

**Stewart, Jana**

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**From:** Office of the Mayor & City Council <CityofPasadenaWebMaster@cityofpasadena.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 05, 2018 11:57 AM  
**To:** Tornek, Terry  
**Cc:** Stone, Rhonda; Stewart, Jana  
**Subject:** Inquiry from Office of the Mayor & City Council

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MESSAGE

RE: 3/5 Public Hearing No. 10.

Dear Mr. Mayor:

I serve on the Environmental Advisory Commission (EAC) as your appointee. I am very concerned about the recommendation to reduce the number of times the EAC meets from once a month to quarterly and to limit the purview of the EAC to monitoring the Climate Action Plan. This seems to be an attempt to marginalize the EAC, and sends a clear message to the community that protection of the environment is NOT a priority of the City. I feel that it is very important that, in addition to monitoring the implementation of the the Climate Action Plan, the the EAC continue to monitor the efforts to reduce solid waste, to conserve water, and to increase and protect natural open space. The EAC cannot do that with only four meetings a year. I sincerely hope that you will consider this message in your deliberations. Please enter my comments into the record for this public hearing. I have also sent this message to my Councilmember, Tyron Hampton.

Thank You,

Paula Kelly

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Select One      Contact Mayor

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Do you want us to contact you regarding your comment?      Yes - I would like to provide my contact information

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NAME      Paula Kelly

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EMAIL      pk.kelly@hotmail.com

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PHONE      6263724472

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IP Address      99.44.22.193

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User-Agent (Browser/OS)      Mozilla Firefox 58.0 / Windows

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Referrer      <https://ww5.cityofpasadena.net/mayor/contact/>

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My name is Tom Brady and I am part of an environmental group, Pasadena 100, that has been talking with Council members and City staff on the need to increase Pasadena's commitment to using green municipal energy to address the climate crisis. We have been closely following the drafting of the Climate Action Plan, or CAP, and are disappointed that the City has not, thus far, recognized how the stringent requirements of the CAP should lead to a greater commitment to carbon-neutral energy. Under the CAP, the City is required to adopt enforceable measures to reduce the local share of greenhouse gas emissions by 437,710 tons by 2035. According to the 2017 State General Plan Guidelines, a CAP should include "feasible and enforceable emission reduction measures" supported by "substantial evidence in the record [that] supports an agency's conclusion that mitigation will be effective." The Guidelines quote a 2010 published court case from Richmond California that climate mitigation plans should be "coupled with specific and mandatory performance standards to ensure that the measures, as implemented, will be effective."

This should be contrasted with Pasadena CAP measure E-2.1 titled "Facilitate energy efficient upgrades in existing homes and businesses." This measure, the largest in the CAP, is relied upon for 37% or 162,720 tons of the total local emission reductions. Specifically, the goal of the measure is to "Decrease energy use in existing buildings by 40% below 2013 levels by 2035." The feasibility of this entirely voluntary measure is only upheld by statements in the Technical Appendix summarized by "Energy efficiency upgrades to existing buildings can achieve up to 40% energy savings cost effectively." Anyone experienced with these measures knows that it is very hard to get homeowners to pay large sums of money for measures that only become cost-effective after many years of energy savings. At our own Pasadena home, we spent \$45,000 on major upgrades and got back \$11,000 from Energy Upgrade California and \$700 from Pasadena Water and Power, but few people will follow our lead.

The only reason this unreasonable measure is in the CAP is because it is hard to find enough local emission reduction measures to add up to 437,710 tons. The City could have followed the lead of many other cities and relied upon a faster transition to green municipal energy. In the case of San Diego, they rely upon a green energy program to obtain 63% of the 2.5 million tons of their reductions from local actions. This is a very reasonable and enforceable strategy that relies upon recent rapid decreases in the cost of renewable energy and battery storage. Before the target year of 2035, it is widely predicted that renewables plus storage will become less expensive than all fossil-fuel alternatives, including natural gas.

We would like to request that the City Attorney be asked to determine if, by adopting the proposed Climate Action Plan, the City is putting its future development in a legally vulnerable position. In the Richmond case, a City EIR was deemed inadequate because the climate impacts of the project were not sufficiently mitigated by the proposed measures, including energy efficiency upgrades as in the Pasadena CAP. Would it not be more prudent for the City to replace the legally questionable CAP strategies with increased carbon-neutral municipal energy, a clearly enforceable and effective strategy.

