



November 15, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S House of Representatives  
H-232, U.S. Capitol Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
S-221, U.S Capitol Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
U.S House of Representatives  
H-204, U.S. Capitol Building  
Washington, W.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
S-223, U.S. Capitol Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

As Climate Mayors, we congratulate the Biden Administration on the passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), a transformative and bipartisan measure designed to increase resilience and decrease emissions.

The IIJA makes major investments in public transit, electric vehicle infrastructure, and clean energy transmission. Success in these areas will determine whether the United States is able to meet our collective goals of reducing U.S. emissions by 50-52% from 2005 levels by 2030, creating a 100% carbon pollution-free power sector by 2035, and achieve a net-zero economy by 2050.

The investment into these areas also creates thousands of American jobs in building our infrastructure. By providing funding for electric school buses – made in America – this investment will improve the quality of the air our children breathe as they travel to and from school. These types of investments are critical if we are going to compete in 21<sup>st</sup> century economy.

But just as important as this forward-looking policy is for our kids, the investment in resilience matters in the immediacy as mayors deal with increased weather events that have overwhelmed aging infrastructure. As the White House has noted, in the last year alone, extreme weather has cost America more than \$100 billion. The investments in resiliency will help our infrastructure stand up to the impact of cyber-attacks and climate change, with an investment of over \$50 billion to protect against droughts, heat, and floods – in addition to a major investment in the weatherization of American homes and the electric grid.

The IJA sets our cities on a course to capitalize on the opportunities of cleaner energy while preparing our infrastructure for increasing challenges. As Climate Mayors, we believe this investment will make our communities safer and better prepared for the future.

Climate Mayors welcome the opportunity to implement IJA-funded programs in our communities, in particular our most disadvantaged communities that face disproportionate impacts from the climate crisis. Alongside these investments, we also call for the adoption of the Build Back Better Act with strong climate measures included to ensure we can stay on course to meet our climate goals while creating jobs, growing our economy, and advancing climate justice.

Sincerely,



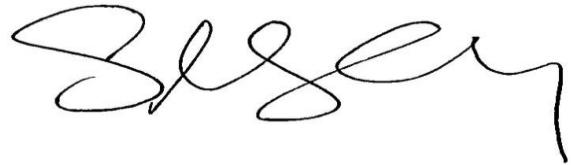
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Mayor Sylvester Turner, Houston  
Chair of Climate Mayors



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Mayor Kate Gallego, Phoenix  
Co-Chair of Climate Mayors



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Mayor Rhodes-Conway, Madison  
Co-Chair of Climate Mayors