

# Effective Climate Communication



CAPITAL REGION  
CLIMATE READINESS  
COLLABORATIVE

ecoAmerica  
*building climate leadership*

September 26, 2019 | 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM



CAPITAL REGION  
CLIMATE READINESS  
COLLABORATIVE

[ClimateReadiness.info](http://ClimateReadiness.info)

# Webinar Agenda



# Webinar Logistics

## Questions:

At any point during the webinar, you can submit a question through the Zoom control panel. All questions will be read aloud and answered during Q&A as long as time permits.

You can also use the 'hand raising' feature to be unmuted and ask a question during Q&A.



# About CRC



The Capital Region Climate Readiness Collaborative is a **multidisciplinary network** of local and regional agencies, organizations, businesses, and associations working together to advance **climate mitigation and adaptation** efforts in their own communities and throughout California's Capital Region.

# Membership



American Planning Association  
California Chapter  
Sacramento Valley



CITY OF FOLSOM  
DISTINCTIVE BY NATURE



Franciscans  
For Justice



SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN  
DELTA CONSERVANCY  
A California State Agency



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ClimateReadiness.info

# Featured Presenters



Meighen Speiser  
Executive Director

ecoAmerica  
*building climate leadership*

# Featured Presenters



**Path to Positive  
Communities**  
Local Climate Leadership

Jennifer Watson  
Roberts

Director, Path to Positive  
Communities





## WEBINAR



## CAPITAL REGION CLIMATE READINESS COLLABORATIVE

Sept. 26, 2019

# MOVING FORWARD



# Welcome

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**Mayor Jennifer Roberts**  
Director, Path to Positive  
ecoAmerica



**Meighen Speiser**  
Executive Director  
ecoAmerica

# Agenda

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- Introduction
- American Climate Values
- Path to Positive Communities
- Communities Toolkit Overview
- How to Move Forward
- Q&A



**Mission: Build a critical mass of institutional leadership, public support, and political will for definitive climate solutions in the United States.**

- Elevate visible national leadership
- Engage all stakeholders
- Empower climate advocacy and action
- Commit to 100% clean energy



# ecoAmerica: Partnerships



84,000 congregations  
50 million members



Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.



American Academy  
of Pediatrics  
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
**Presbyterian Mission**



1.3 million professionals



AMERICAN  
PSYCHOLOGICAL  
ASSOCIATION



AMERICAN COLLEGE  
of SPORTS MEDICINE  
LEADING THE WAY



# American Climate Metrics Survey (ACMS)

- Annual since 2015
- Nationally representative
- 48 questions

ecoAmerica -- American Climate Metrics Survey -- Timeseries 12

	2018	2017	2016	2015
N=	800	802	800	800

**Q23. (T) (SSA) As a source of information about climate change, how much do you trust each of the following? [RANDOMIZE]**

	2018	2017	2016	2015
N=	400	802	800	800

Sorted by "A lot"

23g.Scientists.....	50	45	45	37
23d.Environmental organizations .....	33	31	27	24
23m.Health professionals .....	26	29	24	18
23j.Clean energy companies .....	20	25	18	14
23n.Colleges and universities .....	17	23	22	16
23i.Media such as newspapers, TV news, and internet news sites.....	10	17	8	10
23f.Religious or faith leaders .....	9	18	12	9
23l.Local community leaders .....	8	12	6	3
23a.The President .....	8	12	15	13
23c.Companies and corporations .....	6	10	3	2
23e.Oil companies .....	6	10	3	4
23k.Federal elected leaders .....	6	10	4	3
23b.Congress .....	4	8	3	2
23h.Celebrities.....	3	9	4	2

**LRP** LAKE RESEARCH PARTNERS

ecoAmerica American Climate Metrics Survey -- For Partners  
N=800 adults nationwide

Strategy • Precision • Impact

Here are some questions about yourself, just for statistical purposes...

	2018	2017	2016	2015
N=	800	802	800	800

**Q1. (T- Revised 2018) Please indicate your gender.**

Male.....	49	48	48	48
Female.....	51	52	52	52
Other.....	0	0	0	0
Prefer not to say.....	0	0	0	0

**Q2. (T - Revised to select all that apply, 2018) Just to make sure we have a representative sample, what is your race or ethnicity? Select all that apply**

White/Caucasian.....	65	65	70	70
Black/African American.....	12	12	12	12
Hispanic/Latino.....	16	15	13	11
Asian/Pacific Islander.....	5	5	3	4
Native American/American Indian.....	3	1	1	1
Other (PLEASE SPECIFY.....)	3	1	1	2
Prefer not to answer.....	0	0	0	0

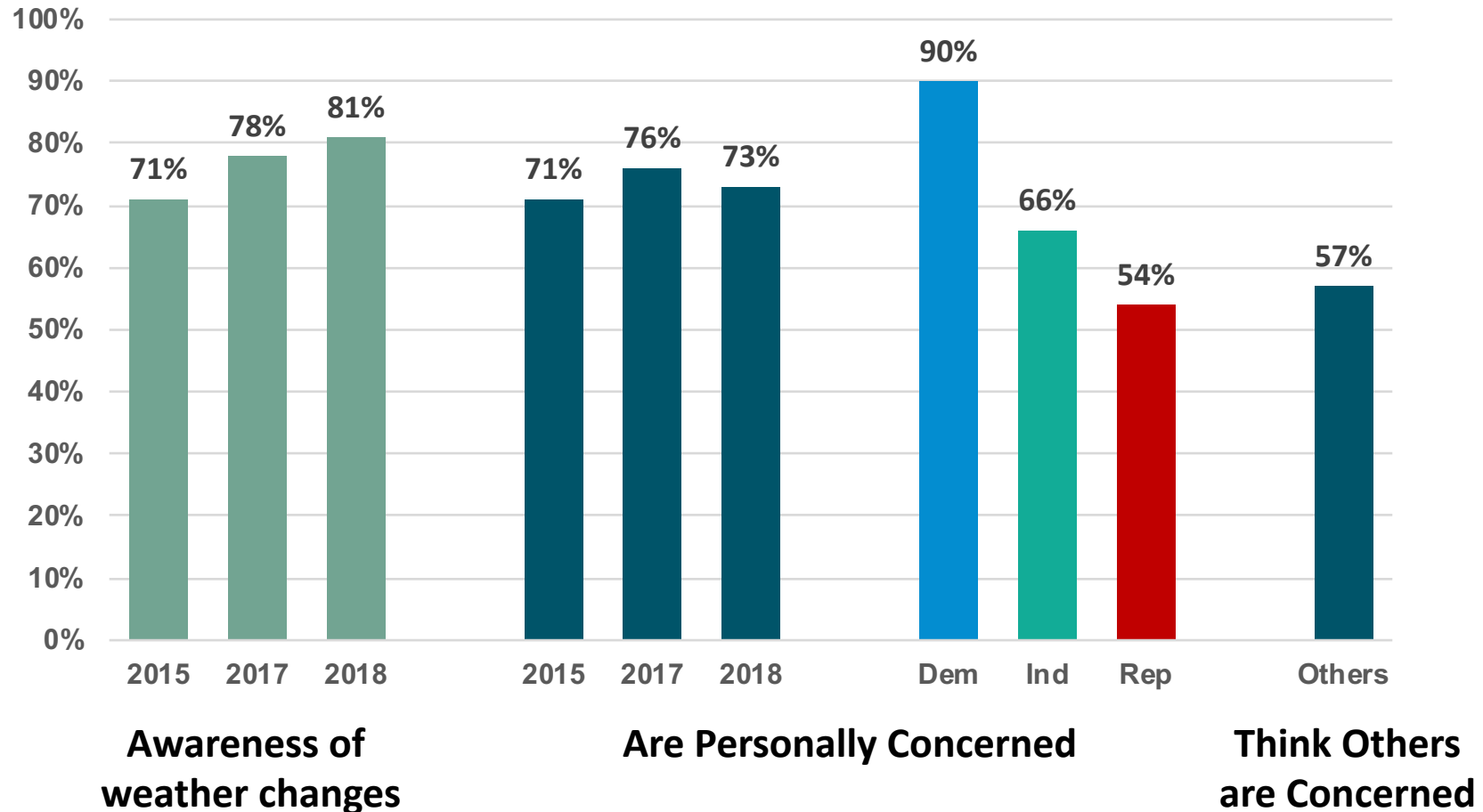
**Q3. (T) Are you registered to vote at your current address?**

