Dear [Name],

We need your help. Please take a bold stand to address what many have called the challenge of our lifetime with a clear simple declaration. Please encourage Middleton citizens to Vote YES for Climate by endorsing the Middleton Climate Referendum.

The globe is warming and the climate is changing with more severe weather affecting every part of the U.S. -- more flooding and wildfires, intense hurricanes, extreme temperatures, longer droughts and severe winter weather.

Wisconsin has 72 counties, 190 cities, 407 villages and 155 towns. Each of these units of government manages human and physical resources that are affected by Wisconsin’s climate and weather based on the experience of years past. According to National Weather Service records, eight of the 10 most costly weather events to affect Dane County have occurred since 2000, costing millions of dollars in property damage, crop loss, and governmental response and infrastructure repair costs. [Insert State, County/Region or City depending on area individual or organization represents -- e.g., Wisconsin’s] climate is changing -- extreme weather is disrupting livelihoods here and around the world -- and our communities will need to change in order to deal with it.

That's why on November 8, 2016, Middleton residents have the opportunity to ignite change and "VOTE YES for Climate," demonstrating their opinions at the polls to say long-term climate-change solutions are a priority both locally and nationally. (See referendum questions attached or visit MiddletonClimateReferendum.com)

A VOTE YES on Nov. 8 says climate-change solutions are a priority for Middleton, encouraging the City to leverage and improve existing efforts to cut carbon use and focus on cleaner solutions, as well as prepare for the impacts of climate change by continuing to strengthen its capacity to withstand and respond to severe weather. Investing now in appropriate infrastructure and capacity will reduce future costs.

A VOTE YES on Nov. 8 also makes Middleton the FIRST CITY in the COUNTRY to pass a referendum supporting a federal [Carbon Fee and Dividend](http://www.citizensclimatelobby.org) program as part of a national strategy to reduce the risks of climate change -- using the voice of an entire city to send one loud message to federal legislators to do something significant and effective about climate change now.

Help us take ACTION NOW. **Please endorse Middleton's "VOTE YES for Climate Nov 8."** By continuing to reduce the risks of global warming locally and endorsing the first step to cut carbon emissions nationally, we can help lead the way to building cleaner, safer, and stronger communities for our families and future generations.

We need your help. **Please complete the ATTACHED Endorsement Form and return to** **info@MiddletonClimateReferendum.co****m within 48 hours.** (Note, you can fill in the form on screen using Adobe Reader or you can print out to fill in by hand before scanning and emailing or mail to Middleton Climate Referendum Project, c/o Lee Schwartz, 3509 Strawberry Loop, Middleton, WI 53562.)

Thank you.

Sincerely,

[Name]

[Organization]

[Title]

[Email, Phone]