclables from residential, commercial, and self-haul garbage by law. The new recycling ordinance is aimed at eliminating recyclable or compostable paper, cardboard, aluminum cans, plastic bottles, and yard debris that, until recently, have constituted approximately 25 percent of the city's garbage. The city hopes the new ordinance will **save residents and businesses as much as \$2 million per year** and keep future garbage costs low, as well as help to reverse the recent decline in Seattle's recycling rates. The measure is projected to achieve an **annual reduction of 260,000 tons of eCO₂**.



Miami-Dade County's Paperless Traffic Court Voice Response System

Miami-Dade County became a pioneer in the realm of waste reduction when it implemented the world's first "paperless" traffic court. Using technology that digitizes paper-based documents and makes them more accessible, both internally and to the public, the county has significantly increased the efficiency with which it handles traffic court cases and reduced the amount of paper used in the process. In addition to the paperless traffic court, the county also implemented an Interactive Voice Response telephone system that enables citizens to pay for traffic and parking tickets over the phone or online, make court dates, or make child support inquiries. The system reduces the need for considerable amounts of paperwork, thereby minimizing waste. It also significantly reduces transportation miles to and from court, **eliminating an estimated 1,480,000 vehicle miles traveled and 4,300 tons of eCO₂ since its implementation.**

Transportation

Keene's Conversion to Biodiesel

From fire engines to snowplows, all 77 of the vehicles in the City of Keene, New Hampshire's Public Works Department are running smoothly on B20 biodiesel. The fleet is fueled onsite at the department's pump. The biodiesel performs well in cold temperatures and has improved the air quality inside the fleet maintenance facility. The City has burned more than 4,400 gallons of biodiesel since 2002, which **prevents an estimated 12 tons of CO₂ from entering the atmosphere annually.**

Honolulu's Bus Rapid Transit Program

A steady growth in passengers choosing the bus for their commute has accompanied the expansion of Honolulu's Bus Rapid Transit program. Monthly ridership has increased from about 100,000 riders since 1999, when the program began, to over 630,000 in 2005. Assuming that half of BRT ridership represents a shift from trips made in passenger vehicles to trips taken on BRT, this equated to an **annual CO₂ reduction of approximately 7,000 tons.**

Portland's Light Rail System

The TriMet Metropolitan Area Express (MAX) light rail system, serving 64 stations over 44 miles of track in the Portland metropolitan area, sees 97,000 trips each weekday. More than \$3 billion in development has occurred along MAX lines since the decision to build was made in 1978. MAX ridership now eliminates 22.2 million car trips per year, **offsetting an estimated 26,400 tons of CO₂ annually**, while reducing traffic, improving air quality, and preserving neighborhood livability.



Community Outreach

Burlington's 10% Challenge

The 10% Challenge in Burlington, VT is a voluntary program to raise public awareness about global climate change and to encourage households and businesses to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by at least 10 percent. Enlisting innovative outreach methods such as a musical road show called "Beat the Heat," the program is achieving an estimated **annual reduction of 1,500 tons of CO₂ in the residential sector alone.**

Other Initiatives

Newark's Tree Planting Initiative

In 2004 Newark undertook a new project to create a more attractive, healthier, energy-efficient city with one simple tool: trees. Utilizing funding from a statewide urban forest energy efficiency initiative called "Cool Cities," Newark **planted 500 trees** in strategic areas to employ the tree's energy efficiency and air pollution reduction benefits. The City anticipates **each tree to reduce heating and cooling costs by up to 12 percent** for buildings that are shaded by the trees, which will in-turn reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions.



Take Action! Develop A Local Action Plan

Is your community ready to save money and increase livability while reducing greenhouse gas emissions?

Get started by developing a Local Action Plan. The process outlined below will help identify tried-and-true, budget-friendly opportunities and innovative new custom projects that can reduce greenhouse gas emissions in your jurisdiction. Select the best combination of projects that will enable your community to achieve its emissions reduction target and include them in your Local Action Plan.

Step 1

Identify existing programs already reducing greenhouse gas emissions

Does your city have a curbside recycling program or provide incentives for carpooling or riding public transport? Have any city buildings been retrofitted? Often there are many existing projects and programs already running in your jurisdiction to save money, increase energy efficiency, reduce solid waste, or improve local air quality. Find out what they are and if they are also reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Step 2

Quantify emissions reductions already achieved

Use ICLEI's quantification software to measure the greenhouse gas reduction benefits of your jurisdiction's existing programs. As you learn which programs are most effective at reducing emissions, you can apply this knowledge in planning future projects. Add together the reductions you have already achieved to determine how far your local government has already come toward meeting its emissions reduction target, and how far you still have to go.

Step 3

Identify new opportunities for further reducing emissions

Consider the results of your greenhouse gas inventory and forecast—as well as sample projects implemented by your peers across the ICLEI network—in order to identify new reduction measures that maximize cost effectiveness, minimize staffing needs, build political support, raise public awareness, and create co-benefits such as new jobs and improved public health. Use ICLEI's quantification software to measure the emissions reductions of each proposed project and compare your total planned reductions to your community's emissions reduction target.

Step 4

Put everything together: Create your Local Action Plan

Once the total reductions resulting from your existing and planned projects meet your community's reduction target, it's time to incorporate all of these projects into a Local Action Plan.

