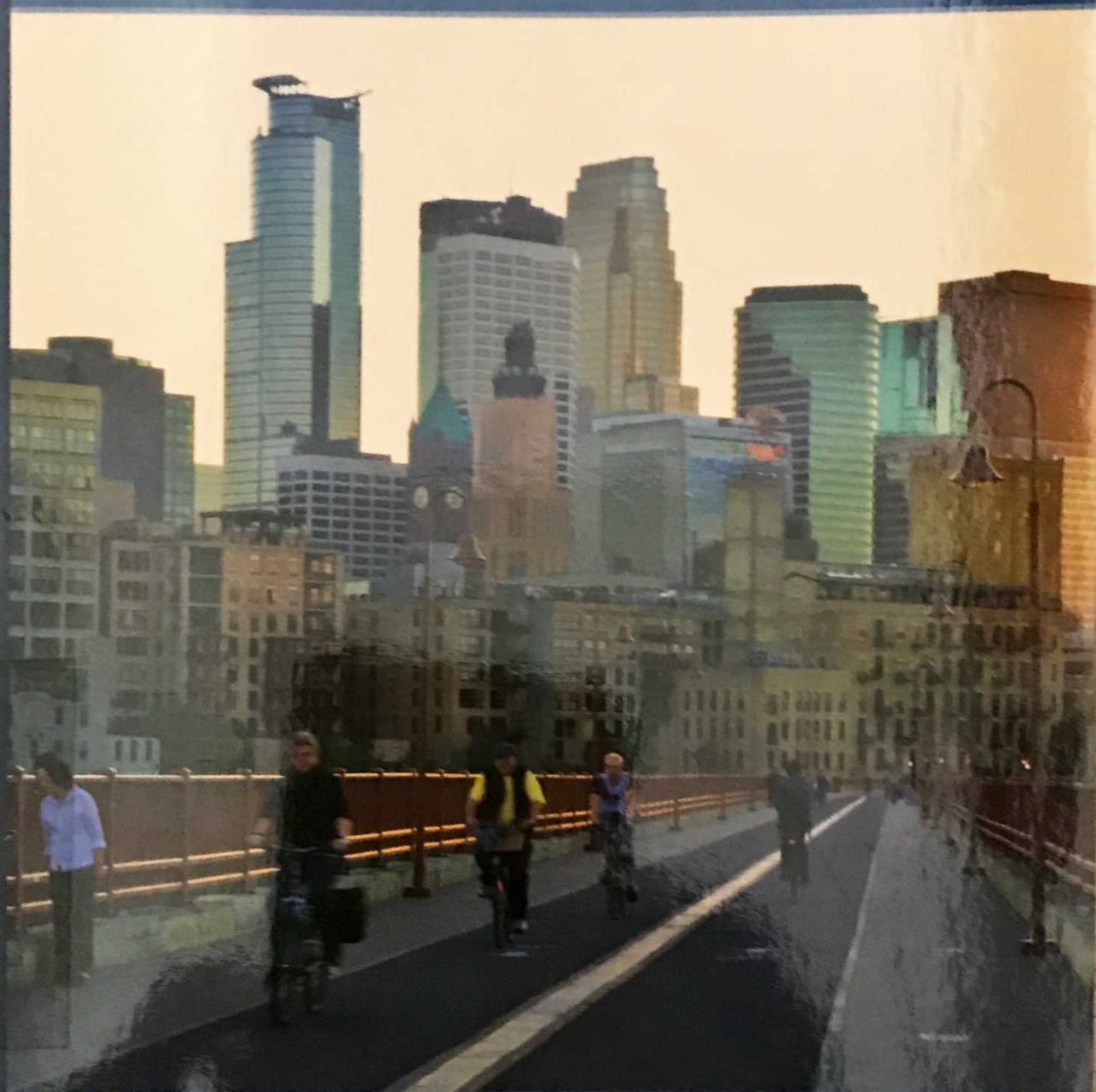
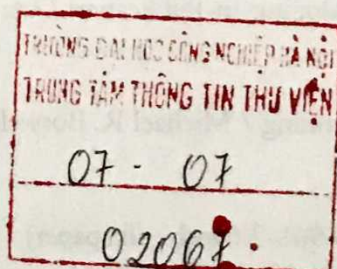


