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PRESS RELEASE

Mayor Jon Mitchell to Lead Nation's Mayors on Energy Issues

New Bedford Mayor Appointed Chair of the US Conference of Mayors Energy Committee

New Bedford, Massachusetts- U.S. Conference of Mayors President Baltimore (MD) Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake has appointed New Bedford Mayor Jon Mitchell to Chair its Energy Committee on the cusp of its 84th Winter Meeting in Washington, D.C. next week. More than 260 mayors from cities across the country are slated to attend the three-day conference, with discussions around infrastructure investment, community policing, job creation, economic development, education and other issues.

As Chair, Mayor Mitchell will lead the nation's mayors on energy issues, focusing on policies and programs that address increasing energy efficiency and conservation, expanding renewable energy and energy technology, modernizing our electrical grid, and finding cleaner and safer energy solutions that lead to job growth in cities and metropolitan areas.

USCM CEO and Executive Director Tom Cochran said, "We welcome Mayor Mitchell as Chair of the USCM Energy Committee. As an effective manager who modernized his city's trash recycling system and retrofitted nearly 10,000 street-lights with LED bulbs, Mayor Mitchell brings a wealth of experience to the policy discussion on energy efficiency. We look forward to his leadership as mayors around the country lead the charge to make cities more efficient and create MainStreet jobs."

Mayor Mitchell added, "I am grateful for Mayor Rawlings-Blake's confidence in me, and I look forward to advancing the Conference's renewable energy agenda, especially during a Presidential election year. Through cutting edge energy initiatives like those in New Bedford, mayors have led the way on combating climate change, and along the way have helped to improve the quality of life of their cities."

The U.S. Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are nearly 1400 such cities in the country today, and each city is represented in the Conference by its chief elected official, the mayor. Like us on Facebook at facebook.com/usmayors, or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/usmayors.