

From: Sarah Wiltfong <sarah.wiltfong@bizfed.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 10:08 AM
To: Comments
Cc: Denis Weber; Deborah Klein Lopez; Chris Anstead; Illece Buckley Weber; Linda Northrup
Subject: Agenda Item 9 - BizFed Comments
Attachments: BizFed_Aguora Hills_020921.pdf

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Mayor Weber and the Agoura Hills City Council:

Please find attached BizFed's comment letter highlighting our concerns with Agenda Item 9 on the February 10th city council meeting agenda.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Sarah Wiltfong

310.213.8742 - sarah.wiltfong@bizfed.org

BizFed.org

A grassroots alliance of more than 200 diverse business groups mobilizing 450,000 employers that employ 4 million people in LA County.

Mayor Denis Weber
Members of the Agoura Hills City Council

Via email comments@agourahillscity.org

RE: Agenda Item Nine (9) - Draft Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

The Honorable Denis Weber and the Agoura Hills City Council:

We are contacting you on behalf of BizFed, the Los Angeles County Business Federation. We are an alliance of over 200 business organizations who represent over 450,000 employers with 4.5 million employees in Los Angeles County. As a united federation we advocate for policies and projects that strengthen our regional economy. We are here to express our strong concern to agenda item nine (9) – the Draft Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP).

BizFed represents a large range of employers from large to small in a variety of industries all throughout Los Angeles County. While we support the county and its cities being a leader in clean air policies, we believe this can only be done properly if our policymakers invite all industries to the table to discuss ideas. Innovation, competition and open dialogue are the best way to ensure we are using the most cost-effective, economically viable and secure methods moving forward.

We find it highly concerning that the city chose to put an extremely complex and controversial item on the city council agenda that was vetted by committee less than a week ago, did not include all parties, and is not accepting verbal public comment on the item. This is not transparency and it would be in the best interest of the city council, and the communities the city council represents, to hold off on passing the document until the proper parties have an opportunity to weigh in.

As such, we request the Agoura Hills City Council *delay* action on agenda item nine (9) until the draft plan has been thoroughly vetted with enough time for all parties and constituents to comment.

Thank you for your consideration of our letter. If you have any questions, please contact sarah.wiltfong@bizfed.org

Sincerely,



Sandy Sanchez
BizFed Chair
FivePoint



David Fleming
BizFed Founding Chair



Tracy Hernandez
BizFed Founding CEO
IMPOWER, Inc.

BizFed Association Members

7-Eleven Franchise Owners Association of Southern California
Action Apartment Association
Alhambra Chamber of Commerce
American Beverage Association
American Hotel & Lodging
American Institute of Architects - Los Angeles Angeles Emerald
Apartment Association of Greater Los Angeles Apartment Association, CA Southern Cities, Inc.
Arcadia Association of Realtors
AREAA North Los Angeles SFV SCV
Associated Builders & Contractors, Inc. Southern California Chapter
Association of Club Executives
Association of Independent Commercial Producers
Azusa Chamber of Commerce
Bell Gardens Chamber of Commerce
Beverly Hills Bar Association
Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce
BNI4SUCCESS
Boyle Heights Chamber of Commerce
Building Industry Association - Baldyview
Building Industry Association - LA/Ventura Counties
Building Industry Association - Southern California
Building Owners & Managers Association of Greater Los Angeles
Burbank Association of REALTORS
Burbank Chamber of Commerce
Business and Industry Council for Emergency Planning and Preparedness
Business Resource Group
CA Natural Resources Producers Assoc
CalAsian Chamber
CalCFA
California Apartment Association- Los Angeles
California Asphalt Pavement Association
California Association of Food Banks
California Bankers Association
California Bus Association
California Business Properties Association
California Business Roundtable
California Cannabis Industry Association
California Cleaners Association
California Construction Industry and Materials Association
California Contract Cities Association
California Fashion Association
California Gaming Association
California Grocers Association
California Hispanic Chamber
California Hotel & Lodging Association
California Independent Oil Marketers Association (CIOA)
California Independent Petroleum Association
California Life Sciences Association
California Manufacturers & Technology Association
California Metals Coalition
California Restaurant Association
California Retailers Association
California Small Business Alliance
California Society of CPAs - Los Angeles Chapter
California Sportfishing League
California Trucking Association
Californians for Balanced Energy Solutions
Carson Chamber of Commerce
Carson Dominguez Employers Alliance
CDC Small Business Finance
Central City Association
Century City Chamber of Commerce
Cerritos Regional Chamber of Commerce
Citrus Valley Association of Realtors
Commercial Industrial Council/Chamber of Commerce
Construction Industry Air Quality Coalition
Construction Industry Coalition on Water Quality
Council on Trade and Investment for Filipino Americans