Yes.....	84	96	87	85
No.....	16	4	13	15

**Q4. (T) What state do you live in?**

New England.....	5	5	5	5
Middle Atlantic.....	13	13	13	13
East North Central.....	14	15	15	15
West North Central.....	7	7	7	7
South Atlantic.....	20	20	19	19
East South Central.....	6	6	6	6
West South Central.....	12	12	12	12
Mountain.....	7	7	7	7
Pacific.....	16	16	16	16

# ACMS 18: Awareness, Concern



# ACMS 18: Energy, Preparedness, Benefits

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## Energy Sources

- **89%** more wind and solar, 69% ‘much more’
- **61%** *less* coal (54% 2017)

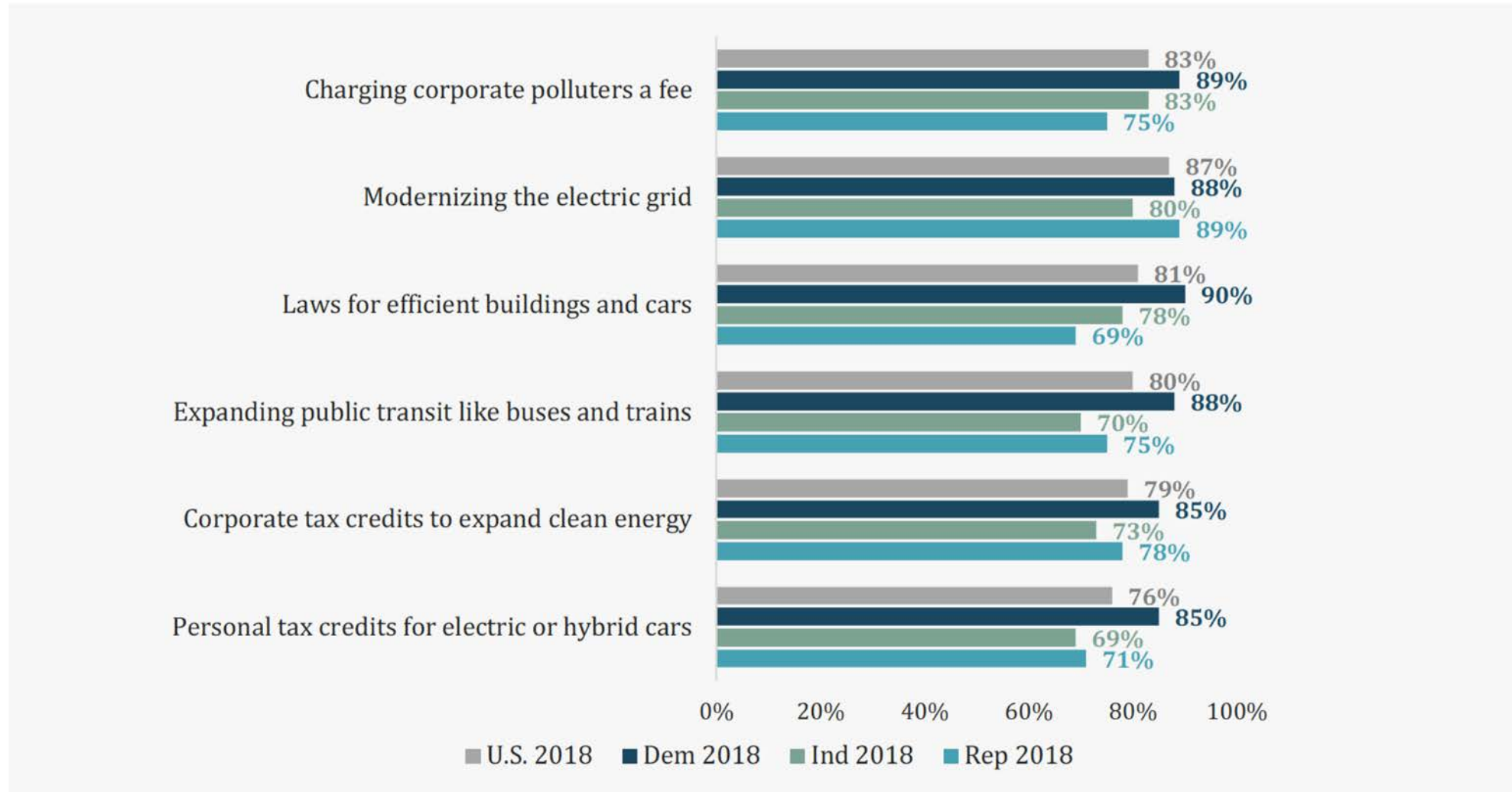
## Local Preparedness

- **76%** want city/town to prepare
- **35%** say city/town not doing anything to prepare

## Benefits of Solutions

- **66%** health (67% 2017, 59% 2015)
- **61%** economy (64% 2017, 53% 2015)
- **56%** jobs (61% 2017, 54% 2015)

# ACMS 18: Support for Solutions







***Path to Positive***<sup>™</sup>  
***Communities***  
Local Climate Leadership

- **Support communities in building leadership, public support and political will for climate solutions**
- Provide and connect to research, resources, guides, and success stories to facilitate implementation and constituency engagement
- Help communities become role models for their constituents
- Spur equitable engagement to involve everyone in solutions