A Local Action Plan Includes

A jurisdiction's greenhouse gas emissions data:

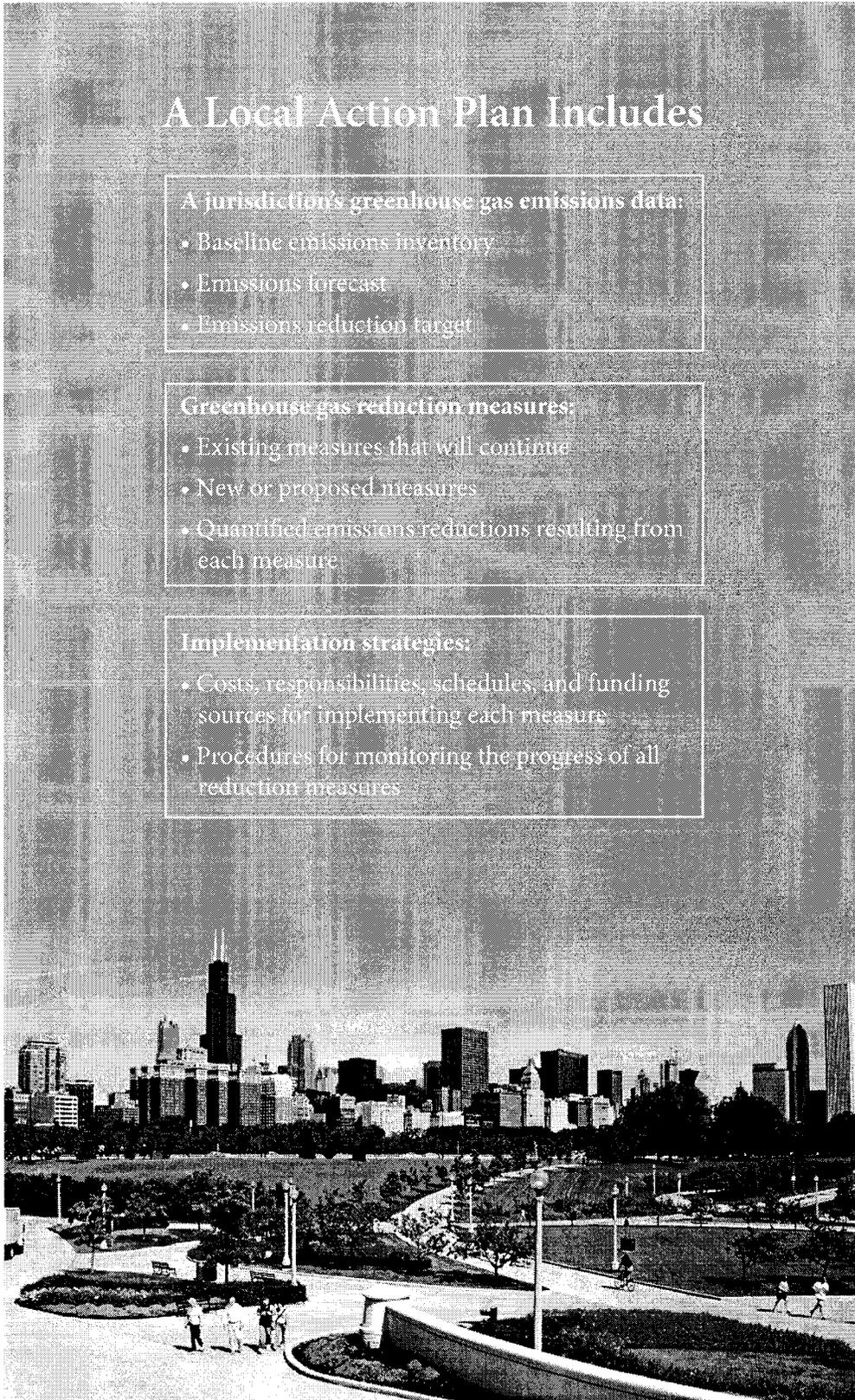
- Baseline emissions inventory
- Emissions forecast
- Emissions reduction target

Greenhouse gas reduction measures:

- Existing measures that will continue
- New or proposed measures
- Quantified emissions reductions resulting from each measure

Implementation strategies:

- Costs, responsibilities, schedules, and funding sources for implementing each measure
- Procedures for monitoring the progress of all reduction measures



ICLEI's website [www.iclei.org/usa] provides links to sample action plans created by other local governments in ICLEI's Cities for Climate Protection™ network.

US Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement – Signature Page

You have my support for the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.

Date: _____

Mayor: _____

Signature: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Mayor's Email: _____

Staff Contact Name: _____

Staff Contact Title: _____

Staff Phone: _____

Staff Email: _____

Please add my comments in support of the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.
We will add these to the Website *(optional)*:

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37
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Cool CITIES

Solving Global Warming One City at a Time



Sierra Club's Guide to Local Global Warming Solutions

Cool Cities

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COVER PAGE PHOTOS:

1. Skyline of Chicago, one of the more than 200 cities that have pledged to reduce local heat-trapping pollution. PHOTO BY ROBERT GLUSKI
2. Iowa's Waverly Light & Power is the first municipal utility to install its own wind turbines. PHOTO BY WAVERLY LIGHT & POWER
3. Investing in clean energy not only saves taxpayer dollars and protects the environment, it also creates good jobs for the future. PHOTO BY APOLLO ALLIANCE
4. The Western Area Power Administration's 4-kilowatt photovoltaic array at its Rocky Mountain Customer Service Center building east of Loveland, Colorado. PHOTO BY WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION

You can find this guide and more information about our Cool Cities campaign at sierraclub.org/coolcities

The Sierra Club's members are 750,000 of your friends and neighbors. Inspired by nature, we work together to protect our communities and the planet. The Sierra Club is America's oldest, largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization.