Covina Chamber
Culver City Chamber of Commerce
Downey Chamber of Commerce
Downtown Center Business Improvement District
Downtown Long Beach Alliance
El Monte/South El Monte Chamber
El Segundo Chamber of Commerce
Employers Group
Engineering Contractor's Association
EXP
F.A.S.T. - Fixing Angelenos Stuck in Traffic
FilmLA
Friends of Hollywood Central Park
Fur Information Council
FuturePorts
Gardena Valley Chamber
Gateway to LA
Glendale Association of Realtors
Glendale Chamber
Glendora Chamber
Greater Antelope Valley AOR
Greater Downey Association of REALTORS
Greater Lakewood Chamber of Commerce
Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber
Greater Los Angeles Association of REALTORS
Greater Los Angeles New Car Dealers Association
Harbor Association of Industry and Commerce
Harbor Trucking Association
Historic Core BID of Downtown Los Angeles
Hollywood Chamber
Hong Kong Trade Development Council
Hospital Association of Southern California
Hotel Association of Los Angeles
Huntington Park Area Chamber of Commerce
Independent Cities Association
Industry Business Council
Inglewood Airport Area Chamber of Commerce
Inland Empire Economic Partnership
International Warehouse Logistics Association
In
La Cañada Flintridge Chamber
LA County Medical Association
LA Fashion District BID
LA South Chamber of Commerce
Lancaster Chamber of Commerce
Larchmont Boulevard Association
Latino Food Industry Association
Latino Restaurant Association
LAX Coastal Area Chamber
League of California Cities
Long Beach Area Chamber
Los Angeles Area Chamber
Los Angeles County Board of Real Estate
Los Angeles County Waste Management Association
Los Angeles Gateway Chamber of Commerce
Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce
Los Angeles Latino Chamber
Los Angeles Parking Association
Marketplace Industry Association
Motion Picture Association of America, Inc.
MoveLA
NAIOP Southern California Chapter
National Association of Royalty Owners
National Association of Tobacco Outlets
National Association of Women Business Owners
National Association of Women Business Owners - LA
National Hispanic Medical Association
National Latina Business Women's Association
Orange County Business Council
Pacific Merchant Shipping Association
Pacific Palisades Chamber
Panorama City Chamber of Commerce
Paramount Chamber of Commerce
Pasadena Chamber

Pasadena Foothills Association of Realtors
PhRMA
Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California
Pomona Chamber
Propel LA
Rancho Southeast Association of Realtors
ReadyNation California
Recording Industry Association of America
Regional Black Chamber-San Fernando Valley
Regional Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Regional San Gabriel Valley Chamber
Rosemead Chamber
San Dimas Chamber of Commerce
San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
San Pedro Peninsula Chamber
Santa Clarita Valley Chamber
Santa Clarita Valley Economic Development Corp.
Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce
Sherman Oaks Chamber
South Bay Association of Chambers
South Bay Association of Realtors
South Gate Chamber of Commerce
Southern California Contractors Association
Southern California Golf Association
Southern California Grantmakers
Southern California Leadership Council
Southern California Minority Suppliers Development Council Inc.
Southern California Water Coalition
Southland Regional Association of Realtors
Sunland/Tujunga Chamber
The Young Professional at the Petroleum Club
Torrance Area Chamber
Town Hall Los Angeles
Tri-Counties Association of Realtors
United Cannabis Business Association
United Chambers - San Fernando Valley & Region
United States-Mexico Chamber
Unmanned Autonomous Vehicle Systems Association
US Green Building Council
US Resiliency Council
Valley Economic Alliance, The
Valley Industry & Commerce Association
Vernon Chamber
Vietnamese American Chamber
Warner Center Association
West Hollywood Chamber
West Los Angeles Chamber
West San Gabriel Valley Association of Realtors
West Valley/Warner Center Chamber
Western Manufactured Housing Association
Western States Petroleum Association
Westside Council of Chambers
Westwood Community Council
Westwood Village Rotary Club
Whittier Chamber of Commerce
Wilmington Chamber
World Trade Center
Young Professionals in Energy - LA Chapter