Tom Brady, Chair of the Environmental Ministry of All Saints Church  
1501 Poppy Peak Drive, Pasadena, CA 91105 1/23/18



PLANNING & COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

February 27, 2018

To: Tom Brady

SUBJECT: Pasadena Climate Action Plan – Response to Letter Submitted on 1/23/18

Dear Mr. Brady,

Thank you for your patience during the preparation of this letter and the opportunity to provide the information contained herein. The letter indicated that you are concerned that the Pasadena Climate Action Plan (CAP) measure E-2.1 is infeasible as a method to decrease greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to the extent stated in the CAP. In the letter it states that this measure is an “entirely voluntary measure” and that its feasibility is not supported by substantial evidence, and that it will be ineffective because it is too difficult to get homeowners to pay large sums for energy saving measures that only become cost effective after quite some time. Instead you encourage the City to rely on a faster transition to green municipal energy to achieve the reductions that are anticipated by measure E-2.1.

It is important to remember that the CAP functions as a planning document, similar to the General Plan. The City has committed to monitoring its progress to meet the goals in the CAP and to update it at least every 5 years based on progress toward those goals. In that way, any new science, policies, or information can be incorporated (as this field of science is growing and changing rapidly), and any slow progress toward meeting goals can be remedied.

The majority of the energy use within Pasadena is consumed in the community’s existing residences and commercial buildings. Therefore, to achieve the state imposed ambitious GHG reduction targets, the CAP had to be ambitious and conclude that it is imperative that energy reductions be achieved in this sector. Measure E-2.1 has been developed to achieve GHG reductions through facilitating energy efficient upgrades in existing homes and businesses. Energy-efficiency upgrades to existing buildings is a prominent component of the actions, recommended by the California Air Resources Board’s 2017 Scoping Plan, that can be undertaken at a local level to support the State’s climate goals<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> California Air Resources Board (ARB). 2017e. California’s 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan. December 14, 2017. [https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/scoping\\_plan\\_2017.pdf](https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/scoping_plan_2017.pdf). (accessed February 2018).

This measure is intended to be consistent with SB 350, which in addition to establishing a 50 % renewable portfolio standard, requires that the California Energy Commission (CEC) establish annual targets that will achieve a cumulative doubling of statewide energy efficiency savings by 2030 through reductions in electricity and natural gas by existing end users. The doubling of energy efficiency savings called for in SB 350 is beyond the significant savings that are projected to be achieved through California's existing energy efficiency programs and activities. While the energy efficiency savings called for by SB 350 are ambitious, the intent of SB 350 is that the targets of the bill are to be "permanent, enforceable, and quantifiable<sup>2</sup>."

The GHG reduction goal established by measure E-2.1 is based on current expert agency guidance. Specifically, it is consistent with achievable energy reductions rates documented by CEC<sup>3</sup> and US Department of Energy<sup>4</sup> as achievable through energy efficiency upgrades to existing buildings. Relying on these guidance documents, the City was conservative in assuming a 16% reduction by 2020 with the intention that monitoring of actual reductions in the next update to the CAP would inform future assumptions and additional measures to continue to increase energy efficiency within the community. Further, the technical appendix cites 17 assumption points that are valid today given the expert agency guidance that support this measure's GHG reduction potential (Appendix B, pages 12-13). Measure E-2.1 also includes 12 implementation actions (A-J) for the City to undertake to achieve GHG reductions through energy efficient upgrades in existing homes and businesses. These actions, amongst others, include educating the public about how to be more energy efficient, marketing incentive programs to encourage energy efficient retrofits, and give-aways of energy efficient equipment (CAP, page 62).

The inclusion of E-2.1 as a voluntary measure does not legally undermine the CAP. The letter cites *Communities for a Better Environment v. City of Richmond* (2010) 184 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 70 for the proposition that climate mitigation plans must be "coupled with specific and mandatory performance standards to ensure that the measures, as implemented, will be effective." However, what the court found fault with in that case was more specifically that the mitigation plan was uncertain prior to project approval, and was therefore deferred mitigation because it would be decided on a year after project approval and outside of public review. (*Id.* at pp. 92-93.) The court further found that, for impacts for which mitigation is feasible, an EIR may give the lead agency a choice of measures from which to adopt, so long as the measures are coupled with specific and

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<sup>2</sup> California Energy Commission Framework for Establishing the Senate Bill 350 Energy Efficiency Savings Doubling Targets, January 18, 2007. [http://docketpublic.energy.ca.gov/PublicDocuments/17-IEPR-06/TN215437\\_20170118T160001\\_Framework\\_for\\_Establishing\\_the\\_Senate\\_Bill\\_350\\_Energy\\_Efficienc.pdf](http://docketpublic.energy.ca.gov/PublicDocuments/17-IEPR-06/TN215437_20170118T160001_Framework_for_Establishing_the_Senate_Bill_350_Energy_Efficienc.pdf). (accessed February 2018).