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Cool CITIES

Solving Global Warming
One City at a Time

INTRODUCTION—

Re-Energizing Our Cities

A

ll over America, cities, counties and states are launching an exciting grassroots movement to help solve one of our country's most pressing problems: global warming. Frustrated by stalling on the federal level, local leaders are moving forward with innovative energy solutions that cut our dependence on oil, benefit public health, and save taxpayer dollars. These mayors, county commissioners, and governors are leading the way toward a safer and more secure future.

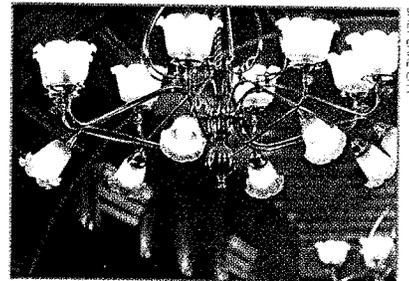
The purpose of this guide is to provide a resource for citizens and local officials who are ready to take real action to reduce energy waste and heat-trapping global warming pollution in their communities. In the following pages, you will find inspiring city success stories from a broad range of cities, from larger metropolitan centers such as Salt Lake City, St. Paul, and Charlotte to smaller cities like Twin Falls, Idaho, and Waverly, Iowa.



DAVID WASSERMAN



WAVERLY, IOWA
POWER AND LIGHT



SALT LAKE CITY

The strategies that these and other Cool Cities are pursuing fall under three categories: **Cleaner Vehicles, Energy Efficiency, and Renewable Energy.** Every one of these local solutions is already saving taxpayer dollars and improving public health by reducing energy waste and pollution. By taking innovative actions, forward-looking cities are re-energizing our nation, proving that we can solve global warming one city at a time.

■ **Every one of these local solutions is already saving taxpayer dollars and improving public health by reducing energy waste and pollution.**

GLOBAL WARMING—

The Time to Act Is Now

The scientific community has concluded that burning fossil fuels—oil, coal, and natural gas—to power our cars, homes and businesses is causing global temperatures to rise. This heating of the earth poses a serious threat to our health, safety, and environment.

The national science academies of the United States, England, France, Russia, Germany, Japan, Italy, Canada, Brazil, China and India issued the following joint declaration in June 2005: “The scientific understanding of climate change is now sufficiently clear to justify nations taking prompt action.” The world’s leading scientists ask us to “recognize that delayed action will increase the risk of adverse environmental effects and will likely incur a greater cost.” [Source: “Joint Science Academies’

Statement: Global Response to Climate Change,” June 2005—royalsoc.ac.uk/document.asp?id=3222]

Cities Take the Lead

The good news is our cities have not become paralyzed by the threat of global climate change. Instead, they are taking the lead with the “U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement” initiated by Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels. Introduced on February 16, 2005—the same day that the Kyoto Protocol international global warming treaty took effect in 141 nations—the agreement is gathering support around the country and has earned the backing of the U.S. Conference of Mayors. To date, more than 200 mayors representing more than 42 million Americans in 38 states have signed on, pledging to reduce global warming carbon dioxide (CO₂) pollution citywide to 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012. [Go to seattle.gov/mayor/climate for more information on the mayors’ climate protection agreement.]

How will these cities accomplish these ambitious goals in the next seven years? And how can your city become a Cool City?

Seattle: Cool City Model

The city of Seattle is on the forefront of global warming local solutions. Under Mayor Greg Nickels’ leadership, the city government has already reduced its own global warming pollution by more than 60 percent by constructing green buildings and operating alternative fuel vehicles. Seattle City Light is the only electric utility in the country producing zero net greenhouse gas emissions, and the city is working to expand transportation choices, recycling, and urban forest restoration.

Mayor Nickels has also created a Green Ribbon Commission on Climate Protection, composed of business, environmental, government, community, and labor leaders. The Commission is developing a plan for Seattle to meet its global warming pollution reduction targets, and identifying key economic opportunities for Seattle’s transition to a clean energy future.

“By making smart choices like building sustainable buildings, replacing old vehicles with a ‘Clean and Green’ fleet, and setting strict ‘no-net-emissions’ goals for Seattle City Light, the City has shown we can take local action on global problems,” said Mayor Nickels.

LEARN MORE

To find out about Seattle’s Climate Initiative, see ci.seattle.wa.us/environment/climateinitiative.html



Keeping Warm, Keeping Cool—In Klamath Falls, Oregon, a geothermal district heating system keeps the sidewalks clear and dry at the Basin Transit station. The 22,000 square-foot garden on the “green” roof of Chicago’s city hall cools the building during the city’s hot summers.

GEO-HEAT CENTER/NEEL

KATRIN SCHOLZ-BARTH/NEEL

Cool Cities Across America



As of February 27, 2006, 208 mayors from 38 states representing more than 42 million Americans have pledged to reduce global warming carbon pollution in their cities to 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012.

“With the passage of significant international accords and adoption of this statement by U.S. mayors, we have hope that the global community can successfully join together, as nations did to solve the problem of ozone depletion, to prevent the most devastating consequences of global climate change.”

—Salt Lake City Mayor Rocky Anderson

PUTTING GLOBAL WARMING SOLUTIONS INTO ACTION

Four Steps to Become a Cool City

Getting your city to become part of the fight against global warming is as simple as the four steps outlined below. These steps are modeled on the Cities for Climate Protection program, a successful initiative run by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) to help cities reduce global warming pollution. Encouraging your city to join ICLEI's Cities for Climate Protection program is an excellent way to fulfill the Cool Cities pledge. But any city can start making a difference by putting existing smart energy solutions to work today.