Kimberly Rodrigues

From: Espinoza, Marisol S <MEspinoza2@socalgas.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 1:14 PM
To: Kimberly Rodrigues
Cc: Ramiro Adeva
Subject: Item 9: City of Agoura Hills Draft Climate Action and Adaptation Plan
Attachments: SoCalGas Agoura Hills CAAP Comment Letter FINAL 2.9.21.pdf

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Good afternoon:

Attached is SoCalGas' comment letter on Item 9 for tomorrow night's Council agenda.

Thank you so much!

Marisol Espinoza

Public Affairs Manager

SoCalGas

Office: 818-551-7144

Email: Mespinoza2@socalgas.com

Website: socalgas.com



A  Semptra Energy utility



Marisol Espinoza
Public Affairs Manager
919 South Central Avenue, Unit B
Glendale, CA 91204
Email: mespinoza2@socalgas.com

February 9, 2021

Mayor and Members of the City Council
City of Agoura Hills
30001 Ladyface Ct
Agoura Hills, CA 91301

RE: Agoura Hills Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

Mayor Weber and Members of the City Council:

SoCalGas supports the City of Agoura Hills's forward-looking energy and environmental goals detailed in the Draft Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP). We are pleased to have served the residents of Agoura Hills for over 150 years and, as we look to the future, we believe that SoCalGas has a pivotal role to play in achieving our shared climate change goals. Indeed, we see alignment in most of the goals you've outlined in your plan:

- **Goals 1-5:** Energy Efficiency provides the most cost-effective means to decarbonizing energy.
- **Goal 9:** Renewable Natural Gas is already a part of SoCalGas's clean energy system and experts agree it is needed to help the state achieve carbon neutrality.
- **Climate Adaptation Goals:** Experts agree that buildings with both natural gas and electric service are more resilient to extreme weather events and disasters

Energy Efficiency provides the most cost-effective means to decarbonizing energy. At SoCalGas we offer a multitude of energy efficiency programs addressed in your goals #1-5, all of which are related to increasing energy efficiency. These include energy conservation, home weatherization, and energy efficiency incentive programs. SoCalGas and other utilities that serve Agoura Hills offer multiple programs to assist and educate customers about the benefits of reducing energy use during extreme weather events, to incent the purchase of efficient appliances and equipment, and to help pay for the weatherization of older and less energy inefficient homes. Many customers are often unaware these programs exist or that they are eligible to participate in them. Communities like Agoura Hills can play a vital role in connecting residents to these programs and facilitating higher levels of participation. Your new role in our Public Sector Energy Efficiency Partnership can certainly assist in these efforts. Collectively, higher participation in these programs can lead to a greater reduction in building emissions as

part of Agoura Hills's plan to achieve carbon neutrality. In fact, according to Energy Futures Initiative Report, Energy Efficiency is the most cost-effective tool for decarbonizing energy¹.

Renewable Natural Gas is already a part of SoCalGas's clean energy system and experts agree it is needed to help the state achieve carbon neutrality. The State's climate goal is to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045. That means that we need carbon negative fuels to help achieve the State's GHG goals. RNG fuels are currently the only fuels certified by the California Air Resources Board to have a negative carbon intensity value -- meaning the greenhouse gases generated by its use are less than the greenhouse gases removed by its production. Because it is unlikely that all the State's GHG emissions will be eliminated by 2045, RNG is needed to achieve carbon neutrality.