# Path to Positive Communities: Partners



*Mississippi River Cities and Towns Initiative*



**Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative**  
*Mayors Protecting and Restoring the Great Lakes & St. Lawrence River*



# MOVING FORWARD

A Thriving and Resilient Community



# NEW! Moving Forward Community Toolkit



1. Moving Forward Guide
2. Customizable Video
3. Climate Actions Checklist
4. Let's Talk Communities and Climate Guide
5. Sample Climate Declarations
6. Customizable Letter to the Community
7. Health and Faith Resources
8. Links to Talking Points and Research



## MOVING FORWARD

A Guide to Building Momentum on  
Climate Solutions in Your Community

# Moving Forward Guide

*Introduction*

*What You Need to Know*

*What You Need to Do*

*Mitigation Matters / Resources*

*Resilience Matters / Resources*

*Engagement Matters / Resources*

# What You Need to Know



# What You Need to Know

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- Local leaders are at the forefront
- This is a social and ethical issue
- Solutions are non-partisan
- There are new solutions every day
- Solutions have co-benefits
- Without solutions, risks and impacts will accelerate
- Vulnerable community members are the most impacted



# What You Need to Do





# What You Need to Do



- Start with the community
- Make a visible commitment to solutions
- Take stock and aim for quick successes
- Establish priorities and make a plan
- Engage everyone
- Embed solutions
- Recycle savings
- Build on success and keep going

# Mitigation Matters



# Mitigation Matters

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- Don't let measurement keep you from getting started
- Communities face unique challenges and opportunities
- Reducing energy use is the first step
- Renewable energy will deepen the savings
- Savings start at home and work



# Mitigation Opportunities

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- Buildings
- Transportation
- Zoning and planning
- Waste
- Purchasing
- Embed Solutions
- Reinvest Savings
- National Resources

## SELECTED MITIGATION RESOURCES

**The Climate Registry: Local Governments Operation Protocol:** Generate data to set greenhouse gas targets to reduce emissions, save money, and report progress.

**EPA: EnergyStar Portfolio Manager:** Save money and energy through planning and monitoring building efficiency, featuring efficient products and energy strategies for a range of buildings and facilities.

**Urban Sustainability Directors Network: Sustainable Consumption Toolkit:** Showcases how to fit

sustainable consumption and where communities can take action on food, housing, and purchasing.

**The World Bank: CURB Tool - Climate Action for Urban Sustainability:** Designed to help cities take action on climate by allowing them to map and measure different action plans.  
See also: C40 Cities

**U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance: Go Green Program:** Helps cities identify and purchase certified green products.

**NLC's Sustainable Cities Institute** provides convening opportunities, technical assistance and leadership training for cities to mitigate and adapt to the effects of a changing climate. SCI helps cities implement proven strategies.

**Smart Cities for Sustainability (USDN and ISC)** is designed for use by sustainability directors to delve more deeply into smart city approaches, technologies, and uses of data to advance their local sustainability goals.

*An online version of this guide complete with links is available at [PathtoPositive.org](http://PathtoPositive.org).*

# Resilience Matters



# Resilience Matters

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- Biggest threats are heat, water, and severe weather
- Impacts are being felt by people and communities, property and infrastructure, and natural systems
- Planning & Action Considerations
  - Assess
  - Investigate options & priorities
  - Act through partnerships
  - Include citizen and stakeholder outreach
  - Explain it in current, local, easy to understand terms



# Resilience Opportunities

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- Make resilience about the people in your community
- Understand the ways climate risks can impact them
- Include everyone in preparing for risks and impacts
- Take climate into account when planning and building



## NATURE IS YOUR ALLY

- Tree canopy cuts energy use and increases livability
- Open space can provide parks and produce food
- Natural stormwater controls save money and water



# Resilience Examples

- Natural adaptation – flood buy out programs
- Real time water quality monitoring – Mississippi River
- Wildfire air quality – clean air centers
- Managed retreat – coastal properties
- Urban cooling centers
- Building codes / zoning changes
- Equity in natural amenities – parks, trees, emergency services



Photo: Daily Mail, Pers Anders-Pettersson/Corbis

## SELECTED RESILIENCE RESOURCES

**U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit:**  
Tools to help manage climate-related risks and opportunities, and guide in building resilience to extreme events.

**CAKE: Climate Resilience Toolkit:**  
Provides a practical, flexible approach to help communities improve resilience by setting priorities to manage risks.

**National Institute of Standards and Technology: Community Resilience:** 200 tools to help you take steps to build resilience.

**Georgetown Climate Center: Adaptation Clearinghouse:** A database and networking site that serves policymakers and others who are working to help communities adapt to climate change.

**Alliance of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation (ARCCA):** Tools for adaptation policy, forming a regional collaborative, ICARP clearinghouse, Cal-Adapt and other maps of risks.

The Institute for Sustainable Communities' **Regional Resilience**

**Primer** shares promising practices about regional climate change adaptation across the U.S.

**The American Association for the Advancement of Science** project, "What We Know," is dedicated to ensuring that the three R's of climate are communicated to the public: Reality, Risk, and Response.

Local Government Commission's **Alliance of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation** provides tools for developing adaptation policy and regional collaboratives.

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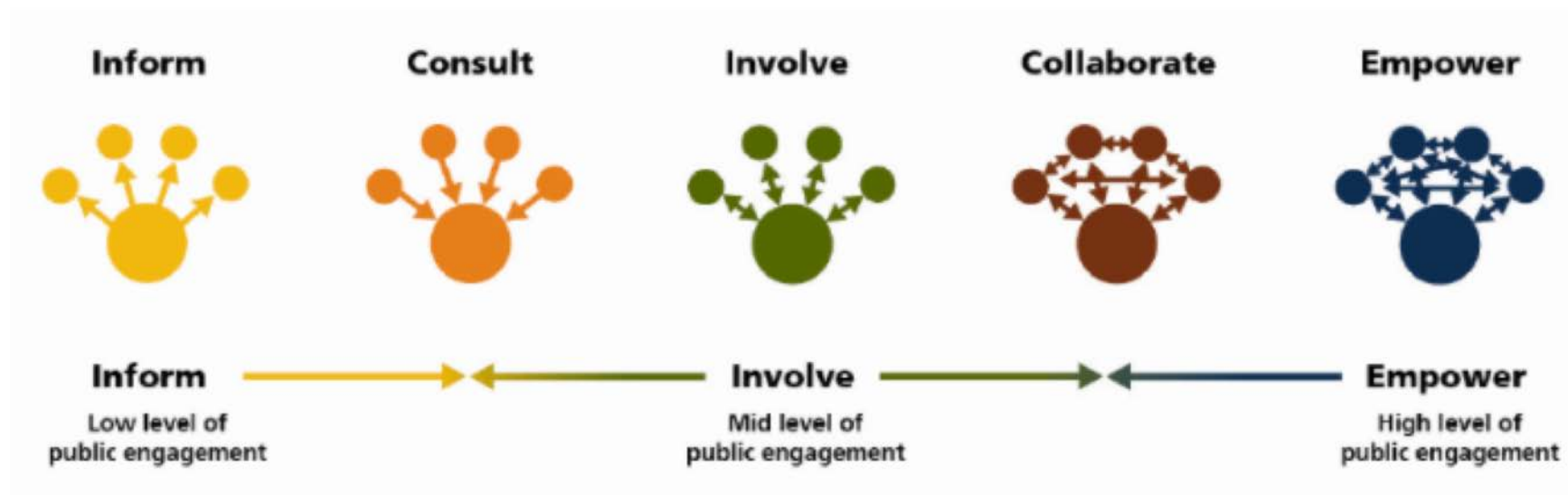
# Engagement Matters



