



City of Ketchum

For Immediate Release  
June 15, 2017

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## **Mayor Jonas Joins National Mayors Group Committed to Protecting Climate, Upholding Paris Agreement Goals**

KETCHUM, IDAHO – Ketchum Mayor Nina Jonas has joined a national coalition of more than 300 mayors committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and the climate protection goals of the Paris Climate Agreement.

After President Donald Trump elected to withdraw the United States from the pact earlier this month, Mayor Jonas decided to join the growing list of mayors – Republican and Democrat, from cities big and small – concerned about greenhouse gas emissions and the impacts of climate change.

The Mayors National Climate Action Agenda – founded in 2014 by Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti along with the former Houston Mayor Anisse Parker and former Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter – promotes efforts at the local, state and federal levels to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and supports binding federal and global climate change policies.

“Getting our city involved in this coalition was a logical next step in light of decisions made by our national leaders to exit the Paris Agreement,” Jonas said. “It also makes sense considering all the other efforts we’ve made here in Ketchum to conserve resources, incorporate alternative energy and reduce our overall carbon footprint. I’m excited for our city to be a part of this organization.”

Joining the network also makes sense considering cities across the globe are responsible for more than 70 percent of greenhouse gas emissions, Jonas said. The role cities play in contributing to climate change ultimately gives mayors a perfect opportunity to be change leaders, Jonas said.

The organization now includes mayors from nine of America’s 10 largest cities and the current roster of participating mayors represent more than 60 million people, according to the organization.

In recent years, Jonas said Ketchum has taken steps to do its part by installing solar panels on government buildings and solar-powered street lights. The city has also adopted a green building code, reduced energy consumption and promoted electric vehicles and alternative modes of transportation.

“With the steps taken as a city to conserve resources and combat climate change, it seemed appropriate for Ketchum to be a part of a coalition committed to the same values and goals,” Jonas said. “Our community and quality of life is tied to a healthy environment, bountiful snowfall, clean rivers and streams and robust forests.

“That’s why I look forward to collaborating and making Ketchum a part of a growing number of cities fighting to counteract the changes caused by the warming of our climate.”

For more information about the Mayors National Climate Action Agenda, visit: <http://www.climate-mayors.org/>

For more information about Ketchum and its green initiatives, visit: <http://ketchumidaho.org/>

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### **About the City of Ketchum**

The City of Ketchum is located in the Wood River Valley in south central Idaho. Founded in 1880 during the mining boom, Ketchum is now regarded as one of the most popular destinations for winter and summer visitors due to its world-class skiing, mountain biking, fishing, hiking, restaurants, art galleries, and shopping. This year, the City of Ketchum will host the 60<sup>th</sup> annual celebration of its famous Wagon Days on Labor Day Weekend and is in the direct “path of totality” for the solar eclipse on August 21<sup>st</sup>. Ketchum is home to more than 10,000 full- and part-time residents. For more information about the city of Ketchum, visit [www.ketchumidaho.org](http://www.ketchumidaho.org).