Visit iclei.org for more information on the Cities for Climate Protection program.

Step 1: Take the "Cool Cities" Pledge

The first step towards curbing global warming pollution in your community is to ask your mayor to sign the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. This agreement sets the goal of reducing citywide global warming carbon dioxide (CO₂) pollution to 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012. See seattle.gov/mayor/climate

Step 2: Conduct a Global Warming Emissions Inventory

The next step is to conduct an inventory of your city's current global warming emissions. This information will identify the city's major CO₂ sources (and the greatest opportunities for reductions), and will provide a baseline to judge the city's progress towards its goal. Cities can receive technical assistance to conduct a global warming emissions inventory from a variety of sources including state and federal agencies as well as ICLEI through its Cities for Climate Protection program.

Step 3: Create a Solutions Plan

After completing its global warming inventory, your city will be ready to develop a solutions plan that can reduce emissions while lowering energy costs for the city. While every city's energy solutions plan will be unique, there are three important strategies: **Green Vehicle Fleets**, **Energy Efficiency**, and **Renewable Energy**. In some combination, these solutions, which are illustrated with specific success stories later in this guide, will form the foundation of your city's comprehensive energy-saving plan.

For examples of Cool City Solutions Plans, visit sierraclub.org/coolcities



"Minneapolis has set high standards for CO₂ reduction and we're meeting them—a strategy that has earned our city tremendous environmental and economic benefits. Climate disruption is a global problem but we feel the effects locally. We are thrilled with Seattle and Mayor Greg Nickels' initiative and will work hard to challenge our nation through our example."

—Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak, in front of his hybrid car

Step 4: Implement and Monitor Progress

Of course, a plan alone cannot cut global warming pollution. It is essential that your city put the plan into action and monitor its progress periodically. With a strong commitment, a sound plan, and real action, your city will be on its way toward meeting the goals of the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.

■

With a strong commitment, a sound plan, and real action, your city will be on its way toward meeting the goals of the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.

Green Vehicle Solutions

The technology exists today to significantly reduce global warming pollution from America's cars, trucks, and SUVs. Improving automobile fuel economy is the biggest single step to curbing global warming, since every gallon of gasoline burned creates 28 pounds of heat-trapping carbon dioxide pollution.

[Source: Oak Ridge National Laboratory: U.S. Department of Energy.]

Because transportation is a major source of global warming pollution, numerous cities are incorporating gas-electric hybrid vehicles and other fuel-efficient vehicles into their fleets. By using less gasoline, hybrid vehicles release a fraction of the global warming pollution emitted by conventional vehicles while saving money at the gas pump. Cities are also switching away from polluting diesel city and school buses to cleaner alternatives like compressed natural gas (CNG) powered vehicles.

Solution #1—Green Fleets

Governments of all sizes regularly purchase automobiles to help provide a wide range of taxpayer services. Recognizing an opportunity for action, many cities, counties, and states are saving taxpayer dollars and reducing air pollution by “greening” their fleets with hybrid gas-electric and other vehicles that go farther on a gallon of gas.

Currently, 48 U.S. towns and cities in 36 states have green fleets programs, as do 26 county and 17 state governments. From police departments and school districts to administrative agencies and taxi services, green fleets are a winning city solution. [Source: greenfleets.org]

For a general overview and step-by-step advice for writing a green fleets ordinance in your city, go to greenfleets.org/stepone.html

For a model green fleets ordinance, see the city of Denver's ordinance at www.greenfleets.org/denverrevised.html

Solution #2—Hybrid Vehicle Incentives

In addition to purchasing hybrid vehicles for city fleets, local governments can encourage citizens and businesses to buy hybrid vehicles with a wide range of incentives. Some cities are already providing incentives such as free parking for hybrid vehicles and lower registration fees and taxes.

Solution #3—Clean Buses

City residents have long had to endure the sight and smell of black smoke belching from dirty diesel-engine buses. Now many cities are replacing these polluting old buses with buses that run on cleaner compressed natural gas (CNG) or with hybrid-electric diesel engines.

“Increasingly, cities are providing the answers to some of America's toughest problems. So it's fitting that we're leading the way on global warming as well.”

—Madison, Wisconsin, Mayor Dave Cieslewicz

COOL CITIES

Houston TEXAS

In April 2005, Bill White, the mayor of the nation's 4th largest city, announced plans to convert a substantial portion of the city of Houston's fleet of cars, pickup trucks, and sport utility vehicles to hybrids by the year 2010. The city estimates that 80 percent of all new vehicle purchases and over 50 percent of the city's fleet could be hybrid vehicles by the year 2010.

Considering the size of the city's light duty fleet (more than 3,500), Houston's investment in hybrids will pay big dividends down the road. Over its projected five-year life-cycle, the Toyota Prius hybrid should provide net savings of almost \$1,900, in comparison to a conventional gasoline-only full-sized sedan, according to a city of Houston study.

Because hybrids are so fuel efficient, they release a fraction of the global warming pollution emitted by conventional vehicles. Over the lifetime of the vehicle, a hybrid Toyota Prius will release 43 fewer tons of global warming pollution compared to an average sedan.

"This makes economic sense, it makes environmental sense and it is going to set an example," said Mayor White. "We're going to save on fuel costs and we're going to help save our air quality."

LEARN MORE

Details on the city of Houston's greenfleets program are available at: houstontx.gov/mayor/press/20050408.html



Gentlemen, Start Your Hybrid Engines—Houston Mayor Bill White announces the greening of his city's fleet.