# Why Engagement Matters



- The public needs visible local climate leadership
- Public participation in developing policies improves outcomes of local programs
- Good engagement is both process and outcome



# Community Engagement



1. Make a commitment or declaration
2. Engage government
3. Empower utilities
4. Recruit community sector leaders
5. Get into the media
6. **Engage residents** – provide easy solutions
7. Go beyond your borders



## SELECTED ENGAGEMENT RESOURCES

**Path to Positive Communities:** empowers local and regional leaders to maximize the opportunities climate solutions bring to the American people and their communities, and inspire their residents and other leaders to support solutions at local, regional, and national levels.

**ecoAmerica:** ecoAmerica builds institutional leadership, public support, and political will for climate solutions in the United States. We help national mainstream organizations elevate their climate leadership, providing them strategy, tools, and resources

to demonstrate visible climate leadership, empower climate literacy, engage all residents, and build collective action and advocacy.

**Climate for Health:** is a national initiative led by a diverse network of health leaders from across the health sector representing key health care, public health, clinical, and medical institutions and associations.

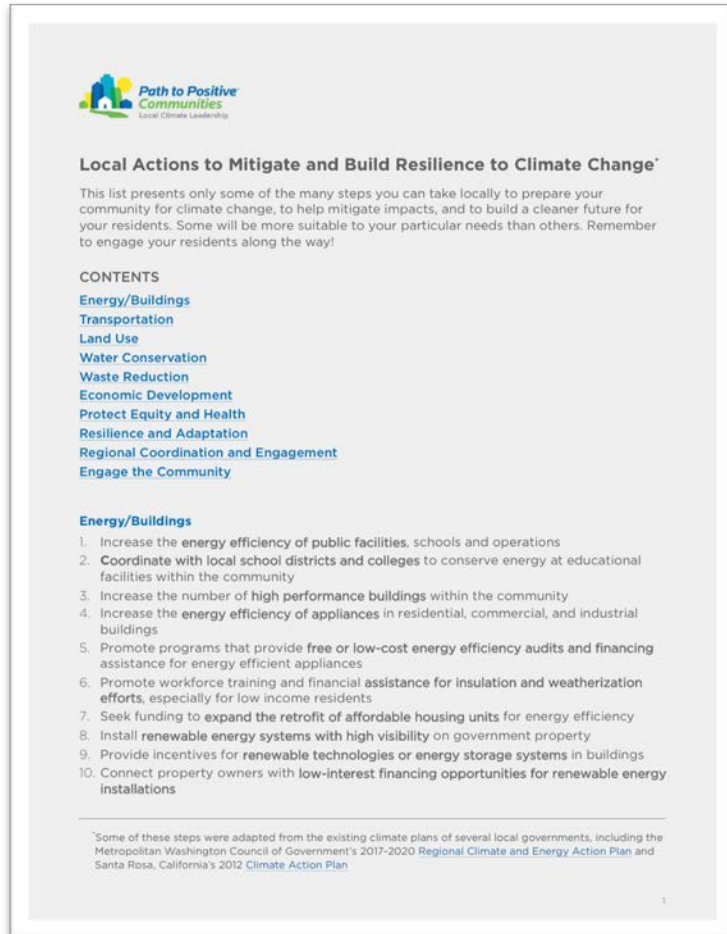
**Blessed Tomorrow:** is a coalition of diverse religious partners united as faithful stewards of creation. Together, we inspire

our communities to take action today on one of the greatest moral challenges of our era — protecting our shared home.

**Institute for Sustainable Communities:** Empowering Community Resilience shares ways to reinvent community engagement, build capacity for deeper engagement, and communicate with diverse stakeholders.

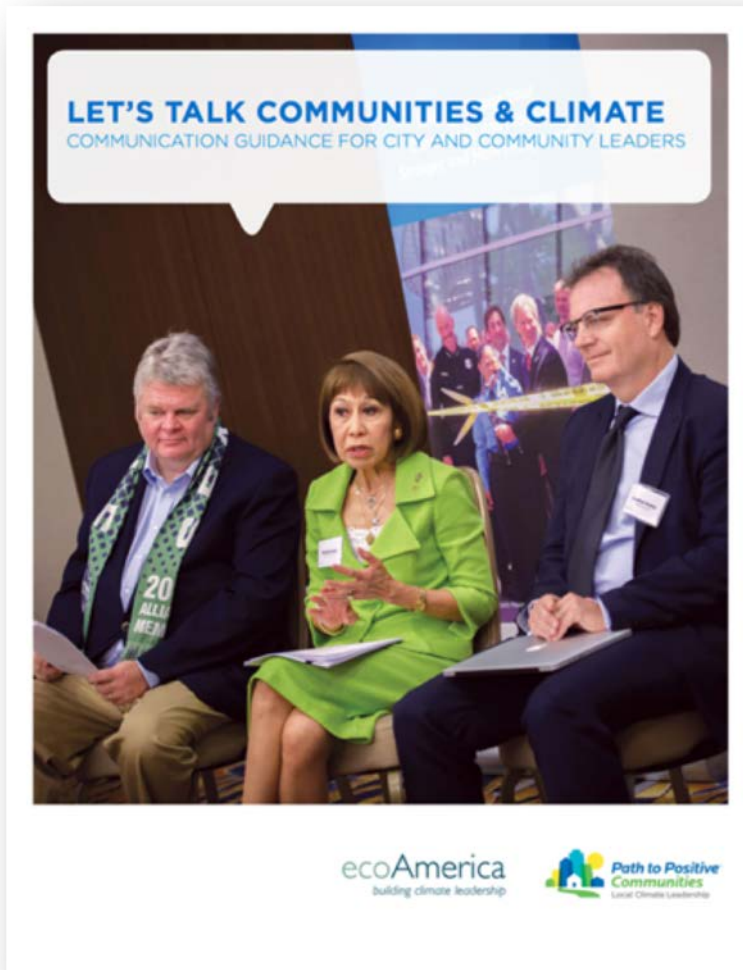
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# Climate Actions Checklist



