



Pledge to Support Climate Action Across the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin June 7, 2023

We, the undersigned members of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative's Board of Directors, endorse the member resolution entitled "Advancing Climate Action Plans Across the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin," sponsored by Mayor Justin M. Bibb and the City of Cleveland, OH, for review and approval by the full membership at the Cities Initiative's Member Meeting on June 7, 2023.

Our planet is at a tipping point. Consistent with our responsibilities under the Paris Agreement and in line with the science-based target for climate action, we must dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions before 2030 to limit warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, build towards emissions neutrality by 2050 and avoid increasingly catastrophic climate outcomes. We also must continue to implement measures to enhance our communities' resilience to climate change.

We believe that climate action plans are critical tools that assist municipalities in making substantial progress on climate mitigation and adaptation. We also know that climate action plans, if designed and implemented in an inclusive and equitable manner, have significant environmental and socioeconomic co-benefits for all residents, including clean air, reduced vulnerability to urban flooding and new opportunities for economic development and revenue generation.

These are among the reasons why we will continue to work closely with the Cities Initiative and its partners to support members in the development and implementation of climate action plans that promote climate mitigation and adaptation action while generating broadly-shared benefits for current and future generations across the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin.

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Sarah O'Keeffe, Delegate

On Behalf of Mayor Justin M. Bibb, Director City of Cleveland, OH

Catherine Vallières-Roland, Delegate On Behalf of Mayor Bruno Marchand, Director Ville de Québec, QC

Brenda Scott-Henry, Delegate

On Behalf of Mayor Jerorne Prince, Director City of Gary, IN

Maja Vodanovic, Delegate

On Behalf of Mayor Valérie Plante, Director

Ville de Montréal, QC

Lauren Anderson, Delegate

On Behalf of Mayor Darrin Canniff, Director

Municipality of Chatham-Kent, ON

Alvin Tedjo, Delegate

On Behalf of Mayor Bonnie Crombie,

Director

City of Mississauga, ON