Press Release: July 22, 1999

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Contact: Allison Quaid-dos Santos (781) 393-2508

The City of Medford Joins the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign

In a move signaling economic savvy and environmental commitment, Mayor Michael McGlynn enrolled the City of Medford in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign (CCPC) on May 26, 1999. The CCPC is an international program sponsored by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), based in Berkeley, California. The CCP campaign is designed to analyze and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

GHG emissions, which contribute to air pollution and global climate change, result from the burning of fossil fuels. The two primary GHGs are carbon dioxide and methane. Carbon dioxide is released when fossil fuels – such as oil, coal, and natural gas – are burned to power cars, produce electricity or heat buildings. Methane is emitted when garbage and waste products decompose, primarily in landfills. The increasing quantity of GHG emissions in the atmosphere is causing air pollution, the elevation of worldwide temperatures, and increasing the frequency and severity of extreme weather events.

ICLEI recognizes the key role that local governments have over the generation of GHG emissions. Local governments regulate several areas of the public arena, such as energy building codes, public transportation, land use policies, and recycling programs, which influence the quantities of energy used and therefore the emission of GHGs. Identifying ways in which a city can reduce their emissions of GHGs will not only protect the climate but will also improve the quality of life in one's community. ICLEI,

through a grant from the Boston-based Kendall Foundation, is sponsoring an intern, Allison Quaid-dos Santos, for ten-weeks to assist the City in identifying sources of energy consumption.

Allison Quaid-dos Santos, a recent graduate of Tufts University's Urban and Environmental Policy graduate program, is working at the Medford City Hall to produce a comprehensive inventory of the city's energy consumption. Ms. Quaid-dos Santos is working with Paul Gere, the Commissioner of Public Works, and City staff to compile the inventory. Typical energy consumption sources include heating fuel, electricity, and natural gas. The survey is community-wide, and therefore includes residential, commercial, industrial and municipal uses. The end product will be an inventory of the City's energy consumption sources, a calculation of the total GHG emissions resulting from those sources, and recommendations on how to improve energy efficiency and decrease energy consumption throughout the City.

Once the emissions inventory is completed, the Mayor and City staff will adopt a target for GHG emission reduction (typically 10-20% of 1995 levels), and will formulate and implement a local action plan which identifies strategies to achieve that target.

There are several benefits for cities who participate in the CCP campaign. The creation of an emissions inventory identifies high energy consumption areas, and reducing consumption in those areas can result in cost savings. The inventory also acts an excellent planning document in that it estimates future energy needs of the City and projects energy costs. Taking action to reduce energy consumption will decrease air pollution, generate financial savings, mitigate the potential for global warming, and improve the health and livability of the community.

The CCP campaign enjoys widespread support across the nation. Over 60 cities and counties are participating nationwide, including cites like San Diego, Newark, Denver and Minneapolis. Local cities that have joined the campaign recently include Lynn, Newton, and Cambridge, MA.

Local citizens that are interested in learning more about the program or assisting with it should contact Allison Quaid-dos Santos at (781) 393-2508.

### MOU between ICLEI and Medford relating to Placement of graduate intern for Summer 1999

In signing this Memorandum of Understanding, Medford agrees to participate in the Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) Campaign, a project of the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI). Our commitment to joining the Campaign is indicated by our having passed a Campaign participation resolution (or by having scheduled the resolution for passage) and by having submitted this MOU to ICLEI.

### **Medford's Commitment**

In order to initiate and facilitate tasks necessary for accomplishing the Campaign milestones, Medford is glad to accept a graduate student intern from ICLEI to assist with performing its emissions analysis. Medford will supervise the intern and will engage the intern in helping us complete our baseline emissions inventory, emissions forecast and other tasks related to our Campaign efforts. Medford commits to overseeing and involving its intern in Campaign work for a duration of 400 hours (10 weeks at full-time work) over the course of the summer of 1999.

Medford agrees to assign Commissioner Paul Gere, who will be directly involved in performing the city's emissions analysis, to supervise and work directly with the intern. This staff person will be the primary staff liaison who will be designated as the point of contact between the city and ICLEI. This staff liaison coordinates and participates in all CCP related projects, including the emissions analysis and Local Action Plan development.

Medford agrees to provide the intern with a workspace, a desk and a computer. The intern will be working in close proximity with her city staff supervisor and have access to information and resources necessary to perform her task.

Medford also commits to communicating Campaign progress and coordinating intern supervision efforts with ICLEI staff through weekly conference calls and three face-to-face meetings involving the city staff, intern and ICLEI staff.

#### ICLEI's responsibilities

ICLEI will hire the intern at \$15/hour to help new New England CCP jurisdictions complete their first Campaign milestone of conducting its baselines emissions analysis and to assist in other Campaign work.

Once placement is finalized, ICLEI staff will conduct a specific training for interns, focusing on the process of performing an emissions inventory. ICLEI will coordinate and pay for costs of conference calls and costs associated with organizing the three face-to-face meetings.

Signature

Date

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Date

## The International Council for **Local Environmental Initiatives**

# **US Office**

Berkeley, California

## Cities for Climate Protection Campaign US **Participants**

Number of municipalities = 55

- Albuquerque, New Mexico
- Ann Arbor, Michigan
- Aspen, Colorado
- Atlanta, Georgia
- Austin, Texas
- Berkeley, California
- Boulder, Colorado
- Broward Country, Florida
- Burien, Washington
- Burlington, Vermont
- Chicago, Illinois
- Chittenden County, Vermont
- Chula Vista, California
- Dade County, Florida
- Delta County, Michigan
- Denver, Colorado
- Durham, North Carolina
- Fort Collins, Colorado
- Hillsborough County, Florida
- Honolulu,
- Little Rock,
- Los Angeles, California
- Louisville, Kentucky
- Madison,
- Maplewood, New Jersey
- Memphis, Tennessee
- Mesa, Arizona
- Miami Beach, Florida
- Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- Minneapolis, Minnesota
- Missoula, Montana
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- New Orleans, Louisiana
- Oakland, California
- Olympia, Washington
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