- Energy / Buildings
- Transportation
- Land Use
- Water
- Waste
- Economic Development
- Equity and Health
- Resilience and Adaptation
- Regional Coordination
- Engagement

# Let's Talk Communities and Climate



Embrace	Replace	Because...
<b>Damage to the climate</b>	Climate change, climate crisis, climate risk, global warming	"Damage" implies human causation, which can be prevented or protected against. Other terms are too politically polarizing.
<b>Local/locally made clean energy, home-grown energy, clean energy, made right at home</b>	Renewable energy, green energy, domestic energy	"Local" folds in community empowerment without directly stating it. "Homegrown" implies accessible wind and solar energy. "Clean" reinforces health benefits and positions fossil fuels as "dirty."
<b>Better for families, our children, and future generations</b>	Better for us, better for you	Referencing future generations and families has high emotional resonance, moves thinking beyond oneself, builds inclusiveness (not everyone has children), and activates collective agency.
<b>Good for [city or state], good for the people</b>	Good for the country	Americans are more personally attuned to their local communities and personal well-being these days. They are less satisfied with how things are going in our country and thus do not respond as strongly to "good for the country" messages.
<b>Dirty fuels, out-of-date fuels, outdated fuels</b>	Dirty energy, fossil fuel energy	Pairing "dirty" with "fuel" ties together oil, coal, and gas, which need to be burned to create energy, and helps emphasize clean, healthy alternatives. References to the old versus the new work with those who can be persuaded.
<b>Today, we can use/We have used dirty fuels</b>	Today, we rely on fossil fuels/We have relied on dirty energy	"Use" empowers choice—to use clean energy. Americans want choice and reject the need to "rely" on fuels. Cities, communities, and citizens can opt to transition away from dirty fuels.
<b>We need to create rules that curb pollution and to impose fines on businesses that pollute</b>	Government taking steps to curb pollution	"Rules" and "fines" are concrete and thus seem more plausible and effective. Creating rules empowers people to make positive change. Taking "steps" is interpreted as unspecific and non-committal.
<b>We can</b>	We should	"We can" is positive, it empowers, and it has multiple meanings, such as a can-do attitude, collective action, and choice. "We should" is punitive and implies a lack of choice or conviction.
<b>Attract new business</b>	Good for the economy	Attracting new businesses implies the promise of new jobs and opportunities, as well as of putting more dollars in the pockets of residents in your community.
<b>Build stronger communities</b>	Build resilient communities	The term "resilient" is not a readily understood term for many Americans, feels defensive, and creates mixed feelings. Americans prefer to live in "stronger communities," a phrase that feels more empowered and inspired.
<b>Home</b>	Country	Home is where the heart is (more than the country).



# Sample Climate Declarations



## Mississippi River Cities & Town Initiative

An Effort of U.S. Mayors 

### Mississippi River Cities & Towns Initiative Proclamation A Path to Positive on Reducing Climate Risk

#### PROCLAMATION

Together we must put America on a path to a positive future that will protect our families and communities, create prosperity, and strengthen our nation's security. We can build this future if we choose clean energy and use it efficiently, act to minimize carbon pollution, prepare for climate risks, and protect our aquatic resources. We have a moral obligation to take action today to mitigate climate disruption and build a sustainable future for our children.

- Whereas:** We are compelled to act because carbon pollution is affecting our planet and profoundly impacting America and the world placing at risk our essential and fragile freshwater sources;
- Whereas:** The cost of increasing droughts, floods, wildfires, extreme weather, and rising sea levels can be measured in lost lives, economic losses, higher food prices, restricted access to drinking water, poorer health, and hundreds of billions of dollars in disaster relief;
- Whereas:** We must help restore the atmosphere, oceans, and our freshwater sources, prepare for climate and put our nation on a path to a positive future;
- Whereas:** Human activity contributes to these threats and humans can solve this challenge;
- Whereas:** American leadership can help the world meet these challenges with innovative solutions;
- Therefore:** **Be it resolved that together, as elected community leaders, we must create solutions rooted in shared American values that effectively address climate risks. These solutions must:**

**Create a positive energy future:** Solutions should promote abundant, clean energy, avoid costly carbon pollution from dirty fuels, provide choice in affordable energy, and provide Americans greater economic freedom by



## Path to Positive Utah Declaration

Utah is a pioneering state - strong, capable, and innovative - with a firm connection to our shared values. As visionary leaders in business, government, higher education, faith, and community organizations, we take shared responsibility for protecting our economy, air quality, and environment. This includes climate change, which poses risks to our economic well-being, our families, and our quality of life. We will inspire and support resilient communities and smart solutions. In so doing, we can address climate change and forge the path for others by demonstrating Utah's innovative spirit and leadership.

# Sample Community Letter



*{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.

