

# CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

## City Council Interoffice Communication

**To:** Honorable Mayor and City Council Members  
**From:** Debbie Cook, Mayor Pro Tem *DC*  
Keith Bohr, City Council Member *KB*  
**Date:** February 9, 2007  
**Subject:** *H-ITEM FOR FEBRUARY 20, 2007, CITY COUNCIL MEETING –  
ENERGY POLICIES FOR THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH*

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### STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

Energy issues are not new for homeowners and business owners. All of us have dealt with the lack of availability and/or high cost of gasoline, natural gas and electricity. These economic issues are still of concern but in more recent years there is more awareness at the national, state, and local levels for both the economic and environmental impacts. There are many things our community can take action on to be part of the solution.

California's 2007 Integrated Energy Policy Report recognizes local agencies as a key component in addressing critical energy infrastructure and related environmental challenges. Assembly Bill 32 commits the State to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 2000 levels by 2010 and to 1990 levels by 2020. The Governor's Climate Action Team identified smart land use and intelligent transportation systems as major elements in achieving these goals.

Many local communities have begun to consider energy issues and have signed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. In so doing, these cities have recognized many benefits that have accrued to their cities and citizens.

As the California Energy Commission prepares the tools, resources, and mandates that will implement AB32, the city of Huntington Beach should prepare to position itself to take advantage of funding opportunities and resources.

### RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. Direct staff to develop energy policies for the city of Huntington Beach that conserve resources, protect the environment, ensure energy reliability, enhance the state's economy, and protect health and safety. Proposed policies would include direct actions the city can take as a consumer and facilities owner, and indirect as a leader in the community to promote energy conservation, renewable energy sources, and green construction methods.
2. Discuss City Council endorsement of the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.

### Attachments

xc: Penny Culbreth-Graft, City Administrator  
Paul Emery, Deputy City Administrator  
Bob Hall, Deputy City Administrator  
Joan Flynn, City Clerk  
Ross Cranmer, Director of Building and Safety

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# ATTACHMENT #1

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## 2005 ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

### ENVIRONMENT

#### 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; sealevel 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

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**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 CO<sub>2</sub>; 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.

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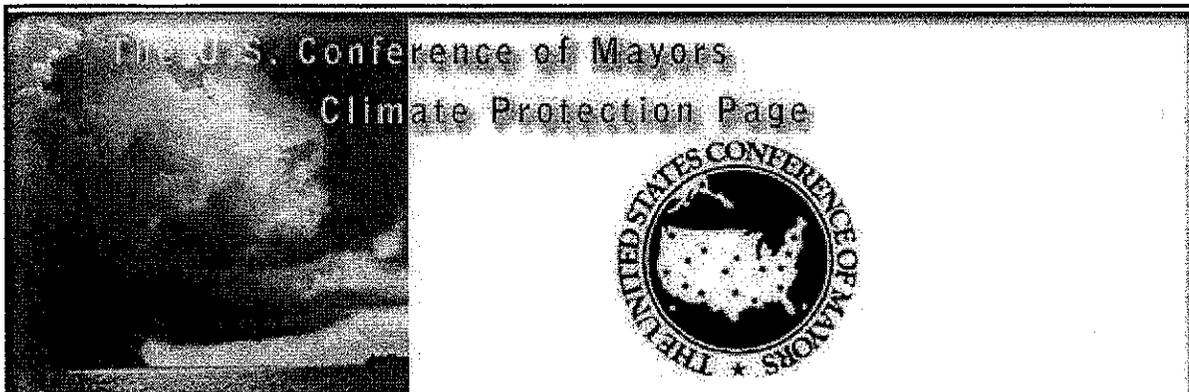
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# ATTACHMENT #2

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When it comes to global warming, cities are both the problem and the solution. Worldwide, cities account for 78 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions. But because cities are where the people are, your climate protection actions really can make a difference. The U.S. Conference of Mayors is committed to substantially reducing cities' contributions to climate pollution with actions that make sense for your city, your environment and the economy. But it is an effort that depends on community-wide actions - individuals, businesses, schools, commuters, governments - in short, everybody.