LOCAL CLIMATE ACTION PLANNING



MICHAEL R. BOSWELL, ADRIENNE I. GREVE,
AND TAMMY L. SEALE


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Images by Dina Perkins



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Preface

In response to increasing evidence that climate change is occurring and has the potential to negatively impact human civilization, climate action plans are becoming the primary comprehensive policy mechanism for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and for management of risks posed by climate change (climate change *adaptation*). Climate action planning is an opportunity: an opportunity for communities to control their destinies in the face of global change, to achieve energy security, to sustainably develop their economies, and to ensure a high quality of life. Communities can seize this opportunity by building on existing planning and partnerships, by being creative and innovative, and by committing to working together for a better tomorrow for themselves and the next generations.

This book describes the process and methods for preparation of climate action plans for local governments. It is intended to be a practical guide; helping readers to navigate the principal actions and critical considerations for developing a climate action plan for their local jurisdiction. We believe that the best climate action plans are based on sound science, public education and outreach, recognition of global context and external constraints, awareness of the interdependent nature of local policy, and integration with existing planning policies and programs. We base this on our professional experience of working on over three dozen climate action plans and greenhouse gas emissions inventories in California and our academic experience researching and publishing on the state of climate action planning practice nationwide. As of this writing, there is no book that addresses climate action planning as a specific area of professional practice. Our hope is to contribute to the robust development of this professional field.

The book is aimed primarily at those who have been tasked with preparing a climate action plan, whether they are local government staff

members, consultants, or community volunteers. Professionals who should find the book useful include city/urban planners, regional planners, land use planners, environmental planners/managers, transportation planners, city administrators, city attorneys, city engineers, emergency managers, public works and transportation managers, architects, landscape architects, building officials, sustainability coordinators/managers, and climate action managers. In addition, the book is accessible to students in these fields and can serve as an introductory text to the field of climate action planning. The book should also be useful to anyone involved or interested in the climate action planning process such as elected officials, environmental and planning nonprofits, advocacy groups, and members of the public.

We extend our sincere thanks to all those who supported us in this effort:

Heather Boyer (our editor), Courtney Lix, and the rest of the staff at Island Press who made this all happen; Dr. Hema Dandekar, Head of the City and Regional Planning Program at California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly), and R. Thomas Jones, Dean of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design at Cal Poly for their encouragement and support; all our colleagues in the City and Regional Planning Department at Cal Poly for help in editing chapters and their general cheerleading, and three student assistants, Emily Ewer, Jordan Cowell, and Arianna Allahyar, who helped with our database; Dina Perkins for her beautiful chapter pictures and enormous patience; our colleagues in the Sustainability and Climate Change Services team at PMC for their willingness to collaboratively and enthusiastically tackle new challenges and set new standards in the field of climate action planning; Ken Yocom, Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture at University of Washington, and Vivek Shandas, Associate Professor of Urban Studies and Planning at Portland State University, for their willingness to review draft chapters; and five anonymous reviewers.

We especially want to thank the following community leaders who were interviewed for the community cases:

In Portland and Multnomah County, Oregon: Michael Armstrong, Senior Sustainability Manager, City of Portland Office of Sustainability.

In Evanston, Illinois: Elizabeth Tisdahl, Mayor of Evanston; Paige K. Finnegan, Chief Operating Officer at e-One, LLC, and Co-Chair

of the Evanston Environment Board; and Dr. Stephen A. Perkins, Senior Vice President, Center for Neighborhood Technology.

In Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: Lindsay Baxter, City of Pittsburgh Sustainability Coordinator.

In San Carlos, California: Deborah Nelson, Planning Manager, City of San Carlos.

In Miami-Dade County, Florida: Susanne M. Torriente, Sustainability Director (Plan Leader), and Amy Knowles, Organizational Development Administrator, at Miami-Dade County.

In Homer, Alaska: Anne Marie Holen, Special Projects Coordinator, City of Homer.