

Media Release
From Mayor Mark Mallory
City of Cincinnati

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Cincinnati Office of Environmental Quality Awarded \$500,000 for Green Cincinnati Action Plan

Cincinnati – The US Environmental Protection Agency today awarded the City of Cincinnati the prestigious Climate Showcase Communities grant for the implementation of Mayor Mallory’s Green Cincinnati Action Plan. The grant is worth \$500,000 over 3 years. The Green Cincinnati Action Plan contains 80 specific recommendations to make city a healthier place to live, including reducing pollution and greenhouse gas emissions; conserving natural resources; improving public health; creating jobs; and saving money.

“This is a tremendous achievement for our city,” Mayor Mallory said. “Our Green Cincinnati Action Plan is a collaboration among dedicated citizens, community organizations, and businesses in our region. Our partners all realize that making Cincinnati a ‘Green City’ is essential to making Cincinnati a successful city. Once again the Office of Environmental Quality is bringing in outside resources to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Cincinnati.

Being named a Climate Showcase Community cements Cincinnati’s status as a national leader on sustainability and climate protection. Only 20 communities received the grant out of a pool of 450 applicants. The Green Cincinnati Action Plan will be used by EPA as an example of municipal “best practices” in promoting sustainability.

“This funding will provide a tremendous boost to fulfilling the vision and programs in the Green Cincinnati Action Plan” said Larry Falkin, director of the City of Cincinnati’s Office of Environmental Quality.

Mayor Mallory developed the Green Cincinnati Action Plan through a volunteer steering committee chaired by former Vice Mayor David Crowley with five volunteer task teams composed of interested citizens and individuals from business, environmental organizations, the academic community, and government. The City Council approved the plan in June 2008. The Plan’s short-term goal is an 8% reduction in Cincinnati’s greenhouse gas emissions by 2012, or 2% annually. It provides the additional benefits of creating jobs, conserving scarce natural resources, saving money, enhancing the local economy, and improving air quality and public health.

For more information about the Green Cincinnati Action Plan, please see <http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/cmgr/pages/-37339-/> or contact Ginnell Schiller, climate protection coordinator, at Ginnell.schiller@cincinnati-oh.gov or 513-352-6911.