

12-9-08

*This Item is provided for your information and will be brought up under the Oral Report from City Manager section of the docket on Tuesday night.*


## *City of Alexandria, Virginia*

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### MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 5, 2008

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: ENDORSING CLIMATE COMMUNITIES' "BLUEPRINT FOR THE NEW PRESIDENT AND 111<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS"

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**ISSUE:** Consideration of endorsing the "Empowering Local Government-Climate Action-Blueprint for the New President and 111<sup>th</sup> Congress."

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** That the City Council:

- (1) Endorse "Empowering Local Government-Climate Action-Blueprint for the New President and 111<sup>th</sup> Congress;" and
- (2) Direct staff to consider action items in the Blueprint as it develops City's Climate Action Plan and track their progress at the federal level.

Please note that the recommendation does not include joining "Climate Communities" at this time.

**DISCUSSION:** In February 2005, Mayor Euille endorsed and signed the 2005 U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. In November 2005, the Sierra Club recognized the City of Alexandria as a Cool City for becoming a signatory to the agreement. In January 2007, the City of Alexandria initiated a strategic planning process called "Eco-City Alexandria" and adopted an Eco-City Charter in June 2008. This Eco-City Charter is one of the first in the region and serves as the environmental vision for the City.

Consistent with the City's commitments as a signatory to the Climate Protection Agreement, Cool Cities program, and the City's Eco-City Charter, the City is working to develop an Environmental Action Plan. In order to develop City's greenhouse gas emissions inventory and a mitigation plan consistent with a widely accepted methodology, the City joined the International Council on Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) in January 2008. ICLEI is a membership association of 1,000 local governments committed to advancing climate protection and sustainable development. ICLEI seeks to assist local governments in taking action to reduce GHG emissions, quantify their progress, and realize multiple benefits for their communities.

ICLEI has partnered with Climate Communities and has jointly developed a document "Empowering Local Government-Climate Action-Blueprint for the New President and 111<sup>th</sup> Congress" (Attachment 1). Climate Communities, an advocacy group, has convened cities, counties, councils of government, and other units of local government to: (1) educate national policy-makers on the critical role of local governments in reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and adapting to the impacts of climate change; and (2) ensure that Congress and the federal agencies enact policies and programs that provide the resources, tools and incentives localities need to meet the climate change challenge. This document (Blueprint) lists and endorses several changes at the national level that relate to enacting national climate policies, clean energy policies, and investment in local climate capacity through federal appropriations.

As you already know (Docket Item dated September 9, 2008, Attachment 2), the City is completing its Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory. This will be followed by development of the City's Climate Action Plan with reduction goals consistent with Metropolitan Washington Council of Government's Climate Change Report. The items listed in the "Empowering Local Government-Climate Action-Blueprint for the New President and 111<sup>th</sup> Congress," if implemented by the new President and 111<sup>th</sup> Congress, will provide leadership at the federal level on Climate Change as well as potentially provide funding at the local level to implement the City's Climate Action Plan. Therefore, the City staff recommends that City Council endorse the action items of the Blueprint. Staff does not endorse joining Climate Communities at this time because of its cost of \$8,000/year coming at a time the City's budget will need to be reduced.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** There is no direct fiscal impact with respect to the recommendations in this docket item. However, at the time the City adopts and implements a Climate Action Plan, long-term financial commitments will be a result.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Attachment 1. Empowering Local Government Climate Action-Blueprint for the New President and 111<sup>th</sup> Congress
- Attachment 2. Docket Memo dated September 9, 2008 accepting Capital Region Climate Change Report

**STAFF:**

Richard Baier, P.E., Director, T&ES Department

William Skrabak, Director, Office of Environmental Quality, T&ES

Lalit Sharma, P.E., Division Chief, Office of Environmental Quality, T&ES

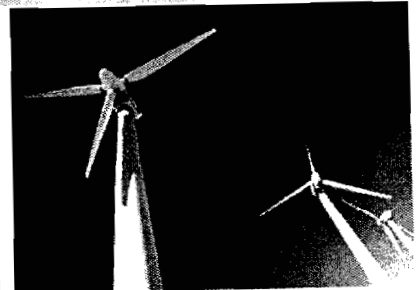
Erica Bannerman, Senior Air Pollution Control Specialist, Office of Environmental Quality,  
T&ES

# Empowering Local Government Climate Action

## Blueprint for the New President and 111th Congress

Now we ask that local government officials sign onto the Climate Action Blueprint. We aim to have 500 local officials from across America endorse this action agenda by December 2008. This Blueprint will be officially released with major events in December 2008 and beyond.