As you know, SoCalGas has committed to replace twenty percent of our core gas supplies with renewable natural gas by 2030. We appreciate that page 38 of the CAAP highlights that RNG has the potential to greatly reduce GHG emissions. We are excited to let you know that last year, SoCalGas, California Public Advocates, and the Environmental Defense Fund, among others, jointly filed a Green Tariff Program with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). In December 2020, the CPUC permitted our Green Tariff which would allow customers to voluntarily elect to replace all or a portion of their natural gas use with RNG. The Green Tariff Program is similar to clean energy procurement programs offered by electric utilities and community choice aggregators. Implementation of a Pilot Green Tariff Program is expected by June 2022. Incorporating this Tariff as a clean energy measure would provide residents the ability to maintain gas service while offsetting all or a portion of the emissions associated with their gas use.

Research by ICF consultants analyzing RNG sources and feedstocks indicates that there are sufficient RNG supplies nationwide to replace 90% of fossil gas use in homes.² As stated in the study, "there is a portfolio of potential feedstocks and technologies that are or will be commercialized in the near-term future that will help realize the potential of the RNG market."

Moreover, research conducted in 2018 by Navigant Consulting shows that replacing about 20 percent of California's traditional natural gas supply with RNG would lower emissions equal to those achieved through retrofitting every building in the state to run on solely on electricity and at a fraction of the cost.³ The study also found that using RNG in buildings can be two to three times less expensive than any all-electric building requirements and does not require families or businesses to purchase new appliances or take on costly construction projects.

¹ Energy Futures Initiative. "Optionality, Flexibility and Innovation: Pathways for Deep Decarbonization in California." May 2019. Available at: <https://energyfuturesinitiative.org/efi-reports>

² American Gas Association. *Renewable Sources of Natural Gas*. December 2019. Available at: <https://gasfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/AGF-2019-RNG-Study-Full-Report-FINAL-12-18-19.pdf>

³ Navigant Consulting. *Analysis of the Role of Gas for a Low-Carbon California Future*. July 2018. Available at: https://www.socalgas.com/1443741887279/SoCalGas_Renewable_Gas_Final-Report.pdf

In addition, SoCalGas is actively working on several other low- and zero-carbon energy technologies along with renewable natural gas. These include hydrogen production technologies like power-to-gas, methane reformation with carbon capture and sequestration, and hydrogen fuel cells. This work entails research, development and demonstration and broader market development efforts in collaboration with leading research centers and industrial companies worldwide.

Experts agree that buildings with both natural gas and electric service are more resilient to extreme weather events and disasters. In support of your climate adaptation goals it is worth noting that with recent fires, regional heatwaves, and rolling blackouts, energy system vulnerability significantly impacts local resilience. In the past few months, hundreds of thousands of homes had their power preemptively shut off during extreme heat days. Overreliance on only one energy system magnifies these impacts and can not only leave thousands of residents without power at their homes, but also can impact operations of critical facilities.

The inherent resilience of the gas system to climate impacts can significantly benefit local and regional energy reliability. This is highlighted in the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services recently released Adaptation Planning Guide, which includes a strategy to “expand redundancy in the energy network” and highlights, “in the future, emerging power-to-gas technologies and local sources of renewable natural gas may also enhance local energy resilience.”⁴ The importance of resiliency has been observed nationwide during a multitude of climate events, where redundant energy systems enabled critical municipal services and facilities, such as buses, hospitals, and grocery stores, to operate and save lives during climate events.