Charlotte NORTH CAROLINA

When Charlotte's fleet managers found that hybrid gas-electric vehicles are less expensive to operate than conventional cars, Mayor Pat McCrory and Council members Susan Burgess and John Tabor took action. Working with city staff and with the cooperation of Mecklenburg County, the City Council supported a plan to bring the total number of hybrids in the fleet to over two dozen by the end of 2006—more than tripling the city/county's current number of hybrids.



Although they typically cost more initially than standard gasoline-fueled cars, gas-sipping hybrids save on gasoline, have lower maintenance costs, and retain a higher resale value at the end of their useful life, according to Charlotte's Fleet Environmental Analyst David Friday.

Mr. Friday estimates that switching from a gas-only Ford Taurus to a hybrid Toyota Prius or Honda Civic would save city taxpayers approximately \$800-\$1200 annually per vehicle, including over \$400 in annual fuel costs.

"This results in a payback of the extra purchase cost within 2.5 to 5.5 years, depending on the model chosen and miles driven," said Friday. [Source: "Ford Taurus to Honda Civic Hybrid and Toyota Prius Comparative Analysis," David Friday, Charlotte Fleet Environmental Analyst, May 2005]

LEARN MORE

Charlotte's Fleet Environmental Analyst David Friday can be reached at dfriday@ci.charlotte.nc.us.

COOL CITIES

Marion County FLORIDA

When gas-electric hybrid vehicles hit the market, Wyatt Earp, Director of Fleet Management for the Marion County Sheriff's Office in Florida, did some cost analysis to see whether it would be a good idea to pay a little more up front for a car that gets superior mileage. The answer?

"It costs a little more to start with, but operating expenses are less," says Earp. "Plus, we're working for the environment and showing people that we don't need to be so dependent on foreign oil."

The Toyota Prius vehicles are used by the department to deliver subpoenas, transfer prisoners, and run administrative errands. In addition, trained civilians use one of the hybrids to cruise the county checking out bridges, pipelines, and other potential terrorist targets as part of the department's "Homeland Security Patrol".

"We work to conserve as much energy as we can—that's our obligation to the American people," said Earp, a descendent of the legendary frontier lawman. "We spend taxpayers' money wisely, and that means we don't run experiments. We've got a good car here. Hopefully American car companies will offer something similar, soon."

Earp also manages the annual procurement of cars for the Florida Sheriff's Association, which negotiates wholesale rates for about 5,000 city and county agencies. Last year it bought 100 hybrids. "Now the word is getting around. I think we'll have 10 times more orders than we had last year," Earp says.

LEARN MORE

Visit the Marion County Public Affairs department's Web site at: marioncountyfl.org



You Have the Right to Get Good Mileage—For Wyatt Earp, director of fleet management for Marion County Sheriff's Department in Florida, purchasing fuel-efficient hybrid vehicles and reducing dependence on oil make sense for the environment—and the county budget.

Washington D.C.

The millions of visitors who visit our nation's capitol each year to see the monuments and museums can breathe easier because of the city's clean, natural gas buses which improve air quality and cut global warming pollution.

Over the past four years, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority has replaced 414 of its polluting diesel buses with cleaner burning, compressed natural gas buses. Every natural gas bus replaces the need for nearly 10,000 gallons of diesel fuel each year. Since natural gas buses release 25 percent less global warming emissions than diesel, these cleaner buses result in real cuts in global warming pollution.

Natural gas buses also help to reduce smog. Compared to traditional diesel buses, the city's natural gas buses release over 50 percent less smog-forming nitrogen oxides and 85 percent less soot pollution.

LEARN MORE

Visit the Washington's transit authority Web site at: wmata.com/about/met_news/pressroom/archived_releases/pr_cng.cfm



MARY WENZEL

Energy Efficiency Solutions

Energy efficiency means using less energy through better technology to power buildings, light streets, and industry. Reducing energy use is one of the most cost-effective and fastest ways to save energy and reduce global warming pollution.

Every city can make substantial energy efficiency improvements by putting policies in place to promote efficient technologies and integrating them into planning decisions. The policies outlined below represent some of the most effective steps currently being taken on the city and local level.

Solution #1—Making New Buildings More Energy Efficient

Incorporating energy efficiency requirements into municipal building codes increases the overall energy efficiency of new buildings. Many cities have chosen to adopt the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards created by the United States Green Building Council (usgbc.org). LEED standards provide energy efficient design guidelines for a variety of building types and developments.

Solution #2—Energy Efficiency Retrofits to Existing Buildings

In addition to improving the energy efficiency of new buildings, cities can make substantial energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings. Modernizing lighting, heating, cooling, and other operations can reduce the energy requirements of existing buildings in a cost-effective manner, lowering energy

costs and reducing pollution.

The U.S. Green Building Council has also developed LEED standards for existing buildings. The standards provide guidance on improving the energy efficiency of building operations and other systems without making major changes to the interior and exterior of the building. Cities around the country have made major strides in improving the energy efficiency of police and fire stations, city office buildings, and schools.

Solution #3—Energy Efficient Street Lighting

Street lighting and traffic signals can use a significant amount of energy. By replacing traditional light fixtures with super-efficient light emitting diode (LED) bulbs, cities are reaping energy and cost savings.

Solution #4—Public Benefit Funds

Cities with community-owned, local municipal utilities can integrate energy efficiency into the city's overall energy plan. If your city has a municipal utility, it can set up a local Public Benefits Fund (PBF), where a small surcharge on consumer energy bills is used to create a fund to finance energy efficiency projects in the utility service area, thus lowering the overall energy costs for consumers.

