

This is only a template! Feel free to add details about yourself (such as your background and why you are particularly concerned about climate change)

Hello, [MAYOR/COUNCILMAN/COUNCILWOMAN] [LAST NAME],

I hope you are doing as well as one can during these times. I am reaching out to you as a citizen of [Your town] who is concerned about climate change.

Last year our community, through the Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) and Indiana University, has participated in the regional emissions inventory, known as the Resilience Cohort. The next stage of the cohort is to create a Climate Action Plan to lower emissions. NIRPC has invited interested area residents to meetings to work, along with NWI Region Resilience, Earth Charter Indiana, under the leadership of a Climate Fellow from IU, on a template that communities can use to develop their own plans. A report to this end will be available by the end of the year. To support the commitment of our community on this effort, I am requesting that a Sustainability Commission be established comprised of residents who are interested in working on these issues. Such a commission could act as an advisory body to the council and serve as an aid to council members on environmental issues.

Climate change is a huge issue that is impacting and will continue to impact our community and many other communities in the Region. I am passionate about creating a more resilient city that is better prepared to deal with these changes and help the people that live here. It is important to me that [YOUR TOWN] faces these issues head-on and becomes a leader of climate initiatives in our area. Participating in the Resilience Cohort would be a great first step on this path.

I would appreciate the opportunity to talk more with you about this topic and gladly welcome any questions or concerns you may have. If you are open to meeting in person, my colleagues and I would like to discuss the possibility of establishing a Sustainability Commission, or we could meet via email, Zoom or other online means.

Please let me know your availability to meet.

Thank you,
[YOUR NAME]

If you do not wish to meet with your council person and simply want to send an email promoting awareness and encouraging participation in the Resilience Cohort, just omit the last paragraph.