

Response to Comment Letter I87

**Marian Sedio
September 25, 2017**

**Letter
I87**

From: Marian Sedio
To: CAP
Subject: Comments on the County of San Diego's draft of the new Climate Action Plan
Date: Sunday, September 24, 2017 12:38:20 PM
Attachments: response to county cap (2).docx

To Whom It May Concern:

This email is in regards to the County's draft of its Climate Action Plan. Thank you for allowing the community to be a part of this process. Below are a few of my thoughts, concerns and suggestions.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->Under transportation I would like to see more emphasis on electric vehicles. San Diego County is an area that is ideal for the use of solar energy. My preference is that the County forgoes so called "clean" diesel and natural gas and use solar power generated electricity to power all County owned vehicles including trucks. In addition all County buildings should have solar panels and charging stations installed. The County could then negotiate with car manufactures who sell electric cars to offer these cars to the County employees at a reduced "fleet" rate. The employees could then charge their cars during the day while at work while the sun is out. In order to pay for the additional panels and charging stations a fee could be charged (as long as it was comparable or lower to the cost of gas) until this cost was recouped. Once that occurs the cost to charge EVs for County employees should drop or even be eliminated. This would set an example to other large businesses to do the same. People who live in the rural more remote areas of San Diego simply need cars. The solution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transportation in these areas is to transition over to electric cars as quickly as possible (sooner than 2030 ideally). The County should facilitate this by providing even more charging stations, by implementing the above strategy there by setting the example. The County could join forces with nonprofits such as the American Lung Association to campaign for clean air through the use of EVs to the general population living in San Diego County.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->Under waste water: if possible improve and streamline the permitting process for residents who wish to recycle their own gray/black water for use in irrigating their properties.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->Implement climate friendly refrigeration/air-conditioning solutions. F-gases are a serious threat to our climate. Please implement an educational outreach program to County residents about this issue. Mandate that the County use GreenFreeze technology.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->PLEASE do not use artificial turf at all!!! It is a petroleum based product and horrible for the environment both in the making of it, during its use and then as a waste product that is not biodegradable and will contribute to landfill problems. Please do not implement a "solution" to one problem that will simply create bigger problems. Use native California plants instead. Once established these types of landscapes use very little water, require minimal care, do not require the use of chemicals and contribute many other environmental benefits. Native plants will also contribute to increasing carbon sequestration whereas artificial turf will contribute to increasing pollution.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->In regards to planting trees please consider the number of trees that are lost each year due to disease, fire, insect infestations and construction. If there is a year where the loss of trees is significant please increase the number of new trees in order to compensate. The Oak trees are dying at an unprecedented rate in Southern California. These older established large dense trees absorb more CO2 than new trees. Efforts need to be made to save these trees! Please consider implementing a program to do that. There are swatches of barren land in the county where the native vegetation has been stripped away. Please consider "reforesting" these areas (whether considered "scenic" or not) rather than just scattering new trees throughout the county.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->Community Choice Energy is essential to the success of Climate Action Plans!

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->The many "leap frog" developments that are being proposed are a threat to the long term success of the County's Climate Action Plan. The new "green building" codes and mandated open areas are beneficial but how is the County going to offset the many more miles driven by the residents in the proposed remote developments?

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->Please consider a policy that discourages the use of single use

I87-1

I87-1 The comment provides introductory remarks and appears to copy comments that are attached to the document. See response to comments I87-2 through I87-4.

plastic (water bottles, straws, plastic plates and utensils) at all County facilities.
<!--[if supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->Many County residents live in older homes that lack adequate insulation and other "green technology". It would be helpful if there were a program similar to the replacing older "junk" cars but for houses. This would not involve replacing or tearing down these older homes but upgrading them and retrofitting them to be more energy efficient. At the very least an outreach effort to these homeowners with information and resources would be a good start.

I87-1
cont

I wish to express my appreciation for the work done by the staff members who have contributed to the development of the County's new Climate Action Plan.

Sincerely,
Marian Sedio

To Whom It May Concern:

This email is in regards to the County's draft of its Climate Action Plan. Thank you for allowing the community to be a part of this process. Below are a few of my thoughts, concerns and suggestions.