Existing research and data shows that leveraging the gas system in tandem with the electric system can more effectively decarbonize local energy supplies while enhancing local energy resilience.^{5,6} Our Distributed Energy Resources Services (DERS) Tariff is an optional utility service offered to customers that allows SoCalGas to plan, design, procure, construct, own, operate and maintain distributed generation equipment on customer premises. SoCalGas plans to propose expanding the eligible technologies for the DERS Tariff through an upcoming regulatory filing, which seeks to provide long-duration energy-resilient solutions to keep the lights on during power outages, lower monthly energy bills, and lower emissions compared to diesel back-up generators. We are encouraged that the Draft CAAP includes several, innovative policies that support development and use of natural gas decarbonization technologies, and

⁴ Governor’s Office of Emergency Services. Adaptation Planning Guide. <https://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions/hazard-mitigation/hazard-mitigation-planning/california-climate-adaptation>

⁵ Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. “Getting to Neutral.” August 2020. Available at: https://www.llnl.gov/content/assets/docs/energy/Getting_to_Neutral.pdf

⁶ ICF. “Case Studies of Natural Gas Sector Resilience.” October 2019. Available at: <https://www.socalgas.com/1443742022576/SoCalGas-Case-Studies.pdf>

SoCalGas has several existing programs focused on reducing residential and building emissions and has piloted exciting new renewable energy technologies that provide critical decarbonization pathways.

Conclusion

We applaud Agoura Hills's leadership as an environmentally progressive municipality and support the City's efforts to identify policies and programs that improve air quality and mitigate the impacts of climate change. As a trusted long-term energy provider in Agoura Hills, we are committed to working with the City to achieve those goals. We are excited that we are replacing our natural gas supplies with increasingly decarbonized molecules including renewable natural gas as well as enabling customers to replace all or larger amounts of their natural gas use with RNG, and providing rebates and incentives to encourage customers to reduce their energy use.

We hope the information we are providing you will help you make a better-informed decision about how to reduce emissions from buildings in your city. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important policy issue.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marisol Espinoza". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Marisol" and the last name "Espinoza" clearly distinguishable.

Marisol Espinoza

[REDACTED]

From: Fran Pavley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 1:45 PM
To: Comments
Subject: Agoura Hills 2/10/21 Item No 9: Adoption of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan(CAAP)
Attachments: Agoura Hills – CAAP draft.docx

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resending the attachment below.

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From: Fran Pavley <[REDACTED]>
To: comments@agoourahillscity.org <comments@agoourahillscity.org>
Cc: Illece Buckley Weber <ibuckleyweber@agourahillscity.org>; Chris Anstead <canstead@ci.agoura-hills.ca.us>; Deborah Klein Lopez <deborahklopez@gmail.com>; Linda Northrup <lnorthrup@ci.agoura-hills.ca.us>; Ed Corridori <edcorridori@gmail.com>; Jeremy Wolf <jeremywolf@rocketmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021, 12:31:15 PM PST
Subject: Agoura Hills 2/10/21 Item No 9: Adoption of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan(CAAP)

I have submitted this informal report, attached below, to the City Council and staff regarding the CAAP. Many of these recommendations are included in the CAAP. Addition recommendations to be considered have been added or amended after reviewing the final version prepared by City Staff and consultants.

Fran Pavley

Please let me know if you receive this attachment.

Agoura Hills – CAAP – Comments from Fran Pavley
Item No 9, Agoura Hills City Council Meeting 2/10/21

To: Agoura Hills City Council and Staff:

Consider consulting with Ted Barnacke (CPA), Gary Gero (LA County) and Dave Pedersen (LVMWD) and other similar cities that have adopted and implemented a CAAP. SCE officials should be consulted regarding electrification of new commercial and residential buildings. What ordinances and general plan amendments were adopted by LA County (i.e. Tehon Ranch) and other cities?

Consider adding this goal to the CAAP: “Reduce use of fossil fuels – natural gas and oil”. This should also acknowledge the co-benefits of cleaning up the air, saving consumers money and building resiliency during extreme heat events, wildfires, floods, high winds, and power shut offs.

Update job description contract requirements for building inspectors on energy efficiency. You may want to assign a point person at City Hall on sustainability, implementing programs, outreach, and ordinances.

Hire an expert in lighting standards for recommendations of lights on the exterior of buildings, parking lots after hours, and for streetlights. Use sensors, limit hours, require covers to direct light fixtures towards the ground, etc. Are there more energy efficient models?

Goal: Decarbonization of Buildings.

(State goal: 100% by 2045)

Ban natural gas in all new commercial buildings. (AVSP,etc). 42 other cities have banned natural gas in new construction. Several cities have limited their ban to appliances, but most include banning heat pumps, too. The CEC has approved requirements to ban natural gas.

