CITY OF
SEQUIM

152 W. Cedar Street, Sequim, WA 98382
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November 24, 2015

President Barack Obama
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

As an elected official representing Sequim, Washington, I'm writing to urge you to take the lead in moving the global community toward a strong international climate deal this December.

Climate disruption is already threatening communities here and throughout the country. Our small city's biggest challenge concerns providing water to meet the needs of growth as our mountain snowpack declines over time. Our maritime climate attracts retirees, some of them drought refugees that are surprised to find drought to be a problem in Washington State.

Sequim took responsibility in 2012 with a resolution, "Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Policy" (2012-11), to broadly reduce energy consumption from vehicle usage, in City infrastructure and by City equipment, and by LED lighting installation. The resolution also calls for sustainable practices such as improved water management by infiltrating runoff and switching to reclaimed water when possible, support of compact/ transit-friendly development patterns and non-motorized transportation, and use of recycled materials. In addition to these practices, the City's wastewater treatment produces Class A Reclaimed Water which provides crucial resiliency against drought.

Recently, staff and Council participated in a local/regional-scale planning process on preparing for impacts from climate disruption. We will consider recommendations from this Plan in 2016.

From extreme weather events to increasing public health costs, it is clear that climate disruption is a crisis that needs not only a local solution but a global solution as well. The commitments made in Paris will help our country become resilient toward climate change by cutting pollution, taking advantage of clean energy, and protecting communities that are the most vulnerable to our changing climate.

Thank you for your continued leadership on climate change, and I look forward to a strong international climate commitment from the United States and the global community.

Respectfully,

Candace Pratt
Mayor

Encl: Resolution 2012-11

Resolution No. R-2012-11

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Sequim, Washington establishing a Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Policy

WHEREAS, state, regional, and local governments throughout the United States are adopting energy conservation programs and policies; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature has established RCW 70.235 to direct the Washington State Department of Ecology to develop a response strategy to assist the state and local governments in preparing and adapting to impacts from climate change by limiting greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Ecology is taking steps to assure climate change considerations are incorporated into environmental review under the State Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) Checklist and have established a Climate Advisory Team to clarify SEPA rules to include climate issues; and

WHEREAS, RCW 70.235 requires that when distributing capital funds through competitive programs for infrastructure and economic requires all state agencies consider whether the entity receiving the funds has adopted policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds the adoption of this resolution to be in the public's interest;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Sequim as follows:

1. The City of Sequim does hereby adopt the Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Policy in attached Exhibit A.

Adopted by the City Council this 24th day of Sept, 2012.

Ken Hays

Ken Hays, Mayor

ATTEST:

Karen Kuznek-Reese, MMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Craig A. Ritchie, City Attorney

Exhibit A
City of Sequim
Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Policy

In conducting the business of the City of Sequim, the following steps shall be taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions:

- Maximize the reduction of vehicle miles traveled to the extent feasible.
- Endeavour to limit resources required to conduct business, including electricity and structures.
- Minimize the use of printed materials to the extent feasible.
- Promote reduction of energy consumption in buildings and infrastructure to the extent feasible.
- Promote and support the generation and use of alternative energy.
- Encourage the reduction of consumption of fossil fuels associated with equipment procurement to the extent feasible.
- Promote and support development patterns that encourage compact and transit-friendly communities and protect natural resources.
- Incorporate natural drainage features and low-impact development practices to the extent feasible.
- Manage street lighting needs by encouraging lighting standards and using lamps that will assure safe and effective illumination at minimum cost and energy use to the extent feasible.
- Consider purchasing practices and standards to support reductions in GHG emissions, including preferences for energy-efficient office equipment and the use of recycled material and manufacturers that have implemented green management practices.
- Promote and encourage safe and convenient access for pedestrians and bicyclists.
- Promote and encourage programs and policies to increase the use of recycled water.