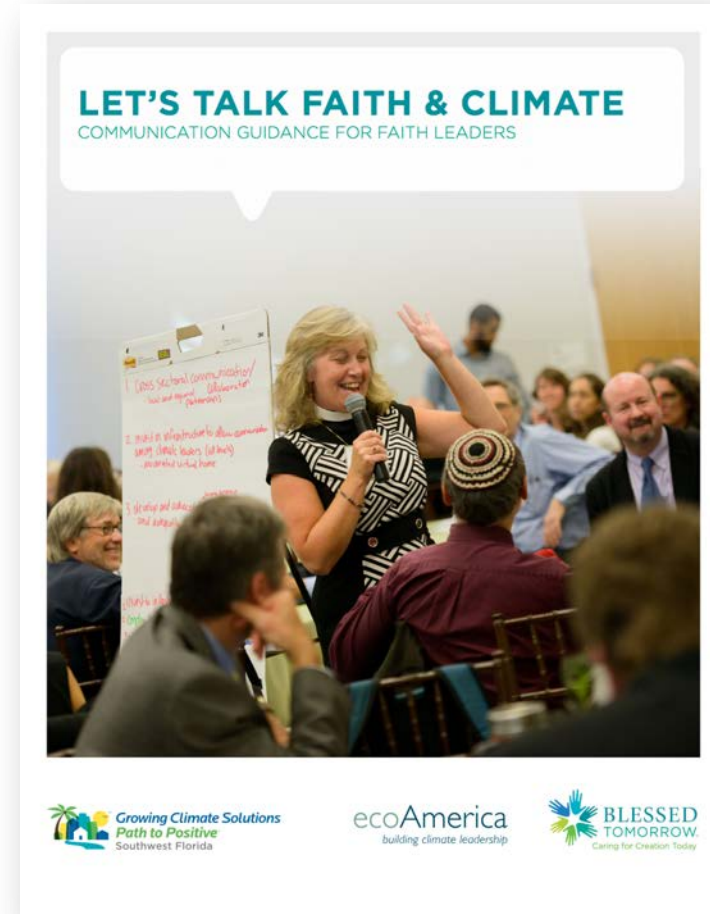
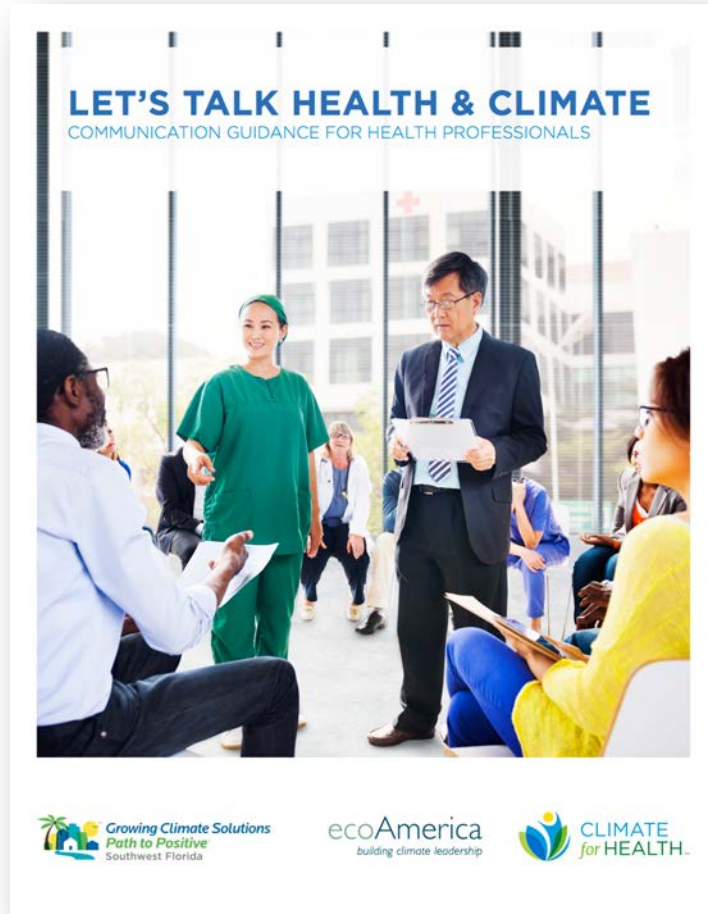
One of the greatest challenges that we face as a community is our changing climate, and its impacts on our health, children, resources, infrastructure and our future. But rather than dwell on the bad news, let's look toward solutions. We can harness this moment as one that provides us with one of the 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.

*Easy to customize with your city or county logo, signed by the manager or Mayor*

# Health and Faith Resources



## TURNING CLIMATE PANIC INTO PROGRESS (even though the news is dire)

If Americans are hearing anything about climate change, it is likely the bad news. [Our planet](#) and [oceans](#) are warming faster than predicted, causing billion dollar weather disasters, a myriad of health impacts, climate refugees and more, with little time to turn it around. We need to do as great leaders do and inspire those around us, and those in positions to shift policies and outcomes, to act in everyone's best interest by acting on climate. The following Talking Points will help. If someone approaches you in panic about the dire state of our climate, here is what to say:

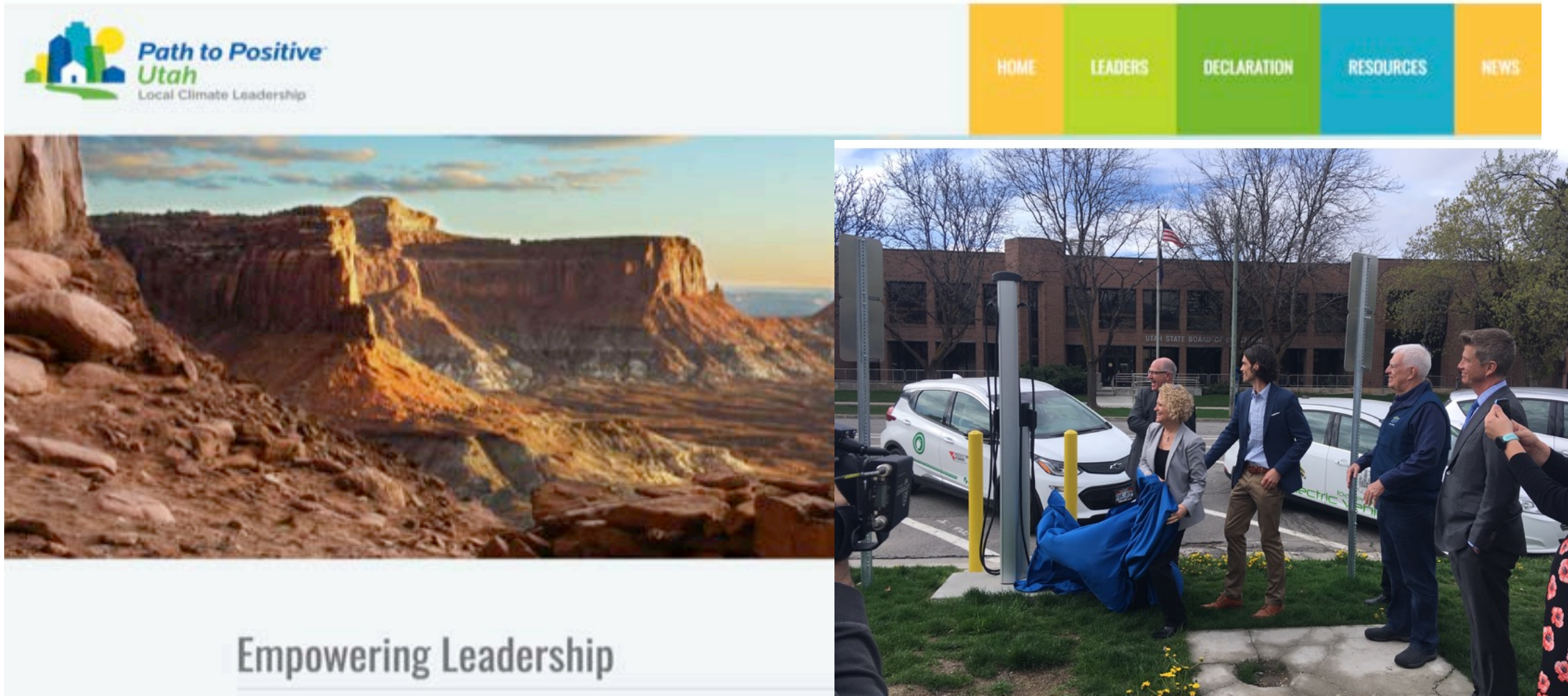
1. **There is a lot of bad news on climate change, and it is concerning, but we still have time to do something about it.** We can make real progress now while there is a small window of time.
2. **When you look past the headlines, you'll see there's as much good news as bad.** Climate change is a fixable problem, and solutions are here and now, all around us.
3. **There's no doubt that we CAN solve climate change — the question is WILL we.** We have the solutions and mounting national resolve to implement them, but we need to show Americans they can make a difference, and that solutions come with personal benefit.
4. **We have the technology, resources, and window of time to transition to a clean energy economy, but we need to move quickly.** The choice is ours to make. We have the technology to power our homes and communities with clean energy and eliminate our climate impact, but we need local and national leadership on solutions to make this transition at scale and with speed.
5. **When we transition to a clean economy, the benefits to our health, communities, and prosperity will be vast and enduring.** Smart investments in clean energy protect our health, attract new business, create jobs, and build stronger communities for our families and future generations.
6. **We all need to act now — each of us can make a big difference.** We can get our families, workplaces, and communities to switch to clean energy, find practical ways to eliminate our impact, use our votes to elect officials who have a keen understanding of the problem, and use our voices to implore their resolve to fix it.
7. **Start now!** Together we can find and act on sensible solutions now.

