

{Sample Letter to the Community for your city/county website}

Our city is a great place to live, work and raise a family, and we all want to do what we can to ensure that our community continues to thrive.

One of the greatest challenges that we face as a community is our changing climate, and its impacts on our health, children, resources, infrastructure and our future. But rather than dwell on the bad news, let's look toward solutions. We can harness this moment as one that provides us with one of the greatest opportunities to create solutions that work for everyone, foster innovation, spur job growth, and ensure clean air and water for many generations to come.

As providers of city services, we know that every department can help lead us toward a healthy and sustainable future. Our city has made a commitment to act on both mitigating climate change – helping reduce the emissions that cause the problem – and building resilience to climate impacts. We have a number of resources already deployed – for example, our tree canopy. Trees provide many climate benefits: they produce oxygen and remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere; they provide shade which reduces urban heat; they filter water; and they keep soil from eroding and washing away in heavy storms. Remember that the next time your school or scout troop has a tree-planting day!

Climate action also includes investment in innovation and careers. A transition to a clean energy economy will create jobs in the wind, solar, and electric vehicle industries. Work on energy efficiency creates jobs in weatherization, retrofitting of commercial buildings and residences, and engineering and architecture focused on designing resilient, low energy structures. And this is just the beginning. There is so much we can all do to be part of the solution.

We want to make sure that these benefits and opportunities reach *everyone* in our community, and that we all can thrive in a cleaner, healthier future. We encourage businesses, houses of worship, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, health professionals, and families to join us in this work.

There is a long list of actions we can take – some as a city, some as individuals – to help. We need your input on these actions, and the resources we will need to implement them. Should we add more bike lanes to our streets and parks, to improve our health, quality of life, and our air? Can we buy electric school buses, to reduce emissions and keep our children from breathing dirty diesel fumes? What should we prioritize? Let us know!

We look forward to keeping our city strong, and to building an even brighter future, together.

Best regards,

Mayor _____ or City Manager _____

P.S. We are grateful for the support from {NLC and} [Path to Positive Communities](#) to help us move toward these goals. The Path to Positive resources on their {our} website are intended to help our community prepare for the changes we are already experiencing, and innovate to strengthen our future. We invite you to download and peruse them, today.