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News Release

**City of Menlo Park
NEWS RELEASE**

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For More Information:
Heyward Robinson, Mayor
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Menlo Park joins global effort to call attention to climate change

MENLO PARK, CA - Add Menlo Park to the 2,712 cities, towns and municipalities in 83 countries already committed to participate in Earth Hour 2009. The Menlo Park City Council agreed by consensus at last night's meeting to become a sponsor of the world-wide event, described as "the world's first global election between Earth and global warming."

At precisely 8.30pm on March 28 lights will be switched off on the Chatham Islands, a small archipelago off the east coast of New Zealand, heralding the start of Earth Hour 2009. What is described by organizers as a "global wave of participation" will then move through Asia Pacific with major cities such as Sydney, Seoul, Beijing, Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur, Manila, Singapore, Bangkok, Jakarta, Mumbai and Delhi dimming the lights as millions flick the switch to express their concern for the planet. Organizers hope Earth Hour will unite people from all walks of life as the call for action on climate change makes its transglobal journey.

Menlo Park Mayor, Heyward Robinson, who proposed Menlo Park's participation, said "Earth Hour will focus global attention on addressing the issue of climate change. We will be just one small part of the one billion people acting together in what is essentially the first global vote for action on climate change by turning off lights for one hour and casting a vote for earth," he said. According to Mayor Robinson, Earth Hour organizers hope to provide a global mandate for action on climate change to the world's leaders at the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in December this year, where an agreement will be made to supersede the Kyoto Protocol.

All Menlo Park residents are asked to participate by turning off their lights for one hour, beginning at 8:30pm on March 28th.

For more information about Earth Hour, visit the website at <http://www.earthhour.org>.

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