



City of Brisbane
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Message from Mayor Karen Cunningham upon President Biden Rejoining the Paris Climate Agreement on “Day One” through an Executive Order

Dear Brisbane Community,

For the past four years, the City of Brisbane, along with 474 U.S. mayors working to combat climate change through meaningful actions in their communities, have upheld the Paris Agreement despite the decision of former President Trump’s decision in 2017 to withdraw from the Paris Climate Agreement of 2015. Brisbane’s mayor at the time, Lori Liu, expressed in a letter the City’s commitment to curbing global warming as we worked to support, lead, and uphold the goals and measures of our Climate Action Plan (adopted 2015).

Here are just a few highlights of the work we’ve been doing since:

- Reduced community greenhouse gas emissions over 20% from the 2005 baseline through 2017 (the latest year for which data is available), beating our Climate Action Plan goal of a 17% reduction by 2020.
- Installed solar panels on our city hall and police department building, covering nearly all of the facility’s annual electricity usage.
- Passed a “reach code” requiring most new buildings in Brisbane be built all-electric, with solar panels and electric vehicle charging. At the same time, launched the Brisbane Building Efficiency Program to address energy and water use in existing buildings over 10,000 square feet through benchmarking and performance requirements.

The City of Brisbane unequivocally applauds and endorses President Biden’s decision to rejoin the Paris Climate Agreement, and we look forward to continuing our work at the local level and partnership with the Climate Mayors; see their full statement following yesterday’s presidential signing here: bit.ly/39LJHAX. We understand this is only the beginning, but want to acknowledge this pivotal inflection point and commit to continuing our leadership in ecological sustainability – the future of our economy, our public health, and our world depend on it!

Kind Regards,

Karen Cunningham
Mayor