Visit our web sites for more information or to sign onto the Blueprint:  
[www.climatecommunities.us](http://www.climatecommunities.us)  
[www.icleiusa.org](http://www.icleiusa.org)



# Local government action on climate change is essential for America to achieve energy independence, renew economic prosperity and preserve our planet. Federal policies must empower local governments with the tools and resources to solve the climate challenge.

Local government leadership and action is critical to addressing the climate change challenge. Localities are in the best position to foster the innovation and new practices that will achieve building efficiency, cleaner transportation choices, new green jobs and businesses, green infrastructure and more sustainable communities. America's local governments have been at the forefront of the movement to address climate change. Our citizens are demanding action, and continued leadership from localities is essential to solving the issue. Here's why:

- More than 40 percent of greenhouse gas emissions comes from commercial and residential **buildings**. Local governments are best suited to improve building codes, foster community-scale renewable energy, and create other programs and incentives to increase efficiency and reduce energy use in buildings and houses.
- One third of GHG emissions comes from the **transportation** sector. We must improve public transit and engage in more effective land use and transportation planning to reduce gasoline use and emissions. Localities must lead in the transit and smart growth initiatives needed to reduce vehicle use.
- Localities are the **first responders** who must deal with the impacts of climate change including drought, heat waves, water shortages, wildfires, flooding, rising sea levels, changes in weather patterns, public health threats, and economic shifts.
- Local governments can promote the deployment of **green infrastructure** that reduces carbon emissions including community forestry, green roofs, and parks and open space.
- Local governments are uniquely positioned to drive new economic development strategies that create homegrown **green businesses and green jobs** to help America transform our economy and compete in the world.

## Addressing climate change from the ground-up with local solutions will help our nation:

- Achieve **energy independence** and **improve national security**;
- Create **new jobs, technology innovation and business opportunities** for a vibrant American economy;
- Build **livable, sustainable local communities**;
- Prepare for and **avoid the costly potential impacts** of climate change; and
- **Preserve our planet** for future generations.

**But the local government role in combating climate change and building a green economy cannot be fulfilled without strong national leadership from the President and Congress.** The nation must recognize that the climate solution cannot be achieved without local governments. We need a strong federal-local-state partnership on climate change. Federal policies must provide resources to empower local communities across America to play our part in solving the climate challenge.



# Blueprint

The world's leading scientists say that we must begin now to reduce U.S. greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent by 2050 to turn the tide on climate change. Local governments are ready to play our part in reducing emissions and leading the world toward climate solutions, but the President and Congress must take the following steps if we are to achieve these important targets:

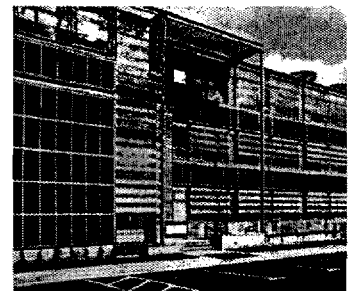
## Enact a national climate policy that:

- Sets mandatory limits on greenhouse gas emissions with market-based trading;
- Invests the proceeds from carbon trading into local government actions that reduce emissions through green buildings; transit, smart growth and other VMT reduction strategies; green local fleets and fuels; renewable energy; green infrastructure; and green jobs and businesses; and
- Allows regulated emitters to invest through carbon offsets in local green infrastructure that reduces greenhouse gases, including community forestry, green roofs, and open space and farmland preservation.



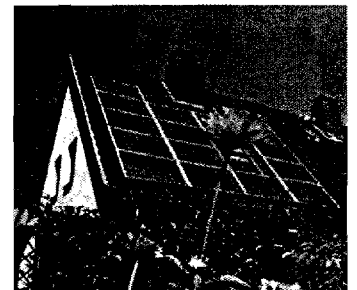
## Implement clean energy policies that:

- Reduce building energy use by 30 percent by 2025 by establishing national building efficiency targets and providing annual funding to help local governments meet or exceed the national targets; and
- Produce 25 percent of the nation's power from renewable energy by 2025 through renewable portfolio standards, and measures to overcome interconnection and rate barriers to community-scale renewables.



## Invest in local climate capacity through annual federal appropriations that:

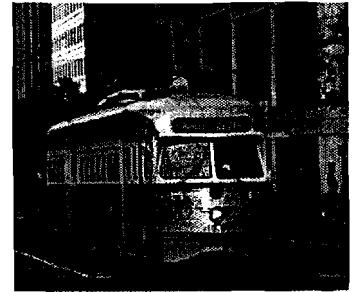
- Fully fund the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants at \$2 billion annually;
- Provide \$250 million annually for EPA Local Climate Demonstration Grants;
- Provide \$400 million annually for the DOE Clean Cities program to support low emission vehicles and cleaner fuels including alternative fuels infrastructure and plug-in hybrid vehicles; and
- Provide \$100 million annually for the Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry program.



