

From: Mayor Philip Levine <[REDACTED]>

To: jeevacation@gmail.com

Subject: My Response to President Trump's Paris Agreement Decision

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Dear Friends and Neighbors,

When President Obama addressed the delegates in Paris two years ago, he used Miami Beach as a case and point as to why the United States and global partners must act. Miami Beach residents feel firsthand the impacts of climate change with

rising waters eroding our beaches and seasonal tides causing increased frequency of sunny day flooding, destroying cars and homes and disrupting businesses.

President Trump's decision yesterday to withdraw the United States from the Paris Climate Accord is short sighted. Together with 88 other mayors from across our great country, Miami Beach will honor the commitments to the goals outlined in the Paris Agreement. I will be presenting a Resolution next Wednesday outlining this commitment. Miami Beach will continue to forge ahead through our sea level rise adaption projects and will uphold the City's commitment to the policies and standards of the Paris Climate Accord.

In 2016, the city completed the first greenhouse gas inventory that is being used in the development of the city's first climate action plan, which will be released later this summer. The climate action plan will set carbon reduction targets and establish implementation plan so Miami Beach can do our part to meet the 1.5 degrees Celsius target set by the Paris Agreement. I am proud to support a vision of 100 percent clean energy for my community. As a co-signatory to the Sierra Club's Ready for 100 Campaign, I am encouraging other municipalities to take the next steps to realizing the vision.

Miami Beach will continue to rise above and lead the way in cutting community emissions by getting gas powered cars off the road with incentives for electric vehicles and enhancing our public transportation network with trolleys and water taxi service. In Miami Beach, buildings are the largest contributor of carbon emissions. We are tackling this through our stringent green building ordinance, which requires the highest building standards for new construction and major renovations.

Miami Beach is walking the walk, the new \$615M Convention Center will be LEED Silver and the large, asphalt parking lot across the street will be converted into a public park with trees and green space for our residents and visitors to enjoy. We will be building walls - seawalls. In the Indian Creek Drive Flood Mitigation Project, our seawalls will serve to connect the community and the environment with an incorporated greenway.

Last year, Miami Beach, in partnership with Miami Dade County and the City of Miami, was selected to participate in the Rockefeller Foundation's 100 Resilient City network. Through this partnership, Miami Beach is connecting with cities from across the globe to address climate change challenges through innovation, creativity and a multi-benefit approach. We were let down by our President today, but Miami Beach will leverage our partnerships to honor the commitments made in Paris.

This June, I will host and welcome Mayors from across the country to the United States Conference of Mayors in Miami Beach and will be able to show firsthand why the United States must remain the global leader on confronting climate change. More than ever before, local leadership is critical to adapt and mitigate climate change impacts and ensure a fruitful future for the next generation.

Learn more about the city's efforts [here](#) and the Climate Mayor's commitment [here](#).

Sincerely,

Philip Levine



Office of the Miami Beach Mayor
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