

# Mayors act to stop global warming

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STAFF WRITER

Bob Grix wants to save the world.

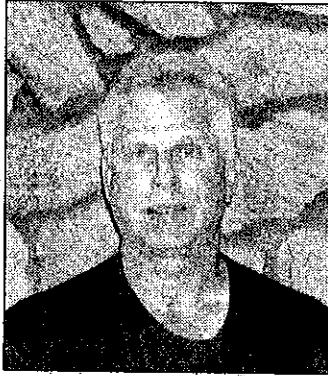
He's lived in Ferndale for almost two decades, and he never approached the City Council for anything.

Until a few weeks ago.

Grix, who is involved with the Sierra Club, which has an office in Clawson, recently told Ferndale City Councilman Scott Galloway about the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement and asked if his city officials would support it. And during Monday night's regular council meeting, they did.

"There are a lot of things people can do to help the environment," Grix said.

The U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement was initiated by Seattle Mayor Greg Nickles. It is an effort of communities throughout the nation to stop global warming by reducing the use fossil fuels,



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enforcing land-use policies that reduce urban sprawl, promoting alternate means of transportation and increasing recycling rates in the local communities. "We've got to think about our actions globally but act locally," Galloway said.

Galloway said Ferndale has already taken steps listed in agreement by creating bike lanes in the city and limiting

energy usage at city-owned buildings. Ferndale is also the city the Sierra Club chose to hold its second Green Cruise event, which is scheduled one day before the Dream Cruise to promote alternate methods of transportation like walking and biking. "No one's suggesting that cars aren't good," Galloway said. "But as resources become more scarce, we have to take action to turn things around."

Other cities in the area, including Berkley and Royal Oak, are also aware of the agreement. "Those are cities that have a pretty good number of activists who are concerned about global warming issues," said Leigh Fifleski, Sierra Club community organizer. Fifleski said Berkley's Mayor Marilyn Stephan also signed the agreement. "We're really excited to see that mayors are taking steps to make a commitment," Fifleski said.

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