<sup>3</sup> CEC, September 28, 2015. Existing Building Energy Efficiency Action Plan. Available at: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/2015publications/CEC-400-2015-013/CEC-400-2015-013-D.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Department of Energy, September 2015. Quadrennial Technology Review. An Assessment of Energy Technologies and Research Opportunities. Chapter 5: Increasing Efficiency of Building Systems and Technologies. Available at: <https://energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2015/09/f26/OTR2015-05-Buildings.pdf>

Tom Brady  
February 27, 2018  
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mandatory performance standards to ensure their effectiveness. (*Id.* at p. 94.) If measures under the CAP must be imposed on a project in Pasadena, we would ensure that any mitigation plan was set at the time of project approval, a performance standard was set and measures imposed were specific and mandatory, thereby avoiding the deferred mitigation problem identified in that case.

As stated above, in the letter you encourage the City to rely on a faster transition to green municipal energy to achieve the reductions that are anticipated by measure E-2.1. The City is a leader in its transition to green municipal energy. However, the CAP is not the appropriate process through which to advocate for a change in the transition to green municipal energy. Pasadena Water and Power (PWP) is a publicly owned utility (POU) and the local energy provider in Pasadena. The CEC and SB 350 require that POU's prepare Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) to evaluate their ability to provide reliable and cost effective electric service to their customers and includes a requirement to evaluate how the POU will align with the GHG emission reductions required by the State. The CEC must then approve of PWP's IRP power mix based on, among other factors, the actual reliability of the power sources. Thus PWP's regular IRP update is the legal process to evaluate how the City can increase their renewable, and reliable, power portfolio. Measure E-5 of Pasadena's CAP calls for the continued expansion of the City's renewable and/or carbon neutral energy portfolio and implementation action C calls for the evaluation of a 100% Carbon-neutral portfolio model as part of the City's 2018 IRP update. In this way, the CAP pushes PWP toward green municipal energy, but within the appropriate regulatory framework of the IRP and its approval by the CEC.

I hope that this letter is responsive to your needs with respect to moving the CAP forward. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions or clarifications.

Sincerely,



David M. Reyes  
Director of Planning & Community Development

cc: Theresa Fuentes

## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** John Odell <odell@usc.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 05, 2018 9:48 AM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark; Madison, Steve; Suzuki, Takako; Hampton, Tyron; Bell, Cushon  
**Subject:** Public comment for tonight's agenda: the CAP

I write to urge our Mayor and Council Members to postpone action on the disappointing Climate Action Plan on the agenda today. Voting to approve this Plan without amendment would say to Pasadena citizens "we really don't care about protecting you from climate change." Our Planning Director effectively conceded during the Municipal Services Committee meeting that this plan is nothing more than a combination of the current work plans of city departments. It relies on promises that greater building energy efficiency will save enormous future carbon emissions, without providing any credible analysis to show that the city will achieve those savings. The Plan also fails to assure that Pasadena Water and Power will not extend its reliance on highly-polluting fossil fuels for electricity for decades to come, intensifying the costs of climate change on all of us--despite the past year's dramatic evidence of how alarming the climate crisis has already become. Do we really want to have twice as many 100-degree days per year? Do we really want to dry up the Sierra snowpack and pay immensely more for water buy building desalination plants? Instead, please do something effective: speak for or vote to ban Pasadena Water and Power from signing any new contracts to purchase fossil fuels that would extend beyond 2035. Thank you for your consideration.

John Odell  
1370 Chamberlain Road  
Pasadena, California 91103

John Odell

My email address is [odell@usc.edu](mailto:odell@usc.edu). Please disregard the address [odell@dornsife.usc.edu](mailto:odell@dornsife.usc.edu). I do not know why USC added that unnecessary complication, and I am sorry if it has caused you any inconvenience.

**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** Office of the City Clerk <CityofPasadenaWebMaster@cityofpasadena.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 05, 2018 11:26 AM  
**To:** Official Records - City Clerk  
**Subject:** Contact Form from Website

Name : Eryn Walsh  
Phone: 626-975-2454  
Email: [eryn.angela@gmail.com](mailto:eryn.angela@gmail.com)

**Message:**

This message is to show full support for the adoption of the Climate Action Plan. As a Pasadena home owner, mother, science teacher, citizen of Earth, and moral human being I strongly urge that we work to immediately transition Pasadena to 100% clean energy. The urgency in this matter could not be of higher importance.

"We Do Not Inherit the Earth from Our Ancestors; We Borrow It from Our Children." -Unknown

Submitted from: 24.180.19.26

**User Information**

IP Address: 24.180.19.26  
User-Agent (Browser/OS): Google Chrome 64.0.3282.186 / Windows  
Referrer: <https://ww5.cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/contact/>

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## Martinez, Ruben

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**From:** Office of the City Clerk <CityofPasadenaWebMaster@cityofpasadena.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 03, 2018 5:08 PM  
**To:** Official Records - City Clerk  
**Subject:** Contact Form from Website

Name : Therese Brummel

Phone:

Email: theresebrum@yahoo.com

Message:

Mr. Jomsky, will you kindly distribute this to all city council members? Thank you. Therese Brummel Dear Mayor Tornek and City Council Members, I am writing to express my disappointment in the Climate Action Plan as it is written. Mr. Feldman of Rincon consultants has told us it is simply a "memorialization" of current practices within our city which help to alleviate greenhouse gas emissions. We had hoped that the city would take stronger leadership on the greatest moral dilemma of our lifetime, managing climate change. If we are to maintain a livable planet for our children and grandchildren we must act swiftly with fervent intention.