# Blueprint

## Transform the nation's transportation strategy by:

- Substantially increasing federal resources for public transit;
- Supporting local initiatives to reduce vehicle-dependence and use including resources for smart growth and transit-oriented development, VMT reduction planning and implementation, walkability programs, bikeways and greenways, infill and brownfields revitalization, and reuse of historic and existing buildings; and
- Funding low-emission busses, clean local fleets, and local alternative fuels infrastructure.



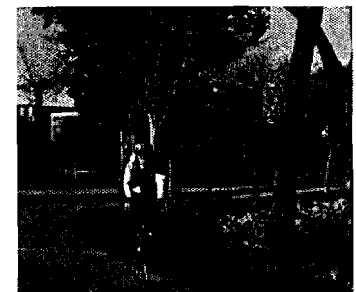
## Create American green jobs and green businesses by:

- Creating a \$500 million "Climate Prosperity" demonstration grant program that directs Economic Development Administration, HUD, Small Business Administration, and USDA Rural Development funding to support local economic development strategies that produce green businesses and green jobs;
- Fully funding the Green Jobs Act of 2007 at \$125 million annually to support worker training in emerging manufacturing and hi-tech sectors; and
- Creating an "Energy Conservation Corps" service program to empower young Americans to be part of new clean energy solutions.



## Build self-reliant communities that are prepared for climate impacts by:

- Creating a federal interagency task force on Climate Resiliency and Community Preparedness to produce a federal action plan for (a) national research and development; (b) local technical assistance; and (c) new protocols for intergovernmental collaboration at local, state, regional and federal levels;
- Expanding the FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation program to \$500 million annually to support local government initiatives to address climate impacts;
- Expanding NOAA's Coastal Zone Management Act and climate programs to directly support local climate adaptation planning and implementation; and
- Fostering and funding local efforts to support families and populations most vulnerable to climate impacts.



# Join the Nation's Local Government Climate Protection Leaders and Endorse the Climate Action Blueprint for the New President and Congress

Climate Communities and ICLEI USA are seeking the endorsement of local elected leaders from across America for the "Empowering Local Government Climate Action" Blueprint for the new President and Congress. The Blueprint will be released the first week of December 2008 at a series of local media events across the country. Climate Communities members will convene in Washington, DC in mid-February 2009 to meet with leaders of the new President's climate change team and the incoming Congress to discuss the Blueprint recommendations.

## These Founding Leaders helped to develop and endorse the Blueprint--you can join them!

Sacramento County, CA  
 • Supervisor Roger Dickinson

Santa Ana, CA  
 • Mayor Miguel Pulido

Sonoma County, CA  
 • Supervisor Valerie Brown  
 • Supervisor Paul Kelley  
 • Supervisor Mike Kerns  
 • Supervisor Mike Reilly  
 • Supervisor Tim Smith

Stamford, CT  
 • Mayor Dan Malloy

Boynton Beach, FL  
 • Vice Mayor Jose Rodriguez  
 • Commissioner Marlene Ross  
 • Mayor Jerry Taylor  
 • Commissioner Ronald Weiland

Charlotte County, FL  
 • Commissioner Richard Loftus

Gainesville, FL  
 • Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan

Leon County, FL  
 • Commissioner Bob Rackleff  
 • Commissioner Cliff Thael

Miami-Dade County, FL  
 • Commissioner Natacha Seijas

St. Petersburg, FL  
 • Councilmember James Bennett  
 • Councilmember Jeff Danner  
 • Councilmember Karl Nurse

Savannah, GA  
 • Mayor Otis Johnson  
 • Alderman Larry Stuber

Dubuque, IA  
 • Mayor Roy Buol

Story County, IA  
 • Supervisor Jane Halliburton

Annapolis, MD  
 • Mayor Ellen Moyer

Montgomery County, MD  
 • Councilmember Roger Berliner  
 • County Executive Isiah Leggett

Washtenaw County, MI  
 • Commissioner Conan Smith

Blue Earth County, MN  
 • Commissioner Colleen Landkamer

High Point, NC  
 • Mayor Rebecca Smothers

Keene, NH  
 • Councilor James Duffy  
 • Mayor Phillip Dale Present

Nassau County, NY  
 • County Executive Thomas Suozzi

Westchester County, NY  
 • County Executive Andrew Spano

Hamilton County, OH  
 • Commissioner David Pepper

Greenville, SC  
 • Mayor Knox White

James City County, VA  
 • Supervisor John McGlendon

Loudoun County, VA  
 • Supervisor Stevens Miller  
 • Supervisor Andrea McGimsey

