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Contact: Gordon Levitt, Our Children's Trust, 541-980-3955, gordon@ourchildrenstrust.org

Eugene Community Shows Its Support for Climate Recovery Ordinance

Eugene, Oregon – At a public hearing in a packed city hall last night, over 100 people showed up to give testimony and stand in favor of the City of Eugene adopting its first ever Climate Recovery Ordinance. The faith community, scientists, lawyers, business people, children, parents, and students all spoke in favor of the Ordinance.

Eugene's youth have been working hard for the past 10 months to get the City to adopt the Ordinance. Last fall, the young people came together to create the [Youth Climate Action Now \(YouCAN\) Eugene Campaign](#) to advocate for their right to a safe and stable climate system. The youth and their supporters have attended every City Council meeting since last fall to present testimony to Councilors, voicing their concerns about the negative effects of climate change in Eugene and the need for urgent action. The young people understand that Eugene alone cannot stop climate disruption, but neither can the global crisis be addressed without every community and every level of government taking action, for their sake and the sake of future generations.

Julia Olson, director of Our Children's Trust, who has supported the youth in bringing the Climate Recovery Ordinance to City Council, ended the public hearing by reminding everyone to raise their voices on this issue everywhere, on behalf of youth. "Top climate experts in the world say it's not too late to act, but carbon reductions are urgently needed this decade," said Olson. "What the community of Eugene is doing is an example of what we can accomplish if we come together and speak out."

The youth and all of the supporters were celebratory after the public hearing and cheering could be heard blocks away. They are looking forward to next Monday, July 28, when the City Council will vote to adopt the Ordinance. With the outpouring of public support and the support of the majority of City Council, it's likely that next Monday, Eugene will be the first city in the nation to adopt a powerful Climate Recovery Ordinance, promoted by youth, and based on a viable scientific prescription for climate recovery.

Our Children's Trust is a nonprofit advocating for urgent emissions reductions on behalf of youth and future generations, who have the most to lose. OCT is spearheading the international human rights and environmental TRUST Campaign to compel governments to safeguard the atmosphere as a public trust resource. We use law, film, and media to elevate their compelling voices. Our ultimate goal is for governments to adopt and implement enforceable science-based Climate Recovery Plans with annual emissions reductions to return atmospheric CO₂ concentration to 350 ppm. www.OurChildrensTrust.org/

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