I hope that with the Integrated Resource Plan our city leaders will show the public some inspiration and strong leadership on alleviating climate crisis.

Pasadena is a think tank for scientists! The world is watching how California is responding to Climate Crisis. Pasadena should be leading the way in this state.

Thank you for your service to the citizens of Pasadena.

Sincerely,

Therese Brummel

Transition Pasadena

Pasadena 100

1235 Mar Vista Ave, 39 year resident

Submitted from: 108.203.14.98

User Information

IP Address: 108.203.14.98

User-Agent (Browser/OS): Apple Safari 10.0 / OS X

Referrer: <https://ww5.cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/contact/>

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**Jomsky, Mark**

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**Subject:** FW: EAC

On Mar 5, 2018, at 10:58 AM, Laura Garrett <[purplecow@jps.net](mailto:purplecow@jps.net)> wrote:

Hi Andy—I hope you are well.

I just found out that staff is recommending to Council that the EAC reduce our number of meetings from monthly to quarterly, and that we limit our efforts to monitoring the CAP.

I'm disturbed by this, and for several reasons. Staff did not tell us this before making this recommendation. It marginalizes the EAC, and sends a clear signal to the city and the region that Pasadena does not concern itself with all of the other environmental issues like natural open space, water, and solid waste.

How many other commissions meet quarterly? Three meet twice a month, 13 meet monthly, one meets bi-monthly, and only one meets quarterly: the Old Pasadena Parking Meter Zone.

So staff thinks the environment is equal in scope to parking in Old Town. Really? That sends a message very loudly and clearly.

Because the EAC was essentially left out of this discussion, it feels like a political ploy and I am angry and insulted. I'm not inclined to continue to serve my beloved city if the dedication, expertise, and wisdom of our commission is to be so cavalierly dismissed. At our last meeting, we unanimously agreed that we need to meet monthly, and while we are happy to monitor the CAP, we also will continue to monitor the efforts to reduce solid waste, to conserve water, and to increase and protect natural open space.

We cannot do that with only four meetings a year.

I understand the argument that these meetings take staff time. So do all of the other commission meetings. So does everything that staff does. In fact, isn't that the point? By reducing staff time on the EAC to 33% of what it was, the City is indicating its values or lack thereof regarding the environment, including the CAP.

I urge you to reject the idea of us meeting quarterly and focusing entirely on the CAP.

Thank you,  
Laura Garrett  
Sent from my iPhone

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## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** David Cutter <dcutter@aceweb.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 05, 2018 3:38 PM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Tonight's CAP discussion

Hi Mark,  
I can't remember which Agenda item # the CAP is. My comment is:

As a Pasadena property owner and business owner, I am disappointed by the CAP process. I would like to see Pasadena regain its leadership on the global warming issue. To em the CAP looks like a reorganization of existing city programs to look like there's been some planning with regard to climate. The CAP doesn't actually provide any cuts in green house gas emissions that are not already in place. I think the council should adopt the plan as is and move forward from here.

I would like to see Pasadena exceed the state's mandated goals for emission reduction targets. I think the best place to do that going forward is PWP's Integrated Resource Plan which will be rewritten starting soon.

Thank you  
David Cutter  
912 Manzanita Ave. 91103  
(626)260-1615

David Cutter  
Pianist  
Pasadena, CA  
[Free Ebook](#) "Artistry and Piano Students: Inspiring a Lifetime of Enjoyment."

## Advisory Memorandum

CITY CLERK

18 MAR 05 03:52PM

To: Pasadena City Council

Cc: Pasadena City Manager

From: City of Pasadena Environmental Advisory Commission

Date: March 3, 2018

Re: Environmental Advisory Commission Purpose and Function

### Issue

The Environmental Advisory Commission's ("EAC") Purpose and Function, as defined by the City Council in 2006 (attached as reference) may no longer be adequately reflective of the City's current needs, suggesting refinement or additional guidance to ensure that the Commission is best serves the needs of the City.

### Background

The description of the EAC on the city website makes reference to the United Nations ("UN") Urban Environmental Accords ("UEA") and the Green City Action Plan. The City stopped producing a Green City Action Plan after 2010. The UNEA set certain target dates for achieving actions - many of which have since passed. To date the stakeholders of the UNEA summit have not met the goal of developing an Urban Environmental Evaluation Index which would update the framework for evaluation of a city's progress toward environmental sustainability.

