

**To: Chair Kurth, Transportation Committee members, Councilor Carp, Staff Kurth**  
**From: Mike and Pat Allen, Florence Climate Emergency Campaign**  
**Date: January 16, 2024**  
**Subject: Climate Petition and New Year Report**

**Now that we are beginning the new year 2024, I am providing you with our climate petition and the expectation that the City of Florence with your help will respond favorably (see attached).**

A year ago we entered 2023 with high hopes that the City of Florence under new leadership would address our climate emergency with the urgency required. This did not happen. But in no way did this dissuade us from our resolve to make a difference.

We continued our efforts by conducting climate strikes, collecting signatures for our climate petition, getting media coverage from the Siuslaw News, providing written and verbal testimony to the Mayor and City Council, connecting with other coastal cities, and finding students and teachers to start an environmental club at Siuslaw High School.

That is not to say our efforts were for naught. One of our goals is to educate the community about the impacts of climate change, locally and globally, and ways they could take action, both personally and collectively. In this we were successful. Over the past year there were 358 visits to our Friday climate strikes by 106 climate champions, 18 of whom were repeat and committed strikers.

Another success was the large number of visitors to the city that signed our climate petition. During the past year 425 people signed the petition, bringing the total number of signatories to 1,865. They came from 7 countries, 22 states and 45 Oregon cities. All believe, as we do, that every city large or small, must do its part to address climate change.

I created a word cloud to honor those that attended our strikes and three more to show where the petition signatories came from (see attached). Pat and I greatly appreciate everyone that contributed to the campaign and look forward to continuing our commitments into this year.

It is time for the City Council to reverse course and start using the wonderful talents of your committee, your staff, and the people of Florence and the surrounding area to make Florence an environmentally friendly city, one that has a reputation that will attract people to our city to see how it is done.

It can be done with the help of funds that are flowing from the federal and state levels. Now is the opportune time to act.

I ask you, the members of the Transportation Committee, to be part of the solution.

**THIS CAN BE OUR YEAR, BUT ONLY IF WE ACT TOGETHER.**

*My wishes for a very productive New Year 2024*

**Attachments:** Word Clouds and Climate Petition

# CLIMATE STRIKE PARTICIPANTS 2023



# LOCATIONS OF CLIMATE PETITION SIGNATORIES 2023



# STATES

WASHINGTON MONTANA

CALIFORNIA

UTAH ALASKA SD KENTUCKY  
HAWAII NH NEVADA FLORIDA IDAHO MICHIGAN  
MASSACHUSETTS  
NM ILLINOIS NY SC

COLORADO ARIZONA  
MINNESOTA

# OREGON CITIES

FLORENCE

BLACHLY SPRINGFIELD LINN SALEM REEDSPORT  
NOTI HILLSBORO WALDPOR EUGENE PORTLAND  
LEBANON COOS VIDA LINCOLN BEND YACHATS NEWBERG  
LAKESIDE NEWPORT SHEDD BEAVERTON ASHLAND GRANTS ROSEBERG  
SCAPPOOSE YONCALLA DUNES MCMINNVILLE MEDFORD MILWAUKIE MAPLETON  
BROOKINGS SHERWOOD TOLEDO VENETA COQUILLE  
OSWEGO CORVALLIS TIGARD CORVALIS CLACKAMAS  
BEACH LAKE