



Beth Krom, Councilmember

cityofirvine.org

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Please extend my best wishes to everyone at today's Climate Action Rally at the Irvine Spectrum. I'm sorry I cannot be there in person to offer these remarks.

Climate change is one of the greatest threats of our time, and we as a community must act at a local, state, federal and international level to find common sense solutions that protect public health and quality of life for future generations. As national leaders of governments throughout the world come together next month in Paris for COP21, it is important not to forget the impact we can each have by working together in the public interest.

A great example of the power of local action is Irvine's historic success in 1989 when we passed a local measure to address the environmental impacts of ozone-depleting compounds. Irvine prohibited use of all chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) within the city and set the standard for future federal legislation. Today we can see the positive impact of global efforts to address damage to the Ozone Layer.

With our growing understanding of the impact of human activity on climate, we know there is much more to do. I am encouraged by the recent announcement by President Obama that he will be attending the Paris Climate Summit, COP21. The United States can and should be the leader in the transition to a clean energy economy.

As a Mayor and Councilmember, I have lead efforts to

- Be an early signatory on U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Action Agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Establish a 20-year Energy Plan
- Adopt a Zero Waste Resolution
- Implement Irvine's Healthy City, Healthy Planet Initiative
- Participate in Hydrogen-Fueled Cars and Hydrogen Fuel Cell Demonstration Project with the University of California at Irvine and Toyota

Irvine can and should do more – as should cities throughout our county.

We have seen the power of collective action. Solutions will only come through shared accountability. As the saying goes, we do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.

Let's do all we can to address climate change and make the world safer, cleaner and healthier for everyone.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Beth Krom', with a stylized, flowing script.

Beth Krom
Councilmember