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2016 was the warmest year on record. We only have a short window to deal with the climate crisis. We must act prudently and quickly which we can do-if we put our shoulders to the wheel. I am asking you to do this-put your shoulders to the wheel.

We are going to lose our chance to do our part to avoid catastrophic heating

To name just a few catastrophes: Disastrous ice melt which reduces our reflectivity

Oceans rising-nations disappearing

Permafrost melting with more methane in the atmosphere =more warming

Friends we are in the midst of the worst crisis the world has known.

Burning coal and gas and oil is rapidly warming the planet. -You have heard me say this before. We all suffer from what Bill McKibben calls fossil fuel infatuation.

It takes many years to achieve a cultural shift. The CEAP plan requires a highly skilled leader to coordinate this multifaceted plan that the City adopted. This should be the leader of CEAP sole responsibility. He/she should not be distracted by other city business.

The Manager of the CEAP needs to report directly to the city administrator. He/she needs to develop, manage and continuously improve the processes and implement projects that support CEAP. This includes identifying key changes needed to further shift the city and community culture, tracking energy sources and uses, creating best practices to reduce our footprint and developing performance indicators regarding efficiency and energy goals.

This leader should have a master's degree and at least 5 yrs. experience in climate and energy, urban sustainability planning, environmental science or public administration /policy. What else? Well - organizational, analytical, written and verbal communication skills to begin the list.

We want to leave the next generation with a community built on social equity, a sound economy and an improved environment.