Austin Energy (austinenergy.com) and the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (smud.org) are examples of municipal utilities that have used public benefit funds to lower energy use and costs through energy efficiency.

Solution #5—Combined Heat and Power

Cities and businesses can also benefit from energy efficient combined heat and power (CHP) systems. These systems produce both electricity and steam for heating and cooling from a single power plant located near consumers. As a result, CHP systems recover heat that is normally wasted at power plants and funnel the heat into surrounding buildings. This reduces energy costs and lowers pollution by eliminating the need for separate fuel sources for electricity and heating.

“The International Panel on Climate Change has warned that New Orleans is the North American city most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

The rise of the Earth's temperature, causing sea level increases that could add up to one foot over the next 30 years, threatens the very existence of New Orleans. We will continue to collaborate and support efforts on global warming.”

—New Orleans Mayor C. Ray Nagin

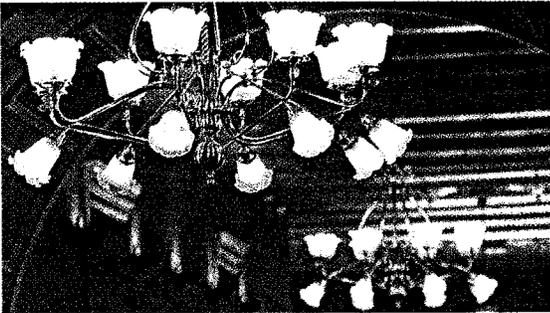
COOL CITIES

Salt Lake City

UTAH

Salt Lake City has dramatically reduced its energy costs by aggressively pursuing energy efficiency measures. Currently, the city saves over \$32,000 a year on its energy costs as a result of installing 861 light emitting diode (LED) traffic signals. The city plans to expand this program to all of its 1630 red and green lights, which is expected to save over 500 tons of

SALT LAKE CITY



heat-trapping carbon dioxide (CO₂) pollution each year with annual cost savings of \$53,000. The city has also found that LED signals require less maintenance than conventional lighting.

In addition, the city has replaced the conventional incandescent bulbs in its city and county office buildings with more energy efficient compact fluores-

cent bulbs (CFLs). These bulbs use much less energy and last significantly longer, saving the city over \$33,000 a year and reducing CO₂ emissions by 344 tons per year.

These energy efficiency measures are a part of a city wide action plan to protect the environment and reduce global warming emissions.

LEARN MORE

Read Salt Lake City's plan at slcgov.com/environment/actionplan.htm

Scottsdale

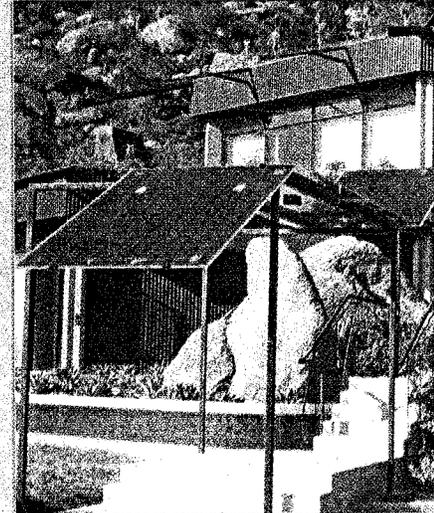
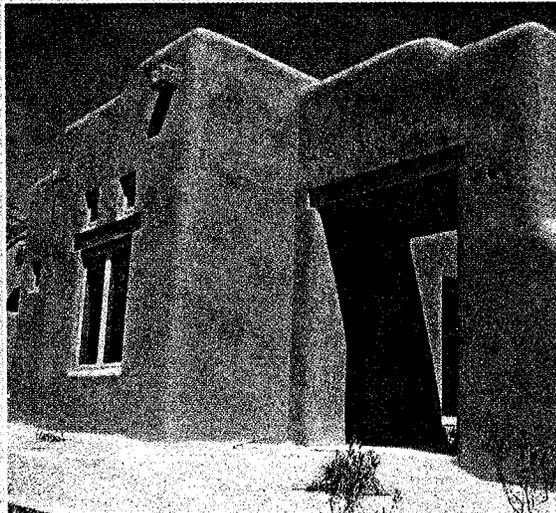
ARIZONA

The city of Scottsdale has been a leader in the Southwest on energy efficiency for buildings. In 1998, Scottsdale introduced Arizona's first green building program which helps builders and home owners learn about how to integrate energy efficiency and water saving features into new homes. Between 1998 and 2003, the green building program worked with 99 builders and issued 230 permits for green building projects in the city.

In March 2005, Scottsdale became the first city in the nation to require that all new city buildings and renovation projects meet LEED GOLD standards for energy efficiency and sustainability – one of the highest LEED ratings.

LEARN MORE

Read about Scottsdale's green building program at scottsdaleaz.gov/greenbuilding

**Harnessing the Desert Sun—**

New energy-efficient homes in Scottsdale use both renewable technologies like solar panels, as well as thick adobe walls that cool the house in the summer and keep it warmer in the winter.

Twin Falls IDAHO

Like many other school districts around the country with growing numbers of students and decreasing budgets, the Twin Falls school district began searching for creative ways to reduce costs. School officials realized that the district could reduce energy costs and cut pollution by increasing the energy efficiency of its 11 schools. The upgrades included more efficient lighting and improvements to the heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning systems. The upgrades are expected to generate \$3.5 million in energy savings.