The motion which established the EAC in September of 2006 references the City's Environmental Charter which articulates a commitment towards being a sustainable city. The Environmental Charter is quite broad in nature and does not offer an effective or meaningful framework to guide the EAC's work. The absence of a Green City Action Plan also leaves little direction from the Council on which areas to focus the Commission's attention.

The pending adoption of a Pasadena 2018 Climate Action Plan creates the need for monitoring and evaluation that Commissioners of the EAC are uniquely suited to provide. We intend to work with City staff and other bodies to report to Council the status of implementation and identify opportunities for improving goals and tactics on a semi-annual basis.

The Commission feels strongly, however, that the EAC continue to meet more frequently to enable Commissioners to address issues related to the CAP as well as the Open Space and Conservation Element and the Environmental Charter.

### Recommendations

We request that the City Council provide greater clarification on the role of the EAC and consider the following suggested functions. Furthermore, the City Manager should ensure staffing for the Commission that is aligned to best support the clarified function and purpose of the Commission.

Specifically, we recommend that the City Council:

- 1) Remove reference to the Green City Action Plan in the purpose and function of the EAC.
- 2) Amend the purpose and function of the EAC to include the role of monitoring and evaluating and advising on matters related to the implementation of the Climate Action Plan (CAP), when adopted by the Council.

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Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

References:

**Environmental Advisory Commission Purpose and Function**

The proposed Environmental Advisory Commission would advise the City Council and make policy recommendations in support of the goals and objectives of the City's Environmental Charter and advise the City Council on the seven thematic areas of the United Nations UEA:

1. Energy (renewable, efficiency, climate change);
2. Waste Reduction (zero waste, manufacturer and consumer responsibility);
3. Urban Design (green building, urban planning, revitalization);
4. Urban Nature (parks, habitat restoration, wildlife);
5. Transportation (public transportation, clean vehicles, reducing congestion);
6. Environmental Health (toxic reduction, healthy food systems, clean air); and
7. Water (access and efficiency, conservation, reduction).

Though several thematic areas are currently under the purview of other existing commissions, the Environmental Advisory Commission will consult and cooperate with other commissions and public agencies in carrying out their responsibilities and functions. In addition, the Commission would:

1. provide comment on the City's annual report demonstrating its progress and compliance to the adopted UEA Action Plan;
2. conduct outreach and education to the public, small businesses and industry regarding environmental concerns; and,
3. conduct any other activities directed by the City Council.

As an advisory group, the functions of the Environmental Advisory Commission will exclude oversight on daily administrative and operational activities of the City and issues not specifically assigned to the Commission, unless requested by the City Council. Environmental policies this Commission will advise on will relate to different city departments: Fire, Public Health, Planning and Development, Public Works, Transportation, Water and Power, and others as appropriate.

**Pasadena Environmental Charter**

The city of Pasadena elects to be an environmental advocate and a leader in environmental compliance and protection. The City shall cultivate superior environmental standards that will

provide for sustainable municipal development.

The city recognizes that growth and opportunity cannot be conducted at the expense of environmental protection and enhancement, and that growth and environmental stewardship are intimately related.

The city believes that the implementation of an environmental ethic need not interfere with economic development, and that practicing such environmental ethic can ultimately be expected to enhance economic affairs and provide for responsible, farsighted development.

The city believes that the protection of the urban and natural environments is a social responsibility and a fundamental obligation of a democratic government, and that an ecologically impoverished and polluted environment adversely impacts human health.

The city is striving to become a model for environmental excellence and a prevailing force in environmental protection. To accomplish these goals, the City shall establish policies that will incorporate environmental responsibility into its daily management of urban and industrial growth, education, energy and water use, air quality, transportation, waste reduction, economic development, and open space and natural habitats.

UN Environmental Accords [https://sfenvironment.org/sites/default/files/editor-uploads/initiatives/uea\\_Urban\\_Environmental\\_Accords.pdf](https://sfenvironment.org/sites/default/files/editor-uploads/initiatives/uea_Urban_Environmental_Accords.pdf)

Pasadena Staff Report RE: formation of  
EAC [http://ww2.cityofpasadena.net/councilagendas/2006%20agendas/Sep\\_18\\_06/5D1.pdf](http://ww2.cityofpasadena.net/councilagendas/2006%20agendas/Sep_18_06/5D1.pdf)

**Jomsky, Mark**

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**From:** Sinclair, David  
**Sent:** Monday, March 05, 2018 3:00 PM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** Fwd: Staff's recommendation regarding the frequency of EAC meetings runs contrary to the expressed position of the EAC

Mark —

Correspondence for City Council tonight.