1) Require all NEW homes and commercial buildings to be all-electric. Consider, in the future, gradual transition for existing homes and commercial/retail businesses. Others have recommended the possible waiver or reductions of permit fees where appropriate. Explore possible revolving loan programs. Over 40 cities and counties have banned or discouraged gas hook ups in new buildings. Allow restaurants and perhaps the fire station to apply for an exemption or be exempted.

**** (2) Revisit the staff recommendations regarding the use of Renewable Natural Gas (RNG). RNG is inconsistent with the long term goals of a CAAP. Natural gas is one of the largest emitters of ghg's, and methane in the state. RNG is a short term solution, that reduces some of the harmful pollution. It will become more expensive to retrofit to the changing regulations in the future. In addition, the CAAP, as written, in the section under methane emissions, primarily refers to agricultural and landfill emissions, but did not mention the significant amount of leaks from natural gas pipelines. Over 90% of our natural gas comes from out of state in pipelines. Aliso Canyon is the largest natural gas reservoir in the state. The in-state supply of RNG from ag (manure), landfills, wastewater plants, can not meet the State's demand. Experts also warn about the high costs of building all these new pipelines becoming a stranded cost and a "dead end".**

RNG will be incompatible with California's, and soon the country's, climate goals. California's climate policies call for the decarbonization of buildings by 2045.

Coal imports have been phased out in California. Petroleum in transportation will be gradually phased out with the new 2020 CA Advance Clean Truck rule (all electric trucks to replace diesel) and all new automobiles sold in California will be ZEV's by 2035. Experts like Ken Rider, the Chief Policy Advisor to the CEC and Chair David Hochschild, and others see RNG playing a small part of meeting our State's energy needs in isolated industrial sectors, or in aviation or maritime associated operations. Ken Riders email is Ken.Rider@energy.ca.gov 916-661-8218. A report by a scientist

at NRDC, Merriah Boreson, acknowledges that RNG may have a lower impact than our current natural gas supply, but will still contribute to climate change. She states that “these long term investments and commitments would devote money, political will, and infrastructure investments to RNG instead of alternatives that could achieve a zero greenhouse gas emission goal.” Utility companies like PG&E, that provide both natural gas and electricity to their customers, are phasing out their natural gas use as part of their business model. No new natural gas plants will be built in California according to the CEC and PUC. Accelerating the use of energy storage and renewable energy (wind, solar, geothermal, hydro) is the plan. These policies have created strong market signal for investment and innovation in a clean energy future.

(3) Provide for free energy audits for existing apartments, condos, homes and businesses. SCE may have a program. If we have older low-income homeowners or apartment owners, they may qualify for free energy audits and weatherization improvements. (Awnings, double pane windows, insulation, etc.) There may be new Federal Stimulus dollars for weatherization of lower income homes. These improvements will save residents money on their utility bills.

(4) Accelerate passing relevant ordinances or requirements prior to AVSP approvals. I don't know if the suggested addition of a “planning principle to ensure projects in the AVSP” is actually enforceable and measureable. Does it help the CAAP meet the CEQA criteria. How much of an increase of emissions are predicted with the completion of the AVSP? The cumulative impact of this project will significantly increase our carbon footprint during construction and the lifetime of these energy intensive uses. (Hotels, more traffic, etc.) Will and updated EIR for the AVSP that would include the CAAP? The City can mitigate these impacts by adoption of updated energy efficiency standards, accessible EV charging, banning the use of natural gas, increasing the use of trees for shade and use of native landscaping, less blacktop, increase pedestrian pathways, encourage the use of solar and storage to meet energy needs and to build resilience during wildfires, high winds, power outages, hot weather, etc.

(5) Require enforcement of Title 24 Building Standards. Many of the Agoura Hills housing stock is over 40 years old in Liberty Cyn, Hillrise, Lake Lindero and Fountainwood. Require, or incentivise adoption of enhanced standards by ordinance that promote EV charging and electrification of buildings, etc. According to experts and SCE, electric appliances use at least 2-5 times less energy than gas and can lower electricity bills.

