

Hello Chairman Long and committee members; it's an honor to testify before you. I'm Matt Rohn with the faith-based organization ISAIAH. I live in Representative Lippert's Northfield. A year ago, our City Council passed an ambitious [Climate Action Plan](#). It pledges our community to 100% carbon-free electricity by 2030 and to be 100% carbon-free (in all areas of energy, waste, etc.) by 2040. It enhances resilience and adaptability while keeping a constant eye on matters of equity.

Northfielders acted when it became evident some 4 years ago that federal and state governments were losing their appetites for adequate policies right when scientists and world leaders set forth the proof that such reform was needed and could be achieved worldwide by 2050. Northfield citizens demanded action.

Northfielders had just witnessed 3, 500-year floods in 5 years sweep through downtown. We could not wait for leadership at the state and federal levels. Plans created in communities throughout the state – from Senator Senjem's Rochester to Grand Marais -- helped us. They call for measures in legislation you are considering.

Anthropologist Carla Hansen collected in her Master's thesis over a hundred stories from diverse Northfielders about how climate change already had harmed them. We commissioned a [professional survey](#) in English and Spanish at the start of planning to learn what citizens thought. 82% thought about climate change at least once a week; 73% recognized the need to reduce the consumption of fossil-fuel generated electricity; and, 80-96% of respondents supported the key actions proposed for carbon reduction, adaptability and resilience. 93% supported higher energy efficiency standards, and 95% favored replacing conventional energy sources with renewable ones.

Northfield shows how people of all ages and all walks of life in our rural Minnesota community are eager for policy makers to act. But, individual, community, climate action plans are acts of desperation. Atmospheric data and modeling, mass climate migration, and leading military and intelligence analysis show how larger scale policies are needed.

Minnesota under Republican rule was a leader until a few years ago but has fallen behind other states and what is needed. My faith commands me to be a good steward of all Creation. I hope you see it as your duty to be good stewards of creation here in Minnesota and will finally pass in the House and Senate needed legislation. Thank you.