

## LETTER FROM THE MAYOR

November 5, 2012

Greetings and welcome to our Conservation & Climate Action Plan.

Good work takes time, even when it's urgent.

There's no question that the City of Missoula feels a sense of urgency around climate change and our responsibility to do our part to temper it. We made a commitment years ago to our citizens and fellow municipalities to join in the effort to use less energy and generate fewer greenhouse emissions.

The work has been detailed and challenging. First, we had to commit. Then we had to understand what our carbon footprint looks like. Then we had to acknowledge that we have to balance our responsibilities to deliver services to our citizens with our responsibility to protect our environment for generations to come. Finally, we had to have a plan.

The plan in your hands is the product of the work of an extraordinary group of committed citizen volunteers with various areas of expertise who have created a practical way for the City of Missoula to become carbon neutral over time. It's smart, it's understandable and we've committed resources to ensuring it's put to work.

This is a good thing, a long time in the making, that will have consequences for many years to come. With this plan, we further commit to doing the right thing.

Sincerely,

John Engen Mayor