

Letter
C3

From: [Rebecca Falk](#)
To: CAP
Subject: Re: County of San Diego Climate Action Plan (FDS2015-POD-15-002), General Plan Amendment (PDS2016-GPA-16-007), Draft SEIR (Log No. PDS2016-ER-16-00-003)
Date: Monday, September 18, 2017 10:10:10 AM
Attachments: Borrego Sponsor Group comment SD CAP x.pdf

Dear Maggie Soffel or To Whom It May Concern:

Please see the attached letter from the Borrego Springs Community Sponsor Group regarding CAP and the GP amendment associated with it.

I C3-1

Thank you,

Rebecca Falk
 Chair, Borrego Springs Community Sponsor Group

Response to Comment Letter C3

Borrego Springs Community Sponsor Group
Rebecca Falk, Chair
September 18, 2017

C3-1: This comment provides introductory remarks. No further response is required.

Borrego Springs Community Sponsor Group
 P.O. Box 1371
 Borrego Springs, CA 92004

September 17, 2017

Maggie Soffel
 Land Use/Environmental Planner
 County of San Diego
 Planning and Development Services
 5810 Overland Avenue, Suite 310
 San Diego, CA 92123

Re: County of San Diego Climate Action Plan (PDS2015-POD-15-002), General Plan Amendment (PDS2016-GPA-16-007), Draft SEIR (Log No. PDS2016-ER-16-00-003)

To Whom It May Concern:

The Borrego Community Sponsor Group voted unanimously on September 6, 2017 to send a letter expressing the following thoughts regarding the County of San Diego Climate Action Plan (CAP). This letter is sent in response to the County's invitation to local planning groups to respond to the CAP and related documents during the public comment period.

C3-2

We discussed and understand the efforts San Diego County plans to make in order to be in compliance with the state mandate on Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions and energy conservation. We found some items in the plan to be of special interest for our rural community and would like to draw attention to those items and underline that these parts of CAP would be widely supported here in Borrego Springs.

In Section 3, "Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategies and Measures," on page 3-15, there are three ongoing items listed as "Supporting Efforts." One is to collaborate with SANDAG, MTS and NCTD to explore expansion of transit service to unincorporated areas. Currently Borrego Springs is serviced on only two days per week by a bus that leaves early in the morning from one location and returns later that day. That is our only public transportation connection to other parts of San Diego County. An expansion of public transportation would help connect this desert community with other parts of San Diego County and would enable more people to use public transportation and not their own vehicles whether for shopping, medical visits or work. Similarly, better park and ride facilities, if possible in the outlying areas, might impact commuters, and we have quite a few of those during the week.

C3-3

Thirdly, we have a much beloved farmer's market during our high season in Borrego at our central Christmas Circle Park. It is a really important weekly event in our town when it isn't too hot here for it to occur. Participation has been reduced in recent times, however, due to various restrictions placed on vendors in the farmer's market, making it harder for farmers to make enough money to participate or

C3-4

C3-2: This comment provides information regarding the availability of transit service to Borrego Springs and states that an expansion of bus service and park-and-ride facilities would facilitate more residents to use public transportation. The County acknowledges this comment. This comment does not address the adequacy of the Draft SEIR. However, the County would like to clarify that while the County supports efforts to expand transit service to Borrego Springs, the expansion of service is outside of the County's land use authority. More specifically, bus service to Borrego Springs is provided by the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS), which is operated under the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) oversight. The County recognizes that an expansion of public transportation is a valuable way to reduce vehicle miles traveled and will continue to collaborate with MTS, the North County Transit District, and SANDAG to progress efforts related to expansion of service to the unincorporated areas of the county.

C3-3: The comment urges the County to help ease some of the regulations that are overly burdensome to participants in their weekly farmer's market. The County would like to refer the commenter to GHG Reduction Measure T-1.3, Update Community Plans (page 3-14 through 3-15 of the CAP). Supporting efforts under this measure include promoting weekly Certified Farmer's Markets.

C3-4: The comment states that it supports making rooftop renewable energy systems more affordable. The County acknowledges this comment. This comment does not address the adequacy of the Draft SEIR and no further response is required. The comment will be included in the Final EIR and made available to the decision makers prior to a final decision on the proposed project.

preventing them from participating at all. The Chamber of Commerce has worked hard to ease the situation but this has not succeeded in keeping some of our farmers and vendors as participants. The Borrego Springs Sponsor Group urges the County to look into easing some of the regulations that are overly burdensome to help our farmer's market thrive, as part of the CAP effort to "promote weekly Certified Farmer's Markets."

C3-4
cont.

An additional note should be made regarding support of any efforts to expand the use of roof top solar for electricity and to make that more affordable. Borrego Springs is a severely disadvantaged community economically for the most part and our very hot seasons make access to air conditioning a necessary condition for living here.

C3-5

Thank you and we will be watching for more information about the Climate Action Plan and programs associated with it.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Falk
Chair, Borrego Springs Community Sponsor Group

C3-5: This comment provides closing remarks. No further response is required.