

To: Minneapolis City Council
Minneapolis Public Works

From: Minneapolis Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Date: December 5, 2018

Subject: The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

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The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report describes with high confidence some dire consequences that humans and ecosystems will experience globally, if we continue the current greenhouse gas emissions trajectory. These consequences include but are not limited to drought, inland and coastal flooding, crop loss, elimination of many species of flora and fauna, fires, famine and water shortages. The National Climate Assessment's report concurs with these predictions.

The stated purpose of the Pedestrian Advisory Committee includes advising the Mayor and City Council on policies, programs and actions for promoting walking for health purposes. Few health concerns in the 21st century and beyond are as grave as those posed by global climate change. These recent reports add urgency to the work of the PAC. Adequately constructed and maintained pedestrian thoroughfares are necessary to significantly reduce transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions.

The Pedestrian Advisory Committee therefore offers to assist the City's efforts to respond to the global climate emergency, through encouraging and supporting the implementation of sustainable practices that offer safe and walkable streets for all people.

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