### **The U.S. Conference of Mayors Partners with ICLEI to Combat Global Warming**

Las Vegas, NV -- The U.S. Conference of Mayors has formed a new partnership with ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability USA - to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in cities through outreach, education and technical assistance. The mayors also formed a Mayors' Council on Climate Protection with the goal of providing mayors the tools they need to carry out their mission. Formerly the International Council of Local Environmental Initiatives, ICLEI is the nation's foremost organization working to provide cities with resources to lead on climate protection in the U.S. and internationally. [Click here to view the press release.]

The U.S. Conference of Mayors and ICLEI have developed additional web-based resources to help mayors combat global climate change. Please visit [www.coolmayors.com](http://www.coolmayors.com).

### **The U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement**

So far, over 300 Mayors, representing more than 50 million Americans have signed The U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.

Under the Agreement, participating cities commit to take following 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 more information about The U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, including how to sign it and who is already on board, click here: <http://www.seattle.gov/mayor/climate/>

Find out what Mayors and their cities are doing to fight climate change, improve the local environment and conserve energy:

The U.S. Conference of Mayors Energy & Environment Best Practice Guide

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## Executive Director Tom Cochran Issues Statement Regarding the Department of Energy's Climate Change Plan

Download the Statement (9/22)

## Green Buildings and The 2030 Challenge



The U.S. Conference of Mayors and its partner, The American Institute of Architects recognize that creating energy-efficient, high performance buildings is a central part of the climate change solution. To that end, The USCM and AIA promote integrated, sustainable building design with a goal of reaching a 50 percent fossil fuel reduction by 2010 and carbon neutral buildings by 2030. Click here to access the AIA's green building toolkit.

## Recent U.S. Mayor Newspaper Climate Change Articles

Mayors Gather in Alaska for Climate Change Meeting - October 9, 2006

The Union of Concerned Scientists Addresses the Northeast Climate Changes - October 9, 2006

Santa Barbara Water Summit: Mayors Review Challenges of Climate Change on Water Resources - September 25, 2006

Mayors Implement Local Solutions to Global Climate Change - May 22, 2006

## Top Fifteen Things YOU Can Do To Reduce Global Warming!

Most of the emissions that cause global warming come from fuels used to produce energy-gasoline, diesel, coal and natural gas. Here are the top 15 things you can do to reduce climate pollution:

1. **Drive less.** Walk, bike, take a bus, carpool and combine errands. Do whatever it takes to reduce your time behind the wheel.
2. **Drive smart.** Keep your car tuned and tires properly inflated. Keeping them properly inflated can save up to 250 lbs of CO2 per year. Don't idle when you're stuck in a line. About 15 seconds is the break even point. Forget the jack rabbit starts. And on the freeway, keep your top speed at about 60 mph.
3. **Be fuel efficient.** Not only will you save gas and money and reduce emissions, but driving a fuel-efficient car that gets at least 32 miles per gallon leads to a real reduction in climate pollution.
4. **Change your air filter.** Another easy way to increase your car's fuel efficiency is keeping a clean air filter (and it's much cheaper than a Prius). On average, this will save 800 lbs. of CO2 a year.
5. **Reduce, reuse and recycle.** It's not just about paper vs. plastic. Nearly every product on the market requires energy to produce, distribute and manage the resulting waste. Choose pre-owned products, products that have recycled content and products that are sold with less packaging. It takes 70%-90% less energy to make recycled paper products than new ones.
6. **Use a push or electric mower.** Gasoline mowers are one of biggest polluters in the neighborhood. Go manual or electric this season.
7. **Conserve hot water.** Set your tank at about 120°F, take shorter showers, use water-