New Kent County, VA  
 • Supervisor James Burrell

King County, WA  
 • Councilmember Dow Constantine  
 • Councilmember Jane Hague  
 • Councilmember Larry Phillips  
 • County Executive Ron Sims

Snohomish County, WA  
 • Councilmember Mike Cooper  
 • County Executive Aaron Reardon  
 • Councilmember Dave Somers

Soos Creek Water and Sewer District, WA  
 • Commissioner Karen Webster

Tacoma, WA  
 • Mayor Bill Baarsma

Whatcom County, WA  
 • County Executive Pete Kremen

To endorse the Blueprint, visit  
[www.climatecommunities.us/endorseblueprint.html](http://www.climatecommunities.us/endorseblueprint.html)  
 or [www.icleiusa.org/blueprint](http://www.icleiusa.org/blueprint)



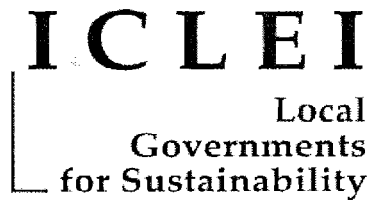
Climate Communities is a national coalition of local governments seeking national support for local climate action.



ICLEI USA provides expertise, technical support, and innovative tools to help local governments advance their emissions reductions and sustainability goals.

Empowering Local Government Climate Action — Blueprint For The New President & 111th Congress





# EMPOWERING LOCAL GOVERNMENT CLIMATE ACTION

## Blueprint for the New President and 111th Congress

*Current List of Endorsers (as of 11/25/08)*

Robert Downing  
Commissioner  
Calhoun County, Alabama

Gary Davis  
Mayor  
Elk Grove, California

Maryann Moise Derwin  
Mayor  
Portola Valley, California

Bruce Botelho  
Mayor  
Juneau, Alaska

Anu Natarajan  
Councilmember  
Fremont, California

Jake Mackenzie  
Mayor  
Rohnert Park, California

Dr. Ron Aames  
Councilmember  
Peoria, Arizona

Bob Wasserman  
Mayor  
Fremont, California

Roger Dickinson  
Supervisor  
Sacramento County, California

Dan Coody  
Mayor  
Fayetteville, Arkansas

Denise Rushing  
Supervisor  
Lake County, California

Miguel Pulido  
Mayor  
Santa Ana, California

Mark Stodola  
Mayor  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Art Madrid  
Mayor  
La Mesa, California

