




**OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER CHRISTOPHER WARD  
THIRD COUNCIL DISTRICT**

**M E M O R A N D U M**

DATE: January 3, 2018  
TO: Mayor Kevin Faulconer  
FROM: Councilmember Christopher Ward   
SUBJECT: Request to be a Signatory to the Chicago Climate Charter

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The City of San Diego is a recognized leader for our efforts to combat climate change and has been the example for strong local action through the adoption of our Climate Action Plan. Our goals to reach 100% renewable energy by 2035 and to drastically reduce transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions are the standard for how local government should act following the Administration's withdrawal from the Paris Climate Agreement. Our local efforts to keep San Diego on the forefront of climate action have an international context, and I ask that we take every opportunity to partner with other cities in this critical endeavor.

During the North American Climate Summit in December 2017, the mayors of more than 50 cities demonstrated their commitment to climate action by signing the Chicago Climate Charter. The signatories of the Chicago Climate Charter pledged to:

- Achieve a percent reduction in carbon emissions in line with the Paris Agreement;
- Quantify, track and publicly report city emissions;
- Advocate alongside other mayors for greater local authority and flexibility to develop policies and local laws that empower cities to take aggressive action on climate;
- Recognize and include groups traditionally underrepresented in climate policy;
- Incorporate the realities of climate change and its impacts into local infrastructure and emergency planning through strategies of adaptation and resilience;
- Support strong regional, state and federal policies and partnerships, as well as private sector initiatives, that incentivize the transition to a new climate economy; and
- Partner with experts, communities, businesses, environmental justice groups, advocates and other allies to develop holistic climate mitigation and resilience solutions.

This past week the mayors of ten additional cities stated their commitment to the above goals and signed the Chicago Climate Charter. This growing list of North American cities, including San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Seattle is incomplete without San Diego.

Pledging to meet the conditions of Chicago Climate Charter will benefit San Diegans, future generations, and our economy. I ask that you sign the Chicago Climate Charter and join the 67 mayors working to have their local efforts shape our national response to climate change. To sign on, please visit [www.northamericanclimatesummit.splashthat.com](http://www.northamericanclimatesummit.splashthat.com) or contact Brian Elliott in my office at (619) 236-6633 or [bellott@sandiego.gov](mailto:bellott@sandiego.gov) should you have any questions.

cc:

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