David

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Morey Wolfson <[moreywolfson@aol.com](mailto:moreywolfson@aol.com)>  
**Date:** March 5, 2018 at 11:28:14 AM PST  
**To:** [acerna@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:acerna@cityofpasadena.net), [dsinclair@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:dsinclair@cityofpasadena.net)  
**Subject:** Staff's recommendation regarding the frequency of EAC meetings runs contrary to the expressed position of the EAC

This is not a good way to get the CAP going in Pasadena.

I hope that at tonight's Council meeting that Staff retracts its recommendation to have quarterly meetings.

My views:

Please note that, as part of Council's consideration of the Climate Action Plan tonightt, Staff recommends:

“that the City Council modify the frequency of Commission meetings from no less than monthly, to no more than quarterly. The Commission is staffed by the Planning and Community Development Department. Given current and anticipated future workloads supporting monthly meetings has placed a strain on limited staff resources which are desperately needed to attend to other projects within the Department. Further, staff believes that quarterly meetings should be sufficient to allow the Commission to fulfill its mission, including the proposed addition of the CAP.”

**This Staff recommendation comes as a surprise to the EAC.**

After considering the pros and cons of holding less frequent meetings, as a suggested element in Mayor Tornek's recent letter to the EAC, **every Commissioner** present at the EAC's February 12 meeting advocated that the Commission continue to meet **monthly**. The Commissioners were in unanimous agreement that the EAC would

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not effectively be able to monitor and advise on the CAP if the Commission were to meet either quarterly or every month.

It is my understanding that of Pasadena's 18 Commissions:

3 meet twice a month (Design, Historic Preservation, and Planning)

13 meet monthly

1 meets bi-monthly (South Lake Parking Place)

Only 1 meets quarterly (Old Pasadena Parking Meter Zone)

**I urge Staff to reverse their recommendation and ask the Council to not consider that the EAC should meet quarterly.**

The proposed change to quarterly EAC meetings is clearly designed as a benefit to Staff.

That is where the benefit ends.

A move by Council to diminish the EAC's effectiveness would (*rightfully or wrongfully*) unnecessarily create the very real risk that Pasadena's environmental community would interpret the move as an indicator that the City lacks a robust commitment to achieve the goals in the CAP. This would put the City in a defensive mode that was entirely avoidable.

A mandate to hold only quarterly meetings may risk the unintended consequence of several EAC Commissioners resigning.

That could cause a prolonged period of vacancies on the EAC, followed by a reluctance among environmentally-minded citizens to serve on a Commission that had been diminished in value by the Council.

These potential outcomes will not help the City at a time when I must assume you want a vibrant and engaged Commission to help monitor and evaluate the CAP.

In summary, I hope that Staff asks Council to not entertain these potential negative perception outcomes in the environmental community, despite whatever attraction that fewer meetings may have from a Staff perspective.

**Jomsky, Mark**

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**From:** Christle Balvin <gobalvin@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 05, 2018 3:07 PM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark; Therese Brummel  
**Subject:** Pasadena's Climate Action Plan

**THE REPORTS KEEP COMING IN. ARTIC ICE AT THE POLES IS MELTING AND ACCORDING TO SOME HIGHLY RESPECTED ATMOSPHERIC CHEMISTS, IT WILL BE GONE BY 2022. AS A RESULT, TEMPERATURES ARE RISING CAUSING WHAT SOME LOCAL CLIMATOLOGIST REFER TO AS THE RIDICULOUSLY RESILIENT RIDGE THAT IS BLOCKING NORMAL RAINS FROM COMING INTO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.**

**WHY SHOULD WE CARE? BECAUSE WE CAN HELP DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT BY TAKING MORE AGGRESSIVE ACTION HERE IN PASADENA. THE CURRENT CAP DOES NOT GO FAR ENOUGH. IT IS NOT THE STEP FORWARD THAT A CITY LIKE OURS, WHERE SOME OF THE MOST ADVANCED CLIMATE RESEARCH IS TAKING PLACE SHOULD BE FOLLOWING.**

**LET'S GO BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD, AND BUILDING ON SOME OF THE PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE AVAILABLE IN THIS COMMUNITY, LET'S BUILD A CLIMATE ACTION PLAN TO BE PROUD OF, ONE THAT OTHER COMMUNITIES AROUND OUR STATE AND NATION CAN USE AS A MODEL. THE SITUATION IS URGENT. LET'S TREAT IT AS SUCH AND INCREASE PASADENA'S COMMITMENT TO GREATER USE OF GREEN MUNICIPAL ENERGY. LET'S DO OUR SHARE ABOUT AN URGENT SITUATION THAT WILL SOON IMPACT US ALL.**

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**Jomsky, Mark**

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**To:** Reyes, David  
**Subject:** RE: Pasadena Climate Action Plan-3/5/18 -City Council Meeting-Item 10 Public Hearing