- efficient washing machines and wash clothes in cold water. You'll save energy, water and money.
- 8. Insulate your water heater.** A hot water tank is the second largest user of energy in a home. Wrapping an insulation blanket around your hot water heater can help your electric bills, and save around 1000 lbs. of CO<sub>2</sub>.
  - 9. Be a star, buy ENERGY STAR.** Look for the ENERGY STAR label, an EPA rating system awarded to only the most energy-efficient appliances, computers, light fixtures and many other electrical conveniences. If every US household switched to the most energy efficient appliances, there would be 178 million tons less of CO<sub>2</sub> put into the atmosphere each year.
  - 10. Turn down, turn off and unplug.** Set thermostats at 68°F when you're home and 55° F or lower when you're away or at night. By moving your heater down two degrees in the winter, and up two degrees in the summer, you can keep around 2000lbs of CO<sub>2</sub> out of the atmosphere. Turn off lights in empty rooms and use compact fluorescent bulbs in place of standard light bulbs. Unplug electronics such as DVD players and cell phone chargers that aren't in use. Bring back the old clothes line to dry your wash.
  - 11. Buy local products.** The less distance products travel, the less they pollute. And buy organic when you can. Most chemical fertilizers are derived from petroleum or natural gas.
  - 12. Plant a tree.** A single tree will absorb up to 2000lbs. of CO<sub>2</sub> in its lifetime. And shading your air conditioning unit with trees and shrubs can reduce its energy usage by 10-15%.
  - 13. Befriend your utility.** Your local utility companies have great energy conservation programs and can provide more information, technical assistance and even some rebates.
  - 14. Shout it out!** You can make a difference. Start by taking the steps above and then let others know of your commitment. Tell people where you shop and where you work that climate protection matters.

### The U.S. Conference of Mayors - Adopted Policies on Climate Change

#### 74th Annual Conference - Las Vegas, NV 2006

ADOPTING THE "2030 CHALLENGE" FOR ALL BUILDINGS

ENCOURAGES THE USE OF LANDFILL GAS-TO-RECOVERY TECHNOLOGIES

ENCOURAGING THE USE OF PLUG-IN HYBRID VEHICLES

ENDORSES THE INCREASED USE OF RENEWABLE FUELS

PROMOTION OF CLEAN, RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES

ESTABLISHING A NEW MUNICIPAL ENERGY AGENDA TO HELP ADDRESS THE NATION'S ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES AND IMPROVE LOCAL COMMUNITIES

#### 73rd Annual Conference - Chicago, IL 2005

ENDORING THE U.S. MAYORS CLIMATE PROTECTION AGREEMENT

SUPPORTING LOCAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY, ENERGY CONSERVATION, RENEWABLE ENERGY AND GREEN BUILDING PROGRAMS

PROMOTION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY

SUPPORTING THE CHICAGO CLIMATE EXCHANGE

**72nd Annual Conference - Boston, MA 2004**

SUPPORTING THE RECOGNITION OF GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION BENEFITS OF WASTE-TO-ENERGY AND OTHER RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES

SUPPORTING A GENERATOR'S TITLE TO RENEWABLE ENERGY CREDITS AND OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS PRODUCED FROM THE GENERATION FROM RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES

SUPPORT FOR INCENTIVES FOR UTILITY DEVELOPERS OF CLEAN, TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED AND RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES

**71st Annual Conference - Denver, CO 2003**

ENERGY CONSERVATION AND IMPROVED ENERGY EFFICIENCY

IMPROVING ENERGY SUPPLY AND DEMAND

HYDROGEN FUEL INITIATIVE

**70th Annual Conference - Madison, WI 2002**

MUNICIPAL AND NATIONAL COMMITMENT TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GASES

RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD (RPS)

**69th Annual Conference - Detroit, MI 2001**

SUPPORTING THE BENEFITS OF WASTE-TO-ENERGY AND LANDFILL GAS AS CLEAN, RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ELIGIBLE FOR TAX CREDITS

**68th Annual Conference - Seattle, WA 2000**

REDUCING GLOBAL WARMING

SUPPORTING RENEWABLE ENERGY

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