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MEDIA ADVISORY

Climate Change Conference Focuses on Local Governments
LA Mayor Villaraigosa Opens Conference

WHAT: *Confronting Climate Change: A Focus on Local Government Impacts, Actions and Resources.* This conference will provide a summary of the most recent scientific understanding of climate change impacts to California cities and counties and review the State-based tools and resources for local governments to address climate change impacts. Discussions focus on coordinated local and regional efforts, funding opportunities, and strategies to reduce risk and impacts from a changing climate. This complementary conference builds on the "Governor's Conference on Extreme Climate Risks and California's Future" last December.

WHEN: Monday, April 9, 2012, 9 a.m. – 4:45 p.m.

WHERE: California Endowment, 1000 North Alameda Street, Los Angeles.

WHY: California leads the world in combating climate change by reducing greenhouse gas pollution, however the real and serious impacts of climate change require preparation and organization. The link between climate change and more frequent and severe weather events – larger storms, increased flooding, more and increasingly intense wildfires, longer droughts and sustained water shortages – is no longer in doubt. By working together, government, local communities, businesses and residents can decrease the negative impacts of natural disasters and extreme weather events. This conference will inform revisions to the California Adaptation Strategy to include local and regional planning efforts.

WHO: More than 200 attendees are participating in this one-day conference. Conference speakers are leading experts in climate change science, water policy, public health, and local and regional planning.

State Agencies, Institutions and Organizations represented: Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR); California Energy Commission; CA Natural Resources Agency; CA Department of Public Health; CA Emergency Management Agency; Department of Water Resources; Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development; UCSD Scripps Institution of Oceanography; Rand/Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC); UCLA; Greenwise Joint Venture; LGC; City of Los Angeles; Inland Empire Utilities Agency; Sonoma County Water Agency; Sierra Water Workgroup; Cal Trout; Cal Poly San Luis Obispo; San Diego Foundation; Los Angeles Regional Collaborative; Bay Area Joint Policy Committee; Sierra Business Council; and Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI).

Speakers include: Los Angeles Mayor **Antonio Villaraigosa**, **Wade Crowfoot**, Deputy Director, Governor's Office of Planning and Research; **Dan Cayan**, UCSD Scripps Institution; **Paul Bunje**, LA Regional Collaborative; **Kurt Malchow**, CalAdapt project, among other experts in planning, resource management, and science.

The agenda can be downloaded online <http://www.opr.ca.gov/docs/ClimateConfAgenda.pdf>

NOTE: A live webstream will be available on the day of the conference at www.opr.ca.gov Conference materials and video from the day's activities will be posted following the event.

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