- Under transportation I would like to see more emphasis on electric vehicles. San Diego County is an area that is ideal for the use of solar energy. My preference is that the County forgoes so called "clean" diesel and natural gas and use solar power generated electricity to power all County owned vehicles including trucks. In addition all County buildings should have solar panels and charging stations installed. The County could then negotiate with car manufactures who sell electric cars to offer these cars to the County employees at a reduced "fleet" rate. The employees could then charge their cars during the day while at work while the sun is out. In order to pay for the additional panels and charging stations a fee could be charged (as long as it was comparable or lower to the cost of gas) until this cost was recouped. Once that occurs the cost to charge EVs for County employees should drop or even be eliminated. This would set an example to other large businesses to do the same. People who live in the rural more remote areas of San Diego simply need cars. The solution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transportation in these areas is to transition over to electric cars as quickly as possible (sooner than 2030 ideally). The County should facilitate this by providing even more charging stations, by implementing the above strategy there by setting the example. The County could join forces with nonprofits such as the American Lung Association to campaign for clean air through the use of EVs to the general population living in San Diego County.
- Under waste water: If possible improve and streamline the permitting process for residents who wish to recycle their own gray/black water for use in irrigating their properties.
- Implement climate friendly refrigeration/air-conditioning solutions. F-gases are a serious threat to our climate. Please implement an educational outreach program to County residents about this issue. Mandate that the County use GreenFreeze technology.
- PLEASE do not use artificial turf at all!!! It is a petroleum based product and horrible for the environment both in the making of it, during its use and then as a waste product that is not biodegradable and will contribute to landfill problems. Please do not implement a "solution" to one problem that will simply create bigger problems. Use native California plants instead. Once established these types of landscapes use very little water, require minimal care, do not require the use of chemicals and contribute many other environmental benefits. Native plants will also contribute to increasing carbon sequestration whereas artificial turf will contribute to increasing pollution.
- In regards to planting trees please consider the number of trees that are lost each year due to disease, fire, insect infestations and construction. If there is a year where the loss of trees is significant please increase the number of new trees in order to compensate. The Oak trees are dying at an unprecedented rate in Southern California. These older established large dense trees absorb more CO2 than new trees. Efforts need to be made to save these trees! Please consider

187-2

187-3

187-2 The comment provides introductory remarks. No further response required.

187-3 The County acknowledges the commenters opinions regarding the benefits of electric vehicles and converting the County's fleet; streamlining permits for gray/blackwater; implementing public outreach efforts regarding refrigeration; prohibiting the use of artificial turf; implementing a tree planting program that emphasizes the protection of larger trees; implementing a Community Choice Energy program; rejection of leapfrog developments; discourage single-use plastic at County facilities; and supporting a home retrofitting program. The County appreciates this input and will consider the suggestions. This comment does not address the adequacy of the Draft SEIR and no further response is required. However, the comment will be included in the Final EIR and made available to the decision makers prior to a final decision on the project.

implementing a program to do that. There are swatches of barren land in the county where the native vegetation has been stripped away. Please consider "reforesting" these areas (whether considered "scenic" or not) rather than just scattering new trees throughout the county.

- Community Choice Energy is essential to the success of Climate Action Plans!
- The many "leap frog" developments that are being proposed are a threat to the long term success of the County's Climate Action Plan. The new "green building" codes and mandated open areas are beneficial but how is the County going to offset the many more miles driven by the residents in the proposed remote developments?
- Please consider a policy that discourages the use of single use plastic (water bottles, straws, plastic plates and utensils) at all County facilities.
- Many County residents live in older homes that lack adequate insulation and other "green technology". It would be helpful if there were a program similar to the replacing older "junk" cars but for houses. This would not involve replacing or tearing down these older homes but upgrading them and retrofitting them to be more energy efficient. At the very least an outreach effort to these homeowners with information and resources would be a good start.

187-3
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I wish to express my appreciation for the work done by the staff members who have contributed to the development of the County's new Climate Action Plan.

187-4

Sincerely,

Marian Sedio

187-4 The comment provides concluding remarks and no response is required.