In an innovative financing agreement, the school district signed an energy savings performance contract with Minnesota-based Honeywell Corporation. Under a performance contract, a private company pays to make energy efficient improvements and is then reimbursed with the money saved through lower energy bills over the lifetime of the project.

According to Dr. John Miller, the Director of Operations for the Twin Falls School District, the performance contract gave the school district "the capital to accomplish in months, what would have normally taken us a decade to complete because of budget constraints."

LEARN MORE

The Twin Falls school district project Web site is available at newsite.schoolfacilities.com/cd_1695.aspx

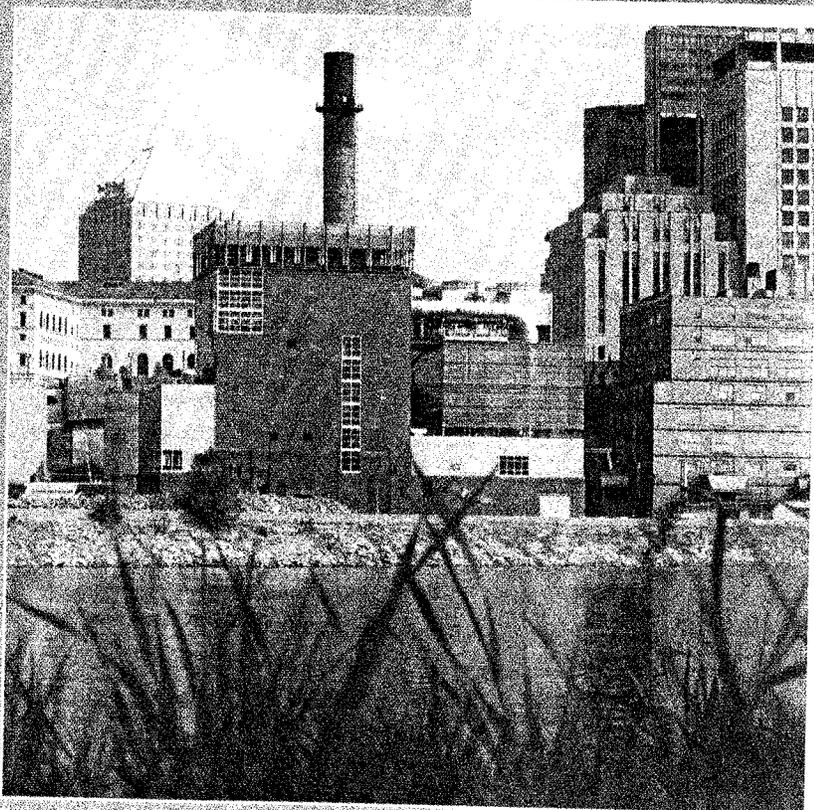
St. Paul MINNESOTA

During the long, cold Minnesota winters, the majority of the buildings in downtown Saint Paul stay warm using District Energy's energy-efficient combined heat and power (CHP) system. Providing electricity to the grid and heating service to more than 80 percent of downtown Saint Paul and adjacent areas, including the Minnesota State Capitol and nearly 300 homes, the system uses heat drawn from a biomass-fired power plant located in the heart of the city.

By using a renewable resource as its primary fuel and by capturing ambient heat that would otherwise have been wasted, St. Paul's CHP system reduces overall energy consumption, costs, and pollution.

LEARN MORE

Details of Saint Paul's CHP system are available at districtenergy.com/currentactivities/chp.html



Heat and Power—

By producing both heat and electricity from one power plant, the District Energy plant helps save money and cut pollution.

Renewable Energy Solutions

By harnessing natural sources of energy like the sun and the wind, renewable energy sources can replace our reliance on outdated, polluting power plants that rely on fossil fuels. Today's solar panels efficiently transform sunlight into electricity while blending into the design of homes and office buildings. Modern wind turbines rise high above the ground, capturing the strongest winds to produce reliable electricity.

Currently, dirty fossil fuel power plants account for over a third of the nation's total global warming emissions. Meeting our energy needs with clean, renewable energy can move the country towards a brighter, cleaner, and cheaper energy future.

Cities around the country are discovering that investing in innovative renewable energy sources reduces global warming pollution and creates a reliable source of clean, homegrown electricity.

Solution #1—Renewable Energy Standards

A renewable energy standard requires an increase in the percentage of electricity from clean, renewable energy sources (such as wind and solar power) in a city or utility area by a specific target date. These standards are phased in over time so that renewable energy capacity can be built and incorporated into the necessary energy management and reliability plans. For instance, a 20 percent Renewable Energy Standard could be phased in over ten years, requiring an additional 2 percent of electricity generation to come from renewable sources each year. Cities that operate municipal utilities have been able to set renewable energy standards for their community-owned utilities.

Solution #2—Solar and Wind Installations

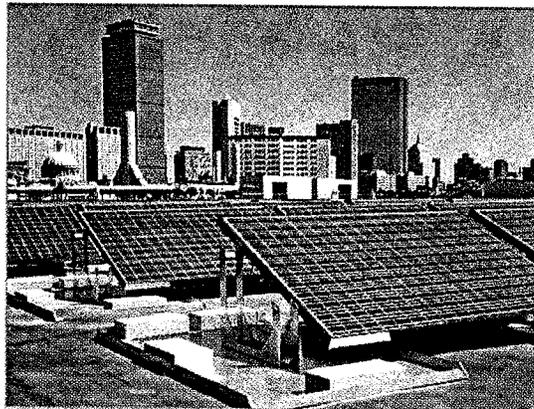
Some cities are moving forward by financing the construction of renewable energy projects themselves. In some cases, cities are working with local municipal utilities to construct wind turbines. In other cases, cities are working with privately owned utilities and renewable energy developers to construct solar arrays on city buildings, schools, and homes.