## COUNTERPOINTS

Following are arguments that people might give on why it is too late for climate change action, along with suggested responses.

1. **If you look around, the seas are already rising, and wildfires are burning all over the world. It's too late.**  
*Response: Yes. Things are bad, and we're just beginning to see all the signs of a changing climate. But we have the resources and a small window of time to fix this. We can slow, stop, and reverse the impacts of climate change if we begin taking action now. We have the technology and solutions at hand, it just takes the will to make them happen. We can all reduce our climate impact, and ask our local, state and national leaders to bring solutions forward. Let's do what we can to be part of the solution.*
2. **Those technologies you talk about, they cost too much. It will lower our standard of living and hurt poor people. We can't do that!**  
*Response: Right now, producing coal or natural gas energy costs more than producing wind and solar energy. It will take some investment to make a just transition to clean energy, but in the process we will create good local jobs! Overall, shifting to clean energy will actually save us a lot of money, and make us more prosperous. The costs to Americans — from the wildfires, floods, and hurricanes — is enormous and increasing every year. Investing in prevention will reduce the cost of disaster recovery.*
3. **Even if we do everything we can, it won't stop others like China and India from polluting. It's hopeless.**  
*Response: Most of the world is rapidly moving toward climate solutions. And, if the US leads, it will put pressure on China, India and others to follow. Instead of throwing in the towel, let's show the world how we can lead on climate and produce energy that benefits industry and all citizens. We created the car, the computer, and the internet. We can also create solutions to climate change that increase our health and prosperity at the same time.*
4. **I agree, we CAN do it but we WON'T. And there's really nothing I can do about it.**  
*Response: You can make a difference. Every bit of progress on every issue in our society has been made by smaller groups of committed people taking effective action. Do what you can and leverage what you do by engaging others in it, and you can help your community and the country move closer to solutions. In addition to action in your personal life, remember that your vote, and your voice, are some of the most powerful tools you have to make progress — use them!*

# PathtoPositiveUtah.org



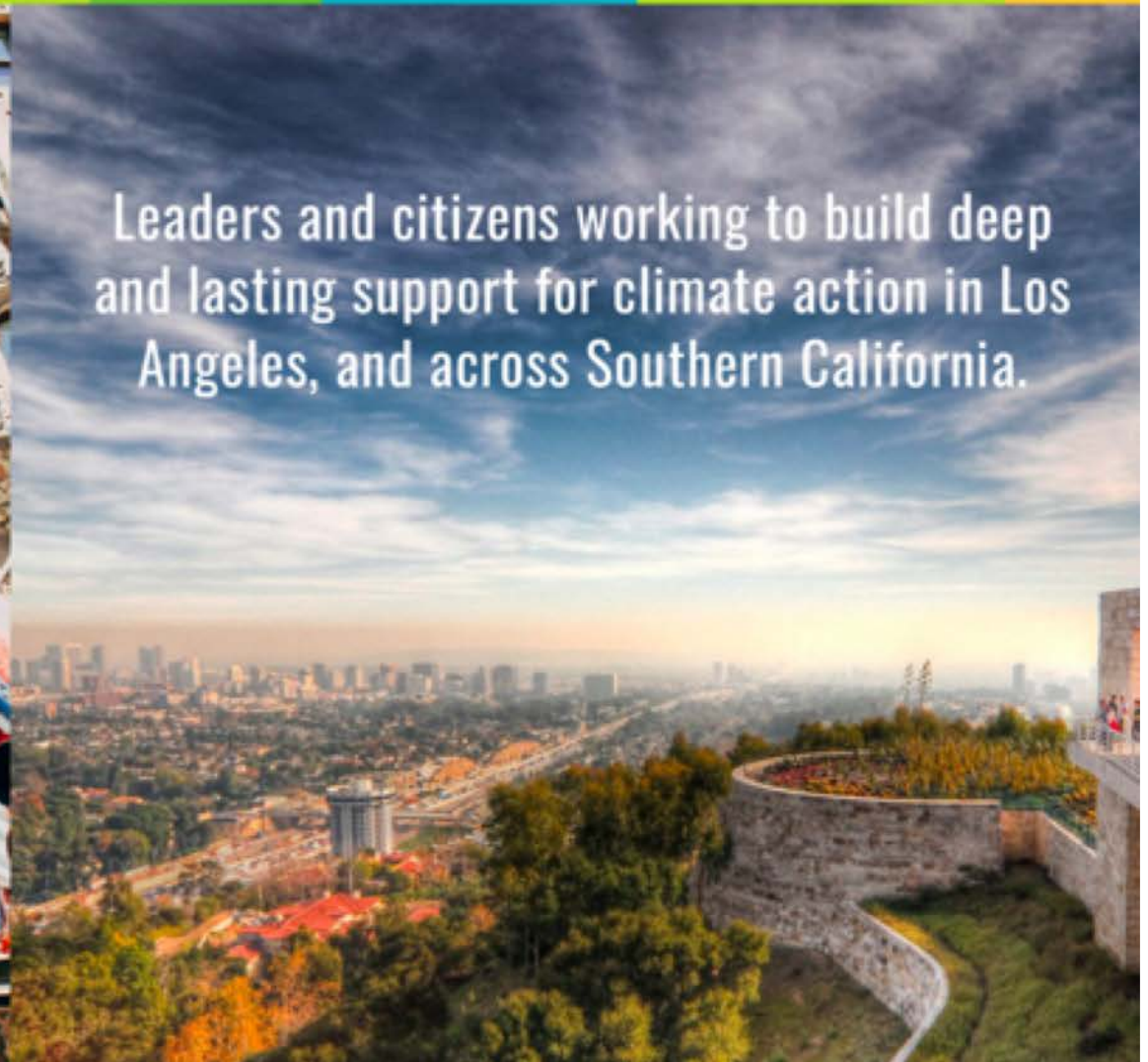
# Path to Positive Utah



- 2016 Mayor Biskupski speaks at ACLS; Path to Positive connects to UT
- Jul 2017 SLC commits to 100% clean energy
- May 2018 HCR 007 passes
- Sept 2018 Utah Climate Week
- Mar 2019 HB411 passes, allowing communities to go to 100% clean by 2030



Leaders and citizens working to build deep and lasting support for climate action in Los Angeles, and across Southern California.



