

1 MAYORS' CLIMATE ACTION PLEDGE

2 A PLEDGE OF THE MUNICIPALITIES OF [INSERT NAME]
3 COUNTY ENDORSING THE MAYORS' CLIMATE ACTION
4 PLEDGE, AFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR THE SOUTHEAST
5 FLORIDA REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE COMPACT,
6 AGREEING TO CONSIDER IMPLEMENTING THE
7 REGIONAL CLIMATE ACTION PLAN IN WHOLE OR IN
8 PART AS APPROPRIATE FOR EACH MUNICIPALITY,
9 AND URGING ALL MAYORS OF [INSERT NAME] COUNTY
10 TO SUPPORT THE MAYORS' CLIMATE ACTION PLEDGE.

11 WHEREAS, Florida is considered one of the most vulnerable areas of the
12 country to the consequences of global climate change with Southeast Florida being at
13 the frontline to experience the impacts of a changing climate, especially sea level rise;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, in recognition of the need for immediate, coordinated and visionary
16 action to address the impacts of a changing climate and provide for economic and
17 environmental resilience in Southeast Florida, in 2010 the counties of Palm Beach,
18 Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe (Compact Partners) entered into the Southeast
19 Florida Regional Climate Change Compact (Compact); and

20 WHEREAS, further recognizing the role of State water managers and local
21 governments in this regional initiative, the South Florida Water Management District and
22 one municipal representative from each participating county were invited to participate
23 in this early phase; and

24 WHEREAS, in accordance with the Compact commitment and through a two
year collaborative process involving nearly 100 subject matter experts representing
public and private sectors, universities, and not-for-profit organizations, the Compact
Partners developed the Regional Climate Action Plan (RCAP); and

1 WHEREAS, the RCAP offers recommendations that provide the common
2 integrated framework for a stronger and more resilient Southeast Florida, including:

- 3 • Providing the common framework for Sustainable Communities and
4 Transportation Planning to be aligned across the region
- 5 • Recognizing the need to protect and address vulnerable Water Supply,
6 Management and Infrastructure and preserve fragile Natural Systems and
7 Agricultural resources
- 8 • Providing steps to move towards resilience and reducing emissions
9 through exploring alternatives and decreasing the use of Energy and Fuel
- 10 • Building upon strength as effective emergency responders and integrating
11 climate change hazards in Risk Reduction and Emergency Management
12 Planning
- 13 • Providing for effective Public Outreach initiatives to educate the public on
14 the consequences of climate change and providing guidance for
15 developing and influencing Public Policies related to climate change; and

16 WHEREAS, recognizing that there are more than 100 municipalities within the
17 region that will play an important role in the implementation of the RCAP, the Compact
18 Partners included municipalities in the development of the RCAP; and

19 WHEREAS, municipalities individually have been working to achieve
20 sustainability, and the RCAP presents an opportunity to align these individual local
21 efforts with the regional framework and vision; and

22 WHEREAS, municipalities and Leagues of Cities played a key role in the annual
23 Regional Climate Leadership Summits, participated in RCAP Working Groups and now
24 is the time to solidify local government support to advance the RCAP; and

1 WHEREAS, the RCAP does not provide a mandate but rather serves as a living
2 document (guidance) with options that each regional and local government may align to
3 their own plans and adopt and utilize based on their interests and vision for the future;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, the willingness of counties and municipalities to jointly develop and
6 advocate for mutually beneficial agreements, policies and strategies intended to
7 influence regional, state and national resilience efforts advances “Good Neighbor”
8 relationships; and

9 WHEREAS, in 2005 the U.S. Conference of Mayors adopted the U.S. Mayors’
10 Climate Protection Agreement (Mayors’ Agreement) that became a national model for
11 effective collaboration and the framework for more than 1,000 municipalities throughout
12 the nation to take actions to reduce global warming and address the impacts of a
13 changing climate (climate disruption); and

14 WHEREAS, in 2012 the need exists for Mayors within the region of Southeast
15 Florida to collaborate on a renewed agreement that will advance regional climate action
16 planning within Southeast Florida efforts while continuing to advance the national goals
17 of the U.S. Mayors’ Agreement; and

18 WHEREAS, utilizing the U.S. Mayors’ Agreement as a model for influencing
19 regional climate policies and effective public outreach, all municipalities throughout the
20 Southeast Florida region are invited to sign on to the 2012 South Florida Mayors’
21 Climate Action Pledge and to collaborate on implementation of the RCAP starting today
22 and for tomorrow; NOW, THEREFORE,

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24 BE IT PLEDGED THAT:

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Section 1. The municipality of _____ endorses the Mayors' Climate Action Pledge.

Section 2. The municipality of _____ affirms support for the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact.

Section 3. The municipality of _____ agrees to consider integrating the Regional Climate Action Plan framework in whole or in part as appropriate for each municipality into existing and future municipal sustainability action plans, comprehensive plans and/or climate action plans where and when appropriate and financially feasible.

Section 4. The municipality of _____ urges all Mayors within [INSERT NAME] County to join the Mayors' Climate Action Pledge.

Section 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Pledge shall become effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED this _____ day _____, 2013.