Solution #3—City Utility Contracts

Some cities are incorporating renewable energy requirements into their contract renewals with privately owned local utilities. For example, Denver, Colorado is working with its local utility, Xcel Energy, to establish modest renewable energy goals as part of the city's contract.



APOLLO ALLIANCE



ASCENSION TECHNOLOGY, INC./NREL

Clean Energy, Good Jobs—Clean energy investments not only save taxpayer dollars and protect the environment, they also create good jobs for the future. One example is the rooftop solar panels powering Northeastern University's Eli Student Center in Boston.

Fort Collins COLORADO

Sitting along the eastern edge of the Rocky Mountain Front, the city of Fort Collins has embraced renewable energy and energy efficiency as key components to meet the city's energy needs. In 2003, the City Council adopted the Electric Energy Supply Policy which aims to "maintain high system reliability, maintain competitive electric rates, and reduce the environmental impact of electricity generation."

This program sets strong clean energy targets and is working to produce 15 percent of the city's electricity with renewable energy by 2017 and reduce per capita energy consumption 10 percent by 2012. Over the full time frame of the program, Fort Collins expects to reduce its global warming carbon dioxide emissions by 472,000 tons.

Clean energy is not only reducing global warming emissions in Fort Collins, but it is also saving money by reducing costs. According to the city's municipal utility, the cost of meeting energy needs through energy efficiency is about 1.7 cents per kWh, while the cost of providing energy is about 3.7 cents per kWh. That means that in Fort Collins energy efficiency is meeting citizens' needs at half the cost of energy coming from existing power plants.

According to Michael B. Smith, Fort Collins' Utilities General Manager, "We are pleased that some of our future energy growth will come from renewable energy sources. The Electric Energy Supply Policy is a positive blueprint for the future."

Funding for the city's efficiency and renewable energy programs comes from a 2 percent increase in customer rates. Even with these increases, Fort Collins continues to enjoy electricity rates below the state average, and will see lower energy costs as a result of the energy efficiency programs.

LEARN MORE

Read Fort Collins' Electric Energy Supply Policy at ci.fort-collins.co.us/utilities/energypolicy.php

Columbia MISSOURI

Last year, with 78 percent of the vote, the citizens of Columbia, Missouri overwhelmingly approved a plan to require the city to increase its use of renewable energy sources, like wind and solar power, over the next 20 years. The measure will create a Renewable Energy Standard that requires that the city's municipal utility obtain 2 percent of its power from renewable energy by 2007, ramping up to 15 percent by 2022.

Columbia's successful ballot initiative is part of a growing national trend of voter-driven policies to increase the use of clean, renewable energy sources. Voters in Colorado recently approved a statewide Renewable Energy Standard that requires utilities in the state to produce 10 percent of their electricity with clean energy sources like wind and solar power by 2015.

LEARN MORE

Additional information about Columbia's renewal energy standard is available at dsireusa.org/documents/Incentives/MO04R.htm



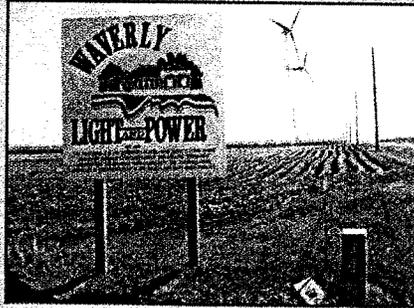
COOL CITIES**Waverly** IOWA

Wind energy is not only generating pollution-free energy to the town of Waverly, but it is also providing local economic development. As the first municipal utility in the United States to install its own wind turbines, Waverly Light & Power serves 4,300 customers in a 33 square-mile area. The utility has constructed wind turbines on land leased from local farmers, creating electricity for the city and additional income for the farmers.

Waverly Light & Power's Board of Trustees has set a goal of increasing wind production to 10 percent of the total local power supply, and is advancing quite well towards that target. Currently, the city's wind turbines generate 5.52 percent of the area's total electricity generation, and provide enough electricity to meet the needs of 761 homes each year. That translates into a reduction of carbon dioxide emissions by nearly 6,850 tons per year.

LEARN MORE

Read more on Waverly Light & Power's Web site at waverlyia.com



WAVERLY LIGHT & POWER



WAVERLY LIGHT & POWER

"This is not only an environmental protection issue, but also an economic development and sustainability issue.

Protecting our environment, we are protecting our resources and preserving them for future generations to come."

—Hallandale Beach, Florida, Mayor Joy Cooper

CONCLUSION—

Re-Energizing Your City

As the success stories in this guide prove, cities are making real progress cutting global warming pollution. No longer waiting for the federal government to act, mayors and other local leaders are putting into place winning energy solutions right now. By using the innovative technologies of cleaner cars, energy efficiency and renewable energy, cities across America are protecting our health and environment, while saving taxpayer dollars.

As the news of these successful city solutions spreads, more cities are joining in the Cool Cities movement. Together, they are helping to lead our country and our world into a new energy future. And that's cool.

Now it's your city's turn.

LEARN MORE: sierraclub.org/coolcities

TAKE ACTION:

1. Join the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement to reduce global warming pollution
2. Green your city's vehicle fleets with hybrid and other cleaner cars
3. Modernize city buildings with money-saving energy efficiency technology
4. Invest in clean and safe, renewable energy