**From:** Shaw, Helen Romero [<mailto:HShaw@semprautilities.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 05, 2018 2:40 PM  
**To:** Wilson, Andy <[awilson@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:awilson@cityofpasadena.net)>; Masuda, Gene <[gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net)>; Kennedy, John <[JohnJKennedy@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:JohnJKennedy@cityofpasadena.net)>; McAustin, Margaret <[mmcaustin@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:mmcaustin@cityofpasadena.net)>; Madison, Steve <[smadison@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:smadison@cityofpasadena.net)>; Tornek, Terry <[ttornek@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:ttornek@cityofpasadena.net)>; Hampton, Tyron <[THampton@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:THampton@cityofpasadena.net)>; Gordo, Victor <[vgordo@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:vgordo@cityofpasadena.net)>  
**Cc:** Mermell, Steve <[smermell@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:smermell@cityofpasadena.net)>; Gutierrez, Julie <[jgutierrez@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:jgutierrez@cityofpasadena.net)>  
**Subject:** Pasadena Climate Action Plan-3/5/18 -City Council Meeting-Item 10 Public Hearing

Dear Mayor Terry Tornek:

SoCalGas appreciates the opportunity to provide input on the City of Pasadena's Draft Climate Action Plan (CAP). We commend the City for committing to a vision for a more sustainable community for current and future residents.

SoCalGas supports Pasadena's goals of expanding alternative fuel vehicles and infrastructure. Pasadena has already demonstrated progress in clean transportation by converting the entire Pasadena Transit fleet to 100% compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicles, which emit 20-29% fewer GHG emissions than comparable gasoline or diesel-fueled vehicles. When powered by renewable natural gas (RNG), these emission reductions increase to 90%. We recommend considering the costs and potential difficulty of transitioning these fleets to electric technology, as proposed in Implementation Action G, Measure T-4.1, and agree that a feasibility study should first be performed.

In our attached comment letter submitted to the Planning Division on 1/23/18 as well as the Municipal Services Committee, we provide several links to studies that may benefit the City's feasibility assessment. Notably, a recent study by LA Metro found that the use of near-zero engines with renewable gas is the most cost-effective strategy by an order of magnitude for reducing NOx and GHGs as compared to using battery electric or fuel cell powered buses.


SoCalGas is happy to provide further technical assistance on natural gas, hydrogen, and /or renewable natural gas vehicles and infrastructure. Please let me know if you have any questions.

With Best Regards,

**Helen Romero Shaw**  
**Public Affairs Manager**  
SoCal Gas  
Ofc:626 279-2295  
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03/05/2018  
Item 10



A  Sempra Energy utility

Jennifer Morris  
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January 23, 2018

Anita Cerna  
Senior Planner  
City of Pasadena – Planning Division  
Community Planning Section (2nd Floor)  
175 N. Garfield Ave.  
Pasadena, CA. 9110

**RE: City of Pasadena Draft Climate Action Plan**

Dear Ms. Cerna,

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) is one of California's investor-owned utilities regulated by the California Public Utilities Commission. We are the nation's largest natural gas distribution utility, providing energy to 20.9 million consumers throughout 500 communities. SoCalGas' service territory encompasses approximately 20,000 square miles in diverse terrain throughout Central and Southern California.

SoCalGas appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on the City of Pasadena's Draft Climate Action Plan (CAP). We commend the City for undergoing the CAP development process, and committing to a vision for a more sustainable community. Our comments focus on the following topics:

1. Alternative Fuel Vehicles: Renewable Natural Gas Achieves Greater Emissions Reductions Sooner than Electric Options (Measure T-4.1)
2. Fuel Diversity Supports Resilient Infrastructure (Measure 4)

**1. Alternative Fuel Vehicles: Renewable Natural Gas Achieves Greater Emissions Reductions Sooner than Electric Options**

**Measure T-4.1**

SoCalGas supports Measure T-4.1, "Expand the availability and use of alternative fuel infrastructure and fueling infrastructure", in the City of Pasadena's Draft CAP. Pasadena has demonstrated progress in clean transportation by converting the entire Pasadena Transit fleet to 100% compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicles, which emit 20-29% fewer GHG emissions than

comparable gasoline or diesel-fueled vehicles<sup>1</sup>. When powered by renewable natural gas (RNG), these emission reductions increase to 90%<sup>2</sup>.