# PathtoPositive.la



- Leadership Circle of over 300
- Climate Day LA
- Cool Roofs, Cool Streets
- \$120 Billion transit tax passage







# Growing Climate Solutions Path to Positive™ Southwest Florida

SERVING CAPE CORAL, NORTH FORT MYERS, FORT MYERS, LEHIGH, ESTERO AND BONITA

## THE NEWS-PRESS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019 • NEWS-PRESS.COM PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

### Fort Myers captain under review

**Police officer accused of mishandling a 2009 homicide investigation**

**Melanie Payne and Melissa Montoya**  
Fort Myers News-Press  
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

A second top Fort Myers Police Department official is under investigation, accused of handling a homicide case involving a prime suspect who two years later accepted a plea in a separate killing.

Capt. William Newhouse, who oversees the police department's administrative business, is under review for his work in the 2009 homicide investigation of Danielle Blackbourn. A former officer accused Newhouse of mishandling the case. The same former officer also provided a video purportedly showing another top department official, Capt. Jay Rodriguez, paying for a sex and drugging a 2003 prostitution sting.

Police Chief Derrick Diggs ordered an administrative investigation into Newhouse's handling of the homicide case. An administrative investigation, the Fort Myers Police Department website states, "involves minor allegations of misconduct or procedural violations."

**Capt. William Newhouse**

See CAPTAIN, Page 15A

### SWFL residents worried about climate change, survey shows

**Amy Bennett Williams**  
Fort Myers News-Press  
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

Three quarters of Southwest Floridians believe climate change is happening, and most worry about it, according to a pioneering survey released Wednesday by the Conservancy of Southwest Florida.

Although national attitudes have been widely studied and reported, the nonprofit's survey is the first region-specific research of its kind, said president and CEO Rob Mober. Residents care and want to see concrete action, with seven in 10 residents concerned about climate change, and three quarters of them observing more severe weather in recent years, results showed.

"Hurricane Irma was our wake-up call," Mober said. That's why the Naples-based nonprofit commissioned the survey to gauge the depth of local knowledge and interest in finding solutions. Results showed the disaster greatly increased local concern about climate change and spurred the desire to prepare for its impacts.

See CLIMATE, Page 15A

### RED SOX TEE OFF FOR KIDS CHARITY

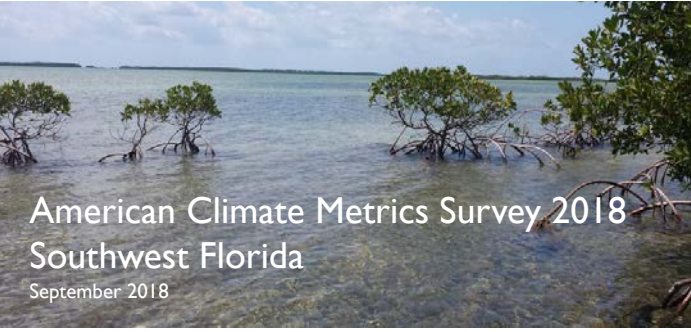


Boston Red Sox outfielder Andrew Benintendi, center, greets Barrica and Tony Annunziata. On the right is his father, Chris Benintendi. Funds are raised for Kids' Minds Matter, Delgado Children's Hospital, Southwest Florida's pediatric mental and behavioral health fund. Boston Red Sox players, coaches, management and fans take part. PHOTO BY ANDREW WETZEL FOR NEWS-PRESS/USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA



Steven Stricker introduced as the 2019 US Ryder Cup captain

Lee County deputy resigns  
Weather  
Volume 95th No. 212 Home delivery pricing inside  
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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019 • NAPLESNEWS.COM PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## Naples Daily News



Flooding was widespread in the Duhan Street neighborhood of Bonita Springs on Sept. 16, 2017, six days after Hurricane Irma struck Southwest Florida. PHOTO BY ANDREW WETZEL FOR NEWS-PRESS/USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

### Hurricane Irma was a wake-up call for many Southwest Florida residents

**Amy Bennett Williams**  
Naples Daily News  
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

Seven weather in recent years, results showed. "Hurricane Irma was our wake-up call," Mober said. That's why the Naples-based nonprofit commissioned the survey to gauge the depth of local knowledge and interest in finding solutions. Results showed the disaster greatly increased local concern about climate change and spurred the desire to prepare for its impacts.

The research, conducted in September, was part of a national survey by Conservancy and Lake Research Partners. In Southwest Florida, 40% people were polled, most in Lee and Collier counties. Its margin of error was 4 percent.

Other key takeaways include:

See CLIMATE, Page 4A

### Marco officer put on leave; job in doubt

**Devan Patel**  
Naples Daily News  
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

A Marco Island police officer on the State Attorney's Office do-not-solicit list has been taken off patrol and placed on administrative leave as the city reviews his employment status.

Despite the state office placing Officer Tige Thompson on the do-not-solicit list several years ago, he had been allowed to remain on patrol for two lengthy stints, including during most of Police Chief Al Ichter's tenure.

It wasn't until Thompson's recent involvement in a few high-profile arrests — including one incident where SWAT was called to enter a man barricaded himself in his home with weapons — that new City Manager David Harden became aware of Thompson's status. Harden announced in an email to the Marco Eagle on Monday that

See MARCO OFFICER, Page 17A

### Fort Myers captain under review for '09 homicide case

**Melanie Payne and Melissa Montoya**  
Fort Myers News-Press  
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

A second top Fort Myers Police Department official is under investigation, accused of handling a homicide case involving a prime suspect who two years later accepted a plea in a separate killing.

Capt. William Newhouse, who oversees the police department's administrative business, is under review for his work in the 2009 homicide investigation of Danielle Blackbourn. A former officer accused Newhouse of mishandling the case. The same former officer also provided a video purportedly showing another top department official, Capt. Jay Rodriguez, paying for a sex and drugging a 2003 prostitution sting.

Police Chief Derrick Diggs

See CAPTAIN, Page 5A

# How to Move Forward

- Download Moving Forward Toolkit
- Join P2P Communities
  - Newsletter
  - Talking Points
  - Guides and Resources
- Engage your community
- Cross-sector outreach and ambassadors
- Kickstart 2020

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# Q&A

**MOVING FORWARD**

# Thank You!

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# Closing Remarks

Interested in joining the **Capital Region  
Climate Readiness Collaborative?**

**Contact Grace Kaufman**  
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