



April 7th, 2023

Mayor and City Council
San Diego City Hall
2020 C Street San Diego, CA 92101
Via Email

RE: Adoption of a New Council Policy for Climate Action Plan Implementation Prioritization

Honorable Mayor Gloria and Councilmembers,

We are a diverse coalition of communities and organizations committed to a safe, equitable, zero carbon future.

First, we would like to acknowledge Mr. Jordan More, Senior Fiscal & Policy Analyst for the City Council Independent Budget Analyst (IBA) office, for his work on the Climate Action Plan (CAP) prioritization policy, which demonstrates that completing and adopting policy within short timelines is possible. We are excited and hopeful that this indicates that the same level of commitment and urgency will be adopted by all City departments when implementing the actions outlined in the 2022 CAP.

Second, we would like to highlight that we support the City's commitment to following the recommendations of the City Auditor and IBA to set prioritization mechanisms for the CAP. **In accordance with recommendations made by the City Auditor we ask the Council to approve the adoption of the Council Policy for Climate Action Plan Implementation. This policy will be key to ensuring City departments stay on track on CAP action implementation, and better inform key decision makers of implementation progress.**

After reviewing the 2015 CAP Final Report, it is clear that there is plenty of room for improvement and lessons that can be applied to the implementation of the 2022 CAP. We expect that the City will present a clear outline of which actions in the CAP will be implemented this year, next year, and within the next five years. These actions should be coupled with milestones and benchmarks on progress towards the net-zero 2035 commitment in the CAP. This will give the Council the opportunity to plan budgets appropriately, and it will give the community a chance to see how the City will make meaningful progress on our GHG reduction goals.

Open communication with the community is key for accountability and transparency, and we believe that once adopted, the prioritization policy will offer an opportunity for the City to regain public trust, after seven years of flawed CAP implementation.

Thank you, and we look forward to continuing to partner with the City to create a climate-safe and climate-ready future.

Sincerely,

Brenda Garcia Millan
Researcher & Policy Advocate
Climate Action Campaign

Karinna Gonzalez
Climate Justice Policy Manager
**Hammond Climate Solutions
Foundation**

Larry Peranich
Founder
Move Faster

Marc Friedmann
Team Leader
**Citizens Climate Lobby
San Diego Chapters**

Sean Armstrong
Partner
Redwood Energy

Saad Asad
San Diego Resident
Pro-Housing Activist

Sam Mazzeo
Managing Partner
Better apc

Bea Alvarez
Climate Resilience Projects
Coordinator
Carbon Sink Farms

Ricardo Flores
Executive Director
LISC San Diego

Pamela Heatherington
Director
**Environmental Center of San
Diego**

Adrienne Fusek
Executive Director
In Good Company

Susan Wayo
Dir. Operations
Center for Community Energy

Mikey Knab
Board Chair
Business For Good SD

Colleen FitzSimons
Executive Director
**San Diego Green Building
Council**

Adria Fox
Founder
**Communities For Global
Sustainability (C4GS-ZEDlife)**

Mitch Silverstein
SD County Policy Coordinator
Surfrider Foundation San Diego

Suzanne Hume
Educational Director & Founder
CleanEarth4Kids.org

Kara Ballester
President and Co-Founder
BQuest Foundation

Will Rhatigan
Advocacy Director
San Diego County Bicycle Coalition

Joyce Lane
Board President
SanDiego350

Philip Petrie
Co-Chairperson
Interfaith Coalition for Earth Justice