(5) It is difficult to measure the success of reducing emissions through promotion, encouragement and education through social media etc. as a ghg reduction strategy. (SCE and CPA already does that.) Aspirational targets aren't usually effective, nor measurable. They don't create markets signals.

**** (6) Collaborate with So CA. Clean Power Authority on designing Resource or Cooling Centers that can also serve as a microgrids during emergencies, power shut offs, etc by operating on solar + storage. These centers can become a model for energy efficiency, EV and battery charging, and serve as a communication center, while also providing air-conditioning during extreme heat events. The AH-Calabasas Community Center, AVSP site, movie theatre, or Civic, church or School Buildings are possible sites to consider. Require SCE to provide a portable trailer of battery storage availability during wildfires and PSPS, etc.**

(7) Evaluate the use of solar panels on existing commercial roofs and for parking lots. Meet with existing retail owners to see if their large parking lots will accommodate solar panels. Consider waving fees as part of the permit process. There may be power purchase agreements to pay for these improvements through energy savings. Parking lots paved in asphalt add to heat impacts for a longer period of the day.

(8) Consider gas free public buildings as a goal by 2035 or 2045.

Transportation is # 1 source of ghg emissions:

(1) Conduct an updated transit needs study. The City had one done in 1984 that lead to implementing our dial-a-ride program, commuter lots near the 101 and Kanan, our summer beach bus, and rerouting the LA County buses north of the 101.

**** (2) The “City fleet” shouldn’t just be limited to the cars we have. You may want to require the transition to zero-emission vehicles when new trucks or vehicles are needed for the Dial a Ride, Beach Bus, RTD, and as part of the contracts with city landscape crews, waste haulers, construction equipment, ride share vehicles, etc. LA County’s Metro bus fleet will be all electric with the next few years. These zero emission buses are made in LA County by Proterra and BYD.**

**** (3) Require EV fast charging or hydrogen fueling in all major new (and eventually existing) commercial/retail projects, city facilities. Coordinate with SCE for EV charging at schools in Agoura Hills. Require gas stations to become “fueling stations”. ZEV sales by 2035 of all new cars sold in California is in the Governor’s 2020 Executive Order. (This E.O. should be in the City’s timeline)**

(4) Establish preferential parking for ZEV’s in AVSP, etc.

(5) Establish a Bicycle Advisory Committee for residents and school officials to examine bike routes. (i.e. freeway crossing over Forest Cove from Canwood to Agoura Road) .Coordinate with Conejo Future Foundation. Add a few students to the committee.

Other thoughts:

**** Invite So Cal Edison to your meeting to discuss electric appliances, heat pumps, etc in commercial and residential buildings. There are a great resource for EV charging, too. The CAAP may benefit from including them in this discussion. I assume So Cal Gas already contacted the staff.**

****Consider adopting a 30%(or higher) natural lands ordinance on the permanent protection and restore natural lands within the city limits. Most of the hillsides south of Agoura Road are in protected open space and would qualify. This also relates to carbon sequestration goals, biodiversity, and public access goals underway at the State and Federal levels.**

Does the City need to adopt new building codes that promote electrification and EV charging? Include buildings and curbsides where they are accessible to renters and visitors. Pierre Delforge with NRDC (SF office) offered to answer questions local governments have about electric local building codes.

Provide a technical assistance program for managers of multi-family buildings on how to install EV chargers, obtain energy audits etc.

Seek incentive programs from SCE, So Ca Clean Power Authority, our local air district, etc. to provide a monetary incentive or rebate program for solar and storage in the community.

