



Department of Administration
Environmental Collaboration Office (ECO)

Tom Barrett
Mayor

Sharon Robinson
Director

Erick Shambarger
Environmental Sustainability Director

June 9, 2017

Dear Milwaukee Common Council,

Mayor Barrett and the City's Environmental Collaboration Office (ECO) support File # 170337: *Substitute resolution expressing the City's support for the Paris Climate Accord.*

In the absence of federal leadership, cities and businesses are stepping up. Mayor Barrett has joined with more than 275 mayors as well as governors and over one thousand businesses, including Wisconsin-based Johnson Controls and Kohler Co, to say "[We are still in](#)" on the Paris climate agreement.

In Milwaukee, we understand that protecting the environment is essential for sustained economic growth. We understand that climate change threatens American cities with increased risks of extreme storms and flooding as well as disruptions to our supply chains. We also see the economic potential that transitioning to a clean energy economy has to spur innovation, improve the environment and human health, and create local jobs. Our approach to leadership is collaboration with a goal of caring for our common home.

In Milwaukee, we will continue to drive the clean energy economy with our *Milwaukee Shines* solar program, *Me²* home energy efficiency program, and *Better Buildings Challenge* program for commercial buildings while working to accelerate our work on energy efficiency and renewable energy in city buildings. We have demonstrated over the last seven years that you can grow Milwaukee's economy while reducing energy waste and spurring investment in clean technologies.

We appreciate that the Milwaukee Common Council is considering this formal action to show your support for the Paris climate agreement. We look forward to working with you to craft additional actions that will accelerate our transition to a clean energy economy.

Sincerely,

Erick Shambarger
Director of Environmental Sustainability
Environmental Collaboration Office
City of Milwaukee

