

Letter to Non-Alaskan Mayors in Support of the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement

(For Non-Alaskan Mayors)

Dear Mayor (Insert Your Mayor's Name Here),

I am writing to urge you to sign the Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement.

Global warming is a very serious problem and has already caused annual temperatures throughout the world to increase an average of 1½ Fahrenheit over the last 50 years. As the Agreement states: "Recent, well-documented impacts of climate disruption include average global sea level increases of four to eight inches during the 20th century; a 40% decline in arctic sea-ice thickness; and nine of the ten hottest years on record occurring in the past decade." (Include personal observations on the effects of global warming in your community)

There is a significant scientific consensus that humans are causing global warming by the emission of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide and methane into our atmosphere. We must take the lead in fighting global warming and working to reduce our emissions to below 1990 levels. Because the federal government is currently not taking action on this matter, it is up to our local communities to lead the way.

The Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement calls for us by 2012 to reduce emissions in our own community 7% below 1990 levels through a number of simple methods, such as increased recycling, higher building standards, and promotion of public transportation. Currently, 637 mayors nationwide have signed this agreement. I strongly encourage you to visit <http://www.seattle.gov/mayor/climate/> to learn more about the Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement and to sign on.

Reducing our emissions at a local level can be very easy. There are many resources available, and I especially urge you to connect with ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability, which has specifically created a "Cities for Climate Protection" program, providing extensive assistance and support to communities trying to reduce their emissions and promote cleaner initiatives. Their website can be found at <http://www.iclei.org/co2>

I believe that it is imperative that we take action immediately to protect our community and state. We can reduce our emissions now. Please join 637 mayors and over 70 million Americans to reduce the threat of global warming.

Sincerely,

(Include your name and contact information here)