****Seniors – Extreme Heat, wildfires, high winds and power shut offs**

****Consider adding to your list associated with cooling centers to help Seniors during extreme heat events, the need to also adapt to “high winds and power shuts offs”(PSPS). The frequency of power shut offs are a growing problem. Discourage use of diesel powered generators. There are direct health impacts with the use of these machines. Residents need places to go when the power is out to get information, recharge their cars, computers or iphones., etc. Many people also have medical equipment that needs power to run. Agoura Hills should adapt to Public Safety Power Shuts Offs(PSPS) during extreme heat, high winds, threat of wildfires, earthquakes, or other emergencies and designate locations in our Emergency Plans. Many cities are equipping centers with solar panels and battery storage, multiple outlets, etc. to operate 24-7 when needed.**

**Designate Cooling and Emergency Centers in Agoura Hills
Add solar/storage microgrids (communication/EV charging etc.)**

- **Meet with LVUSD to see if there is interest in 2-3 schools becoming centers (3-8pm and on weekends/holidays, summer)**
- **County library/city hall/movie theatre/ Agoura High Auditorium/Lutheran Church on TO, etc. are other options.**
- **AG/Calabasas Community Center**

Weatherization funds from federal stimulus package for low or fixed income may be available soon. This will save energy and lowers bills.

Free energy audits in older homes/apartments (explore power purchase agreements)

LA County Community Block Grants -

May help pay for fans, awnings, insulation, check for inefficient air conditioners, etc.

Inventory of where older, non-mobile, single residents live.

Look at programs from Fire Safe Council, cities like Palm Springs etc. Tie in fire resiliency to extreme heat adaptation with upgrades for homes. (Sen. Stern)

Create a model incentive or revolving loan opportunity to spur private investment in clean energy, microgrids, EV charging, etc:

IE: SCAQMD, SCE, Clean Power Authority, foundations or large business, etc. Sonoma County CCA has up to a \$17,000 rebate or no interest loans for solar, storage, EV charging, change to electric homes, etc. The CEC may have a revolving loan program.

I apologize for any typos, redundancy, or unintended factual errors that I might have made. Staffing myself is always a challenge. Thank you to City staff and the City Council for their efforts in producing the CAAP.

Fran

From: Armando Flores <armando@vica.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 2:14 PM
To: Comments
Subject: Item 09 - 021021 Agoura Hills City Council Meeting
Attachments: VICA Letter_Agoura Hills Climate Action Plan_CONCERNS.pdf

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February 9, 2021

Agoura Hills City Council
30001 Ladyface Court
Agoura Hills, CA 91301

SUBJECT: Draft Climate Action and Adaptation Plan – Item 9 – CONCERNS

Dear Councilmembers,

We are writing on behalf of the Valley Industry and Commerce Association (VICA), representing more than 400 businesses in the San Fernando Valley and throughout Los Angeles County. VICA has strong concerns with the Council's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP), which proposes to mandate electrification in new residential and commercial buildings.

Mandating the electrification of all new buildings in the city would eliminate affordable energy options currently available to consumers. Residents and businesses in Agoura Hills would be required to pay high costs for energy supply and appliances used in their homes and businesses.

Forcing the use of electricity for all end-uses, including cooking, water heating and air conditioning would have a significant economic impact on businesses and the workers those businesses employ, especially as many are struggling due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Switching to electric appliances would be financially unfeasible for many businesses and residents to the point where living and doing business in Agoura Hills would be impracticable.

Mandating 100 percent electrification could increase annual home utility bills by almost \$900 compared to mixed-fuel homes. Removing energy choice would signal that Agoura Hills is not taking struggling businesses into consideration as the CAAP will force business owners to consider options and locations that make more financial sense.

Further, 100 percent electrification could lead to more power outages, which has become more frequent in our region. At a time when many are working from home and students are distance learning, having power shut off can have an enormous impact on productivity. For businesses who are struggling to stay alive, having power shut off for a few hours can have a huge toll on operations. Having no power for two to three days could cost a business tens of thousands of dollars. These are the ramifications we would be faced with should Agoura Hills move forward with 100 percent electrification.

Eliminating an energy choice would move the state to an all-eggs-in-one-basket scenario, jeopardizing energy supply during blackouts and leaving Californians with zero energy supply in times of an energy crisis. In order to keep our region at the forefront of the battle against climate change, we need to preserve choice while implementing responsible policies that do not increase the cost of living and doing business.

We thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brad Rosenheim
VICA Chair

Stuart Waldman
VICA President



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