

**San Francisco Carbon Zero Cities Declaration
14 September 2018**

Climate action from mid-sized cities like ours is crucial. At least a third of the world's population call mid-sized cities their home, and we are already observing the adverse effects of global warming.

Droughts threaten our water and food supplies. Heatwaves lead to more deaths and hospital stays for our most vulnerable. Wild fires devastate our communities and environment. Increasingly extreme rainfall and storm events flood our homes and infrastructure.

As mid-sized cities, we can lead and make a difference. Our size allows us to be nimble and responsive, while still large enough to attract major partners, public and private, in the new carbon zero societies we are building. The transition to a clean energy economy is already occurring, and by working together, we can accelerate and shape that transition in order to ensure that it benefits everyone in our cities, particularly the poorest and least privileged. By transitioning quickly, we will reap the early benefits of more liveable communities, more sustainable economic structures, and healthier residents.

We are already cooperating with one another, and it is only logical that increasing this cooperation would serve us well in addressing the challenges that we face now and into the future. By sharing our experiences, our learning, our successful policies, and procedures, we can build the capacity and scale that individually we may lack. Perhaps most importantly, we can share our resolve and appetite for action.

For all these reasons, and in order to give the world the best chance of holding global warming below 2°C, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory and the City of Sacramento, California take the occasion of this first Global Climate Action Summit to pledge to those we represent, one another, and the world that we:

- Endorse a target of our city becoming carbon zero by 2050 or earlier.
- Will actively pursue policies that achieve this end, including setting interim emissions targets to give business certainty, measure our progress, and hold us to account.
- Will exchange officers, knowledge and experience to build capacity.
- Will make our individual and collective voices for strong and enduring action on climate change heard at national and international levels.
- Will include and protect the most vulnerable, so that they share fully in the benefits of a zero carbon world.
- Encourage other cities to join us in this declaration in order to create powerful alliances of effective climate action by mid-sized cities around the globe.
- Will report our own progress against these pledges in no less than two years' time, working with and within existing subnational groups fostering effective, enduring climate action.



Shane Rattenbury MLA
Minister for Climate Change and
Sustainability
Australian Capital Territory Government



Darrell Steinberg
Mayor
City of Sacramento