Marty Blum  
Mayor  
Santa Barbara, California

Mark Wheatley  
Mayor  
Arcata, California

Daniel Cort  
Mayor  
Pacific Grove, California

Blanca Alvarado  
Supervisor  
Santa Clara County, California

Don Saylor  
Mayor Pro Tem  
Davis, California

Bill Bogaard  
Mayor  
Pasadena, California

Donald Gage  
Supervisor  
Santa Clara County, California

Janet Abelson  
Councilmember  
El Cerrito, California

Pierre Rivas  
Councilmember  
Placerville, California

Liz Kniss  
Supervisor  
Santa Clara County, California

Pete McHugh  
Supervisor  
Santa Clara County, California

Ken Yeager  
Supervisor  
Santa Clara County, California

Ryan Coonerty  
Mayor  
Santa Cruz, California

Valerie Brown  
Supervisor  
Sonoma County, California

Paul Kelley  
Supervisor  
Sonoma County, California

Mike Kerns  
Supervisor  
Sonoma County, California

Mike Reilly  
Supervisor  
Sonoma County, California

Tim Smith  
Supervisor  
Sonoma County, California

Edward Chavez  
Mayor  
Stockton, California

Gregory Kanne  
Councilmember  
Willits, California

Karen Oslund  
Councilmember  
Willits, California

Woody Fridae  
Mayor Pro Tem  
Winters, California

Michael Rendon  
Councilmember  
Durango, Colorado

Wally White  
Commissioner  
La Plata County, Colorado

Dan Malloy  
Mayor  
Stamford, Connecticut

James Ford, III  
Mayor  
Lewes, Delaware

Stephanie McClellan  
Councilmember  
New Castle County, Delaware

Rodney Long  
Commissioner  
Alachua County, Florida

Woodward Hay  
Commissioner  
Boynton Beach, Florida

Jose Rodriguez  
Vice Mayor  
Boynton Beach, Florida

Marlene Ross  
Commissioner  
Boynton Beach, Florida

Jerry Taylor  
Mayor  
Boynton Beach, Florida

Ronald Weiland  
Commissioner  
Boynton Beach, Florida

Sue Gunzburger  
Commissioner  
Broward County, Florida

Kristin Jacobs  
Commissioner  
Broward County, Florida

Richard Loftus  
Commissioner  
Charlotte County, Florida

Woodie McDuffie  
Vice Mayor  
Delray Beach, Florida

Pegeen Hanrahan  
Mayor  
Gainesville, Florida

Bob Rackleff  
Commissioner  
Leon County, Florida

Cliff Thael  
Commissioner  
Leon County, Florida

Jose "Pepe" Diaz  
Commissioner  
Miami-Dade County, Florida

Natacha Seijas  
Commissioner  
Miami-Dade County, Florida

Kevin Burns  
Mayor  
North Miami, Florida

Fredd "Glossie" Atkins  
Commissioner  
Sarasota, Florida

Bob Cole  
Commissioner  
Sarasota County, Florida

James Bennett  
Councilmember  
St. Petersburg, Florida

Jeff Danner  
Councilmember  
St. Petersburg, Florida

Karl Nurse  
Councilmember  
St. Petersburg, Florida

Heidi Davison  
Mayor  
Athens-Clarke County, Georgia

Kelly Girtz  
Commissioner  
Athens-Clarke County, Georgia

Carl Jordan  
Commissioner  
Athens-Clarke County, Georgia

Alice Kinman  
Commissioner  
Athens-Clarke County, Georgia

Otis Johnson  
Mayor  
Savannah, Georgia

Larry Stuber  
Alderman  
Savannah, Georgia

Eugene Marks  
Village President  
Northbrook, Illinois

Thomas Henry  
Mayor  
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Karla Braig  
Councilmember  
Dubuque, Iowa

Roy Buol  
Mayor  
Dubuque, Iowa

Joyce Connors  
Councilmember  
Dubuque, Iowa

Ric Jones  
Councilmember  
Dubuque, Iowa

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Mayor Pro Tem  
Dubuque, Iowa

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Supervisor  
Johnson County, Iowa

Terrence Neuzil  
Supervisor  
Johnson County, Iowa

Rod Sullivan  
Supervisor  
Johnson County, Iowa

Linda Langston  
Supervisor  
Linn County, Iowa

Wayne Clinton  
Supervisor  
Story County, Iowa

Jane Halliburton  
Supervisor  
Story County, Iowa

James Strohmman  
Supervisor  
Story County, Iowa

Sheila Finlayson  
Alderwoman  
Annapolis, Maryland

Classie Hoyle  
Alderwoman  
Annapolis, Maryland

Richard Israel  
Alderman  
Annapolis, Maryland

Ellen Moyer  
Mayor  
Annapolis, Maryland

Frederick Paone  
Alderman  
Annapolis, Maryland

Samuel Shropshire  
Alderman  
Annapolis, Maryland

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Councilmember  
Anne Arundel County, Maryland

Sharon Green Middleton  
Councilmember  
Baltimore, Maryland

Cris Mendoza  
Councilmember  
Bladensburg, Maryland

Dr. Isaac Trouth, III  
Councilmember  
Bowie, Maryland

Margo Bailey  
Mayor  
Chestertown, Maryland

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Councilmember  
College Park, Maryland

Joseph Fisona  
Mayor  
Elkton, Maryland

Roger Berliner  
Councilmember  
Montgomery County, Maryland

Isiah Leggett  
County Executive  
Montgomery County, Maryland

George Leventhal  
Councilmember  
Montgomery County, Maryland

Thomas Dernoga  
Councilmember  
Prince George's County, Maryland

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Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Bruce Williams  
Mayor  
Takoma Park, Maryland

Josh Wright  
Councilmember  
Takoma Park, Maryland

Kevin Coughlin  
Councilor  
Quincy, Massachusetts

John Hieftje  
Mayor  
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Nathan Triplett  
Councilmember  
East Lansing, Michigan

Michael Bridges  
Councilmember  
Farmington Hills, Michigan

Conan Smith  
Commissioner  
Washtenaw County, Michigan

Kip Bruender  
Commissioner  
Blue Earth County, Minnesota

Colleen Landkamer  
Commissioner  
Blue Earth County, Minnesota

Tom McLaughlin  
Commissioner  
Blue Earth County, Minnesota

Will Purvis  
Commissioner  
Blue Earth County, Minnesota

Katy Wortel  
Commissioner  
Blue Earth County, Minnesota

Don Ness  
Mayor  
Duluth, Minnesota

Katie Himanga  
Mayor  
Lake City, Minnesota

Brad Ahrenstorff  
Mayor  
Lake Crystal, Minnesota

Elizabeth Glidden  
Councilmember  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Cam Gordon  
Councilmember  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

