

**Stevenson, Garrett**

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**Subject:** FW: Agenda Item #3. Purchase of 15 public transit vehicles

**From:**

**Sent:** Sunday, April 23, 2023 9:29 PM

**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse <publiccomment@cityofpasadena.net>

**Cc:** Hampton, Tyron <THampton@cityofpasadena.net>; Williams, Felicia <fwilliams@cityofpasadena.net>; Jones, Justin <justinjones@cityofpasadena.net>; Masuda, Gene <gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net>; jrivass@cityofpasadena.net; Madison, Steve <smadison@cityofpasadena.net>; Lyon, Jason <jlyon@cityofpasadena.net>; Gordo, Victor <vgordo@cityofpasadena.net>

**Subject:** Agenda Item #3. Purchase of 15 public transit vehicles

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**TO:** Council Members Tyron Hampton, Felicia Williams, Justin Jones, Gene Masuda, Jess Rivas, Steve Madison, Jason Lyon, and Mayor Gordo

**RE: AGENDA ITEM 3. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF 15 PUBLIC TRANSIT VEHICLES INCLUDING THE FIRST ZERO EMISSION VEHICLE FOR PASADENA TRANSIT TO REPLACE AGING VEHICLES AND PROVIDE MORE CAPACITY**

Per Agenda Item 3, the City proposes to purchase \$9 million of **fossil fuel fleet vehicles** with a useful life of 10-12 years, to be delivered in 2024:

- 9 larger capacity Xcelsior 35-foot **Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) buses** and
- 1 35-foot **Battery Electric Bus (BEB)** and chargers for Pasadena Transit and
- 2 Starcraft Allstar, Ford E450 25-foot **Renewable Natural Gas** shuttles for Pasadena Transit and
- 3 Sunset, Ram Promaster low-floor **gas-powered** vans for Pasadena Dial-A-Ride

This purchase is inconsistent with the Climate Emergency declared by the Pasadena City Council on January 30, 2023, stating that the City must reduce GHGs significantly by 2030 in order to maintain a livable earth. Apparently, some City Departments did not understand the City Council's *Climate Emergency Declaration*. The heading for the agenda item fails to mention that only one of the proposed vehicles is electric while 14 vehicles are gas powered. The proposed gas-powered vehicles would be in operation until 2034 or beyond and do not comply with the letter or spirit of the emergency declaration.

**VOTE NO AGENDA ITEM 3. All electric fleet vehicles only.**

Genette Foster  
Council District 2

04/24/2023  
Item 3

**Stevenson, Garrett**

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**Subject:** FW: Purchase of gas vehicles

**From:** Kathryn Kroger <>

**Sent:** Sunday, April 23, 2023 10:49 PM

**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse <publiccomment@cityofpasadena.net>

**Subject:** Purchase of gas vehicles

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I am shocked and dismayed and disheartened that the City Council would even consider buying fossil fuel vehicles when you just declared a state of emergency around climate change. Are you not serious about confronting climate change? Did you pass this emergency resolution just to look good? What are your specific plans to carry out our climate goals? This is absolutely an emergency that the entire globe finds itself in. What about our children? Don't you care about them? I don't understand this. Yes, there will be some issues to work around, but this is too important not to put our full attention on.

It's like admitting there's a forest fire emergency and then putting gas on the flames!

Thank you,  
Kathryn Kroger,  
Pasadena

Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail for iPad

04/24/2023

Item 3

**Stevenson, Garrett**

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**Subject:** FW: Agenda item #3 4/24/23 Vote NO to fossil fuel vehicles. Electric only.

**From:** Kathy Berlin <>

**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 11:36 AM

**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse <publiccomment@cityofpasadena.net>

**Subject:** Agenda item #3 4/24/23 Vote NO to fossil fuel vehicles. Electric only.

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Mayor Gordo and members of the City Council,

The Pasadena City Council declared a **Climate Emergency** on January 30, 2023. Please act accordingly!

The IPCC report states that we must act to reduce GHGs significantly by 2030 in order to maintain a livable earth.

The proposed vehicles have a useful life of 10-12 years as stated in the staff report recommending these purchases. The vehicles will not be delivered until 2024. We can NOT continue to purchase gas-powered vehicles that will continue to operate until 2034 or beyond.

We MUST begin **now** to replace **all** gas-powered vehicles with all **electric** ones. The Dial-A Ride vans certainly can be all electric **now** without requiring additional infrastructure.

The city does not need to learn one vehicle at a time how to handle an electric vehicle. You have all stated proudly and publicly that you have electric vehicles. You know how easy they are to operate, charge, and maintain.

Please do NOT purchase another fossil fuel fleet vehicle for Pasadena. Please purchase only electric fleet vehicles and help to maintain Pasadena as a comfortable place to live.

Thank you,  
Kathy Berlin  
Resident

04/24/2023  
Item 3

**Stevenson, Garrett**

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**Subject:** FW: Please send Agenda #3 back to the drawing board

**From:** Cynthia Cannady < >

**Sent:** Monday, April 24, 2023 2:57 PM

**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse <publiccomment@cityofpasadena.net>

**Subject:** Please send Agenda #3 back to the drawing board

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Dear Councilmembers,

Buses powered by so-called Renewable Natural Gas are not the answer. RNG is chemically identical to methane, just produced in a different way.

You just passed a climate emergency resolution. Spending \$9 million on vehicles that pump greenhouse gases into the air is not consistent with believing that there is a climate emergency. These vehicles won't be delivered until 2024 and will last for at least 10 years.

Please ask more questions:

Where will the gas come from to fuel these buses?

Why can't the city purchase EV buses? If charging is the problem, how can we collaborate with neighboring cities to solve that problem?

Do we really need more big buses when we see so many empty buses driving through out streets?

What is the low NOX technology of these buses? Does it avoid the particulate matter problems associated with RNG?

Experts point out that RNG should only be used when there is no choice:

"Just like fossil gas, biogas and synthetic methane continue the use of methane, which causes the formation of nitrogen oxides (NOx ) and other harmful air pollutants when burned.20 NOx pollution can lead to respiratory problems, from coughing and wheezing to decreased lung function, and can contribute to hospitalizations and even premature death.21 In other words, biogas and synthetic methane do not avoid the many health harms of fossil gas." Natural Resources Defense Council "Pipedream or Climate Solution."

<https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/pipe-dream-climate-solution-bio-synthetic-gas-ib.pdf>

Cynthia Cannady

04/24/2023

Item 3

## Iraheta, Alba

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**From:** Sam Berndt <>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 24, 2023 5:27 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** Public Comment re: Item 3 4/24/23

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Members of the City Council,

Agenda Item 3 is advocating for the purchase of 14 fossil fuel powered vehicles.

In Resolution 9977 you declared a climate emergency.

Fossil fuels are the primary cause of global warming.

Further, Item 3 is purchasing a single electric powered bus. Thus, it is apparent that electric powered buses are a viable alternative.

I urge you to vote AGAINST item 3 which would worsen the climate emergency, and ask that staff bring forward a proposal for all electric vehicles.

Thanks,  
Sam Berndt