



CITY OF KIRKLAND
Department of Public Works
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MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager

From: Ray Steiger, P.E., Public Works Director
Van Sheth, Management Analyst
Donna Burris, Internal Services Manager

Date: March 7, 2012

Subject: EARTH HOUR PROCLAMATION

RECOMMENDATION:

Council authorizes the Mayor to sign the Earth Hour Proclamation.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

On Earth Hour hundreds of millions of people, organizations, corporations and governments worldwide will come together to celebrate a worldwide commitment to ongoing change for the betterment of the one thing that unites us all – the planet. They will make a statement about their concern for climate change by doing something quite simple—turning off their lights for one hour. Earth Hour symbolizes that by working together, each of us can have a positive impact in the fight against climate change, protecting our future and that of future generations. Locally, Earth Hour will occur on March 31st at 8:30pm. Sustainable Kirkland is working to increase public awareness of the event and will be present at the March 20th City Council meeting to deliver the presentation and receive the proclamation.

Please direct any questions to Donna Burris at x3931 or Van Sheth at x3907.



A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

Proclaiming March 31, 2012 from 8:30-9:30 p.m. as "Earth Hour" in Kirkland, Washington

WHEREAS, this hour has been designated worldwide by World Wildlife Fund as "Earth Hour" in which millions of people around the world will come together to call for action on climate change by turning off their lights for one hour; and

WHEREAS, Earth Hour is a reminder that communities, including the City of Kirkland, can make a positive impact to alleviate climate change; and

WHEREAS, Kirkland is joining cities and states across the country to raise awareness and demonstrate our nation's commitment to fighting climate change by supporting "Earth Hour;" and

WHEREAS, local government actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase energy efficiency provide multiple local benefits by decreasing air pollution, creating jobs, reducing energy expenditures, and saving money for the local government, its businesses, and its residents; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, the Kirkland City Council adopted Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets and a long term action plan was developed that will lead to the targeted reductions in greenhouse gas emissions for municipal operations and the community through capital investment, operational changes, program development and public outreach; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, the Kirkland City Council adopted the City's Climate Protection Action Plan committing to the long-range goal of stabilizing atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS, Kirkland will continue to work toward solutions to the escalating climate crisis and protect its future and that of future generations;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joan McBride, the Mayor of Kirkland, do hereby proclaim March 31, 2012 from 8:30 – 9:30 p.m. as "Earth Hour" in Kirkland, Washington and call upon all residents and business to turn off their lights for one hour and join the City in pledging their support to climate protection.

Signed this 20th day of March, 2012

Joan McBride, Mayor