John Robert Smith  
Mayor  
Meridian, Mississippi

Cindy Circo  
Councilmember  
Kansas City, Missouri

Beth Gottstein  
Councilmember  
Kansas City, Missouri

Deb Hermann  
Councilmember  
Kansas City, Missouri

Jan Marcason  
Councilmember  
Kansas City, Missouri

John Sharp  
Councilmember  
Kansas City, Missouri

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Cascade County, Montana

Andy Hunthausen  
Commissioner  
Lewis and Clark County, Montana

Arnold Bailey  
Councilor  
Keene, New Hampshire

Joseph Bendzinski  
Councilor  
Keene, New Hampshire

James Duffy  
Councilor  
Keene, New Hampshire

Cynthia Georgina  
Councilor  
Keene, New Hampshire

Mitchell Greenwald  
Councilor  
Keene, New Hampshire

Philip Jones  
Councilor  
Keene, New Hampshire

Kendall Lane  
Councilor  
Keene, New Hampshire

Margaret Lynch  
Councilor  
Keene, New Hampshire

Paula-Ayn Phillips  
Councilor  
Keene, New Hampshire

Phillip Dale Pregent  
Mayor  
Keene, New Hampshire

Charles Redfern  
Councilor  
Keene, New Hampshire

David Richards  
Councilor  
Keene, New Hampshire

Kris Roberts  
Councilor  
Keene, New Hampshire

Pamela Russell Slack  
Councilor  
Keene, New Hampshire

Nathaniel Stout  
Councilor  
Keene, New Hampshire

Ruth Venezia  
Councilor  
Keene, New Hampshire

Victor DeLuca  
Vice Mayor  
Maplewood, New Jersey

John D'Amico  
Freeholder  
Monmouth County, New Jersey

Barbara McMorrow  
Freeholder  
Monmouth County, New Jersey

Chris Calvert  
Councilor  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Gerald Jennings  
Mayor  
Albany, New York

Sandra Frankel  
Supervisor  
Brighton, New York

Linda Puglisi  
Supervisor  
Cortlandt, New York

Robert Williams  
Mayor  
Elmsford, New York

Paul Feiner  
Supervisor  
Greenburgh, New York

Nicola Coddington  
Mayor  
Irvington, New York

Elizabeth Feld  
Mayor  
Larchmont, New York

Thomas Suozzi  
County Executive  
Nassau County, New York

Edward Romaine  
Legislator  
Suffolk County, New York

Judy Myers  
Legislator  
Westchester County, New York

Andrew Spano  
County Executive  
Westchester County, New York

Kevin Foy  
Mayor  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Susan Burgess  
Mayor Pro Tem  
Charlotte, North Carolina

Scott Padgett  
Mayor  
Concord, North Carolina

Diane Catotti  
Councilmember  
Durham, North Carolina

Ellen Reckhow  
Commissioner  
Durham County, North Carolina

Rose Glover  
Councilmember  
Greenville, North Carolina

Sally Fox  
Councilmember  
Hickory, North Carolina

Rebecca Smothers  
Mayor  
High Point, North Carolina

Jennifer Roberts  
Commissioner  
Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

Allen Joines  
Mayor  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Toni Middleton  
Mayor  
Alliance, Ohio