### Implementation Action G- EV and Transit Fleet

Pasadena's Draft CAP proposes to study the feasibility of transitioning to electric buses (Implementation Action G, Measure T-4.1). The City of Pasadena should consider that transit agencies including Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro), San Diego Metropolitan Transit System, Orange County Transportation Authority, and Santa Monica's Big Blue Bus have thoroughly studied the use near-zero emission natural gas buses running on renewable gas, and have found that they provide significant emissions benefits at an acceptable cost. LA Metro's recent study found that the use of near-zero engines with renewable gas is the most cost-effective strategy by an order of magnitude for reducing NOx and GHGs as compared to using battery electric or fuel cell powered buses.<sup>3</sup>

Moreover, to effectively serve local citizens, transit agencies need flexibility to deploy advanced technologies in ways that are synergistic with their operations. Recently, the City of Albuquerque reported significant failures with its newly adopted electric bus fleet, including malfunctioning charging systems, batteries, and a shorter-than-expected range that would require the city to purchase additional buses<sup>4</sup>. Further, as Pasadena Transit has already invested in upgrading their fleets with CNG vehicles, a decision to electrify fleets could result in stranded investments. SoCalGas recommends that the City of Pasadena consider the costs and difficulty of transitioning fleets to electric technology, and as well as consider the need for flexibility by transit agencies to select technologies that will meet their fleet and ridership requirements.

### Implementation Action H- Hydrogen Fueling Stations

SoCalGas supports investigating the feasibility of installing hydrogen fueling infrastructure as proposed in the Draft CAP (Implementation Action H, Measure T-4.1). The use of CNG for transportation now helps create a bridge to a hydrogen future<sup>5</sup>. Natural gas from existing pipelines is already the leading fuel feedstock in the production of hydrogen, and further developing Pasadena's current CNG refueling infrastructure could aid to a transition to a future network based on hydrogen.

## **2. Fuel Diversity Supports Resilient Infrastructure**

### **Measure 4**

Protecting the resilience of critical systems in the City of Pasadena is a key priority in the Draft CAP, as emphasized in Measure 4<sup>6</sup>. Including natural gas and renewable natural gas in the city's energy portfolio can increase system reliability, as the majority of natural gas pipelines are

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ngvamerica.org/natural-gas/environmental-benefits/>

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> "Zero Emissions Bus Options: Analysis of 2015-2055 Fleet Costs and Emissions," Ramboll Environ (Feb. 5, 2016) (prepared for LA Metro), available at: [https://media.metro.net/board/Items/2016/09\\_september/20160914atvcitem4.pdf](https://media.metro.net/board/Items/2016/09_september/20160914atvcitem4.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.abqjournal.com/1116887/mayor-outlines-major-problems-with-art-including-inability-to-charge-buses.html>

<sup>5</sup> <https://steps.ucdavis.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/2017-UCD-ITS-RR-17-04-1.pdf>, p.61

<sup>6</sup> Draft CAP p. 101

underground and therefore more resilient to extreme weather events. Further, the natural gas system has a separate distribution pathway, allowing it to operate without electricity and continue to serve customers, even when other energy sources fail.<sup>7</sup>

#### Implementation Action A

In a recent local example, firefighting efforts were hampered during the Thomas Fire when power to water pumps failed in Ventura and Santa Barbara, due to lost electric power<sup>8</sup>. Ensuring diverse energy infrastructure, such as natural-gas powered water pumps, would support Implementation Action A, Resilient Energy and Water Supply.

#### Implementation Action B

During Hurricane Sandy in 2012, Atlantic City was able to rely on its fleet of 190 CNG buses to shuttle residents to safety, thanks to uninterrupted CNG supply<sup>9</sup>. The resiliency of the natural gas and CNG refueling system would support Implementation Action B, Transportation Safety, by ensuring a safe and reliable mode of transport in the event of climate-related incidents.

#### **Conclusion**

SoCalGas encourages the City of Pasadena to adopt a diverse energy portfolio that includes multiple fuels and technologies to meet California's energy needs and climate change targets in a cost-effective and timely manner. We appreciate the ongoing discussion and are excited to continue our engagement with the City's CAP. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

**Jennifer Morris**

Senior Environmental Policy Advisor

Southern California Gas Company

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<sup>7</sup> Massachusetts Institute of Technology Lincoln Laboratory, *Interdependence of the Electricity Generation System and the Natural Gas System and Implications for Energy Security* (2013) at 14. ("Power is not assured in all possible scenarios that disrupt the electric grid...but natural gas has demonstrated energy security benefits during all historical electricity outages.")

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.scp.org/news/2017/12/08/78694/socal-fires-strain-power-and-water-systems/>

<sup>9</sup> [https://energy.gov/eere/articles/5-ways-alternative-fuels-aid-response-hurricanes-and-natural-disasters?utm\\_source=EERE+Weekly+Digest+of+Clean+Energy+News&utm\\_campaign=f048cbec65-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2017\\_09\\_25&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_96dffafa2f-f048cbec65-34678197](https://energy.gov/eere/articles/5-ways-alternative-fuels-aid-response-hurricanes-and-natural-disasters?utm_source=EERE+Weekly+Digest+of+Clean+Energy+News&utm_campaign=f048cbec65-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_09_25&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_96dffafa2f-f048cbec65-34678197)