

**LAURA MILLER
MAYOR**



CITY OF DALLAS

MEDIA RELEASE

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Mayor Miller Endorses Climate Protection Agreement

DALLAS- Mayor Laura Miller has joined over 200 other mayors from around the country in signing the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.

By signing the agreement, Mayor Miller has made a commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Dallas to 7% below 1990 levels by 2012. These reductions will be made through actions like increasing energy efficiency, reducing vehicle miles traveled, maintaining healthy urban forests, and promoting use of clean, renewable energy resources.

The Agreement also calls for Congress to pass legislation that sets meaningful timelines and limits on emissions through a flexible, market-based system of tradable allowances among emitting industries.

Mayor Miller said "Although global warming is typically seen as a federal issue, there are many things that we can do and need to do at a local level to save our environment."

"The City can lower emissions from its fleet of vehicles; our Council can adopt and enforce land-use policies that preserve open space, and create compact, walkable urban communities; we can promote transportation options such as bicycle trails or public transit, and make those options easier and more convenient for our residents to use," Miller continued.

"The City of Dallas has already taken many steps to make our environment a priority. For instance, last December, the Council created the Urban Forest Advisory Committee. Trees are a tremendous asset for a city for beauty, for the environment, and for economic development. With Dallas boasting the largest urban hardwood forest of any big city – 7,000 acres in the Great Trinity Forest – the creation of this committee is also timely," Miller added.

((MORE))

The Climate Protection Agreement was launched on February 16, 2005, the day the Kyoto Protocol went into effect in 141 other countries.

Since that time, many cities throughout the nation, both large and small, are reducing global warming pollutants. Many are adopting 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.

QUICK FACTS

City of Dallas' Green Fleet and Fuels

- Dallas has been purchasing Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) vehicles since 1992 with 26% of its current fleet being CNG, which are Inherently Low Emission Vehicles (ILEV)
- In partnership with CleanEnergy developed two City CNG fueling stations
- Dallas purchases more Alternative Fuel Vehicles (AFV) with cleaner Low Emission Vehicle (LEV) ratings than required
- Since FY01, Dallas has placed 127 hybrid/electric vehicles in service
- Dallas was the first City in Texas to initiate use of Biodiesel (June 2002)
- Dallas was the first City to initiate the use of Texas Low Emission Diesel (TxLED) (2004) one year prior to the State mandate of 2005, which allowed Dallas to reduce NOx by 10 tons annually
- Due to Dallas' apparent commitment the City is recognized as a leader in improving air quality through emission reductions and has received national, state and local recognition for its efforts
- Dallas adopted a Clean Fleet Policy that has a comprehensive focus on having an air quality conscious fleet through vehicle acquisitions and maintenance
- Dallas will continue to be at the forefront in improving air quality by reducing emissions through exploration and utilization of emerging markets/technology

((MORE))

RECYCLING

- The City of Dallas is excited about its Recycling Program that will save our landfill space. The City's revised Recycling Program is easier and more convenient as it now uses roll carts and it accommodates single stream recycling. (i.e. separation not needed)
- Instead of having to purchase blue bags at grocery stores, they are now available free of charge at City Libraries and Recreation Centers.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (EMS)

- The City of Dallas understands that it has to be a leader on environmental stewardship. Accordingly, the City is implementing its Environmental Management System also known as EMS.
- Through EMS the City will expand our environmental stewardship goals which will not only result in environment improvements, but also in operational efficiency and cost savings.
- The first step in implementing the EMS was done by the City Council when it adopted an Environmental Policy in January of 2005.
- Numerous recognitions for the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System® including "Silver Certification" for the new Jack Evans Police Headquarters building which boasts 60 environmentally friendly features. LEED is a voluntary, consensus-based national standard for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings.

DALLAS TREES

- This season over 1000 trees were planted in our public parks and the City continues to partner with citizen groups to plant more.
- The City of Dallas received a \$100K Texas Forest Service Partnership Grant to hire our first City Forester such that we can foster urban forest development.
- The Dallas City Council created our first Citizen Urban Forestry Advisory Committee. This committee is working to help guide the City as it relates to the management of our urban forest infrastructure.

View the entire resolution on the US Conference of Mayors website:
http://usmayors.org/uscm/resolutions/73rd_conference/env_04.asp

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