David Pepper  
Commissioner  
Hamilton County, Ohio

Todd Portune  
Commissioner  
Hamilton County, Ohio

David Berger  
Mayor  
Lima, Ohio

Dean DePiero  
Mayor  
Parma, Ohio

Kate Jackson  
Councilor  
Ashland, Oregon

Lynn Peterson  
Commissioner  
Clackamas County, Oregon

Kitty Piercy  
Mayor  
Eugene, Oregon

Judie Hammerstad  
Mayor  
Lake Oswego, Oregon

Jeff Cogen  
Commissioner  
Multnomah County, Oregon

Lisa Naito  
Commissioner  
Multnomah County, Oregon

Kathi Cozzone  
Commissioner  
Chester County, Pennsylvania

Theresa Dale Lafer  
Councilmember  
State College, Pennsylvania

Jules Mermelstein  
Commissioner  
Upper Dublin Township, Pennsylvania

Joseph Riley, Jr.  
Mayor  
Charleston, South Carolina

Knox White  
Mayor  
Greenville, South Carolina

Ron Littlefield  
Mayor  
Chattanooga, Tennessee

Paul Hendricks  
Councilmember  
Signal Mountain, Tennessee

Robert Cluck  
Mayor  
Arlington, Texas

Anthony Cobos  
Judge  
El Paso County, Texas

Pat Evans  
Mayor  
Plano, Texas

Ralph Becker  
Mayor  
Salt Lake City, Utah

Peter Corroon  
Mayor  
Salt Lake County, Utah

Ann Mallek  
Supervisor  
Albemarle County, Virginia

Dennis Rooker  
Supervisor  
Albemarle County, Virginia

David Slutzky  
Supervisor  
Albemarle County, Virginia

Rob Krupicka  
Councilmember  
Alexandria, Virginia

Tim Lovain  
Councilmember  
Alexandria, Virginia

Redella "Del" Pepper  
Vice Mayor  
Alexandria, Virginia

Justin Wilson  
Councilmember  
Alexandria, Virginia

Jay Fisette  
Board Member  
Arlington County, Virginia

Mary Hynes  
Board Member  
Arlington County, Virginia

Ron Rordam  
Mayor  
Blacksburg, Virginia

David Brown  
Councilmember  
Charlottesville, Virginia

Dave Norris  
Mayor  
Charlottesville, Virginia

Michael Hobert  
Supervisor  
Clarke County, Virginia

Pranas Rimeikis  
Mayor  
Culpeper, Virginia

Gerald Connolly  
Chairman  
Fairfax County, Virginia

Jeff McKay  
Supervisor  
Fairfax County, Virginia

Gregory Woodward  
Supervisor  
Gloucester County, Virginia

John McGlennon  
Supervisor  
James City County, Virginia

Sally Kurtz  
Supervisor  
Loudoun County, Virginia

Andrea McGimsey  
Supervisor  
Loudoun County, Virginia

Stevens Miller  
Supervisor  
Loudoun County, Virginia

James Burrell  
Supervisor  
New Kent County, Virginia

Charlotte Moore  
Supervisor  
Roanoke County, Virginia

Tim Ashe  
Councilor  
Burlington, Vermont

Bob Kiss  
Mayor  
Burlington, Vermont

Bill Keogh  
Councilor  
Burlington, Vermont

Jane Knodell  
Councilor  
Burlington, Vermont

Steve Stuart  
Commissioner  
Clark County, Washington

Dow Constantine  
Councilmember  
King County, Washington

Larry Gossett  
Councilmember  
King County, Washington

Jane Hague  
Councilmember  
King County, Washington

Julia Patterson  
Councilmember  
King County, Washington

Larry Phillips  
Councilmember  
King County, Washington

Ron Sims  
County Executive  
King County, Washington

James Lauinger  
Mayor  
Kirkland, Washington

Mike Cooper  
Councilmember  
Snohomish County, Washington

Aaron Reardon  
County Executive  
Snohomish County, Washington

Dave Somers  
Councilmember  
Snohomish County, Washington

Karen Webster  
Commissioner  
Soos Creek Water & Sewer District,  
Washington

Richard Rush  
Councilmember  
Spokane, Washington

Mary Verner  
Mayor  
Spokane, Washington

Bill Baarsma  
Mayor  
Tacoma, Washington

Reuben Snipper  
Councilmember  
Takoma, Washington

Stacey Sellers  
Mayor  
Washougal, Washington

Pete Kremen  
County Executive  
Whatcom County, Washington

Kathleen Falk  
County Executive  
Dane County, Wisconsin

Brett Hulsey  
Supervisor  
Dane County, Wisconsin

Wyndham Manning  
Supervisor  
Dane County, Wisconsin

Matt Veldran  
Supervisor  
Dane County, Wisconsin

David Conley  
Supervisor  
Douglas County, Wisconsin

Dave Cieslewicz  
Mayor  
Madison, Wisconsin

Chris Larson  
Supervisor  
Milwaukee County, Wisconsin

EXHIBIT NO. 124


9-9-08

## City of Alexandria, Virginia

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 3, 2008

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: RECEIPT OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION CLIMATE CHANGE REPORT AND PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA'S GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS INVENTORY

**ISSUE:** Receipt of the National Capital Region Climate Change Report prepared by the Climate Change Steering Committee for the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Board of Directors and preliminary results of the City's governmental and community-wide greenhouse gas emissions inventory.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That City Council:

- (1) Receive the National Capital Region Climate Change Report;
- (2) Authorize staff to submit technical comments to COG on the draft Climate Change Report and proposed greenhouse gas reduction goals for the region; and
- (3) Receive the preliminary results of the City's greenhouse gas emissions inventory.

**DISCUSSION:**

**National Capital Region Climate Change Report**

On July 9, 2008, the Board of Directors of COG approved for comment the National Capital Region Climate Change Report. The report was authored by the Climate Change Steering Committee to:

- Develop an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions, and forecasting the future level of emissions out to 2050 under a "business as usual" scenario;
- Evaluate a wide range of potential regional greenhouse gas reduction goals, and reaching consensus on an aggressive sequence of reduction targets starting in 2012; and
- Review a wide range of measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and frame a regional Climate Action Plan.



