



News Release

Loma Prieta Chapter
Palo Alto, CA

March 6, 2007
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sierra Club Finds Discrepancy Between the Percentage of Local Residents In Favor of Action to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions and the Response of Local Government

The Sierra Club's Loma Prieta Chapter, which includes all of Santa Clara, San Mateo, and San Benito counties, finds a significant discrepancy between public interest in action on global warming and the response of local cities. 84% of residents felt that "it is necessary to take steps to counter the effects of global warming right away" according to a survey by the Public Policy Institute of California in 2006. By contrast, only 9 of the 40 cities in the Loma Prieta Chapter's area have signed the Mayors Climate Protection Agreement (MCPA), which commits cities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions within their geographic area. Hence, only 50% of the people in the Chapter's area live in cities which have committed to taking action on global warming. In addition, only one of these cities has developed a comprehensive Climate Action Plan to reduce emissions. These findings are represented graphically in the figures at the end of this press release.

In response to growing concern about the negative effects of global warming, the Sierra Club has initiated its national Cool Cities Campaign, which seeks to have every mayor sign the MCPA and to implement it with a Climate Action Plan to reduce emissions. The Loma Prieta Chapter of the Sierra Club has led the way starting in November 2006 by forming Cool Cities Teams in 8 cities. Each team works with residents and local government officials to achieve the Cool Cities Campaign objectives. On March 18 the Loma Prieta Chapter's Cool Cities Campaign will commemorate the start of a much wider effort by holding a "Unite to Fight Global Warming" rally at historic Carrington Hall in Redwood City. The findings of the Chapter's study are reported in "Public Opinion on Global Warming Compared to Local Government Action in San Benito, Santa Clara, and San Mateo Counties".

In September 2006 Governor Schwarzenegger signed Assembly Bill (AB 32), The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, which places a cap on all greenhouse gas emissions from major emitters. However, this legislation does not include the many smaller emission sources found in cities. Therefore, action is needed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in local communities as well. The Sierra Club's Cool Cities Campaign is working for such local action.

Loma Prieta Cool Cities Study: <http://lomaprietaglobalwarming.sierraclub.org/news.html>

Loma Prieta Cool Cities Campaign: <http://lomaprietaglobalwarming.sierraclub.org/coolcities.php>

Mayors Climate Protection Agreement: <http://www.seattle.gov/mayor/climate/>



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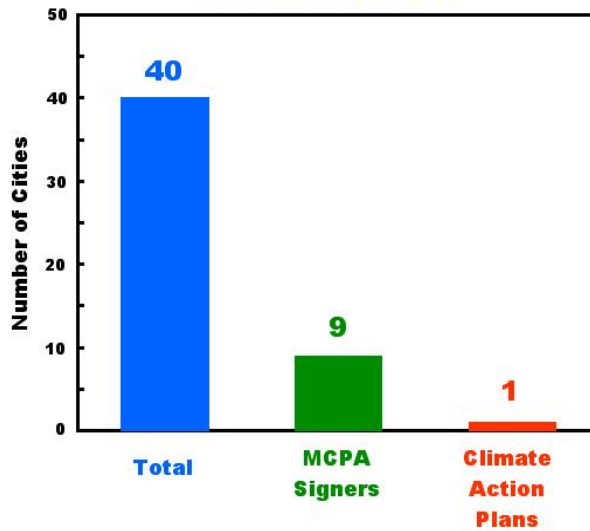
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**Number of Cities Compared to Cities
Signing MCPA and Cities With Climate
Action Plans:
Silicon Valley Region**



**Global Warming Public Opinion Versus
Population in MCPA Signatory Cities:
Silicon Valley Region**