Using a baseline year of 2005, GHG emissions in the metropolitan Washington region totaled 74 million metric tons (MMt). The transportation and electricity sectors contributed more than 70 percent of regional CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. It is projected that GHG emissions will increase 33 percent by 2030 and 43 percent by 2050 under a business-as-usual approach based upon COG's population growth forecast for the region of 1.6 million new residents and 1.2 million new jobs.

The Climate Change report recommends establishing the following regional GHG reduction targets based on scientific evidence from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the similarity to goals adopted by jurisdictions in the Washington region:

- Reduce Business As Usual (BAU) emissions by 10 percent below 2005 levels by 2012;
- Reduce BAU emissions by 20 percent below 2005 levels by 2020; and
- Reduce BAU emissions by 80 percent below 2005 levels by 2050.

The report contains 78 recommendations to help area leaders and citizens work together to achieve the reduction targets aforementioned. The main recommendations highlight energy use, transportation and land use mitigation measures. Examples of energy use mitigation measures include improving building efficiency (such as fully implementing COG's regional Green Building Policy), reducing local government energy usage by 15 percent, and purchasing more renewable energy like wind and solar power. With regard to transportation, the report recommends supporting California's low emission vehicle standards, reducing vehicle miles traveled, and using fuels that result in few emissions per gallon. Land use recommendations include increasing development around transit and activity centers as well as preserving more trees throughout the region.

The report does not cover the economic implications of GHG reduction to the Washington region but instead presents several ways governmental agencies can cover the cost associated with implementing a climate change program. For instance, localities could redirect utility savings directly into a fund for implementing climate change activities; establish a carbon fee or carbon offset program; or a utility tax.

MWCOG will be finalizing the draft report in the fall and begin to develop a detailed plan for meeting the report's 2012 goal as well as a more intensive fiscal analysis of the cost of implementing the recommendations.

### **City of Alexandria's Preliminary Estimates of Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

In February 2005, Mayor Euille endorsed and signed the 2005 U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. In November 2005, the Sierra Club recognized the City of Alexandria as a "Cool City." In January 2007, the City of Alexandria initiated a strategic planning process called "Eco-City Alexandria." The City Council adopted an Eco-City Charter in June 2008, one of the first in the region. The Charter serves as the environmental vision for the City.

Consistent with City's commitments as a signatory to U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, the "Cool City" program and the City's Eco-City Charter, the City is working to

develop an Environmental Action Plan which includes climate change mitigation via a Climate Action Plan. Conducting a baseline emissions inventory is a first step in developing a Climate Action Plan. In order to develop the City's Greenhouse Gas Emissions inventory and a mitigation plan consistent with a widely accepted methodology, the City joined the International Council on Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) in January 2008, and selected 2005 as its baseline year. ICLEI is a membership association of 1,000 local governments committed to advancing climate protection and sustainable development. ICLEI seeks to assist local governments in taking action to reduce GHG emissions, quantify their progress, and realize multiple benefits for their communities.

The City Government Operations inventory provides an estimate of GHG emissions produced by City government activities. The inventory includes emissions from fuel use, electricity use, and waste production resulting from City government operations. The emissions inventory both direct emissions (for example, emissions within the City from fossil fuel combustion at City buildings) and indirect emissions (emissions generated outside the City by City employees commuting to Alexandria to work). In 2005, City government operations resulted in the production of about **87,000 tons** of greenhouse gas emissions, primarily from fossil fuel and electricity consumption in City buildings and schools.

The Community inventory estimates GHG emissions produced by residents, businesses and agencies, and residents and commuters traveling within the City. The GHG emissions for fossil fuel and electricity consumption totaled approximately **2.9 million tons** in 2005. Electricity is also generated in the City, both by the Mirant Generating Station and the Covanta waste-to-energy plant. Some of this electricity is consumed within the City, while most is transmitted for sale in other areas. The total demand within the City therefore differs from the total generation. The GHG emissions from electricity generation totaled approximately **1.7 million tons**. Typically, only GHG emissions from consumption and not electricity generation are used for establishing baseline and the reduction targets to avoid double counting the emissions and reductions.

The City is currently evaluating the mitigation measures with the goal of proposing reduction targets that are consistent with the COG National Capital Region Climate Change report.

The next steps in the GHG initiatives process are as follows:

- Finalize the GHG draft emission inventory report including the proposed emission reduction targets and emission reduction measures;
- Develop the Climate Action Plan and incorporate it into the Environmental Action Plan and
- Monitor progress and report results.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** There is no direct fiscal impact with respect to the recommendations in this docket item. However, when the City's reduction targets are adopted, financial commitments will be required to implement the Climate Action Plan and achieve those targets.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1. National Capital Region Climate Change Report

Attachment 2. Alexandria's Climate Change Initiative Brochure

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