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May 27, 2020

Leighann Moffitt, Sacramento County Planning Director  
827 7th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Via Email

Dear Ms. Moffitt,

#### COUNTY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN: FUND SOURCE

Thank you for your prompt response to our May 12 letter on CAP funding. We appreciate your efforts to secure funding for the CAP. As reported at the County's May 24, 2017 CAP workshop, most of the work (then \$267,060 contract and \$431,300 staff) was to have been funded by Long Range Planning fees. However, your response indicated funding from development project applicants instead. It isn't clear if these are only applicants currently in the entitlement process; if so we have the following concerns.

First, notwithstanding any legal disclaimers, developers funding a CAP affecting their projects may feel entitled to influence its contents, and such funding could appear to the public to be a conflict of interest. Spreading funding to include future applicants through a permit fee would limit that potential, and current applicants would not find that they are among the few funding the CAP. This approach is suggested by General Plan Policy LU-115, Implementation Measure I.: "*The County shall develop sustainable funding sources for this Program and associated activities, which may include a fee assessed for development projects*".

Second, a one-time funding arrangement for CAP development would not provide the sustainable funding source which Implementation Measure I directs, "... *to provide ongoing oversight, monitoring and maintenance of the Climate Action Plan, updates to the GHG emissions inventory, and future updates to the ... Climate Action Plan*".

We suggest that the County adopt a standard fee, amortizing over a reasonable period the up-front costs of CAP development and providing a necessary stable funding source for ongoing administration. This would be more consistent with the General Plan and the need for ongoing CAP maintenance, and would be more equitable for applicants.

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350 SACRAMENTO, Suite 116 - info@350sacramento.org - PO Box 16167, Sacramento, CA 95816  
ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL OF SACRAMENTO, Suite 201 - office@ecosacramento.net - P.O. Box 1526, Sacramento, CA 95812  
SIERRA CLUB, SACRAMENTO GROUP, Suite 202 - sacramentosierraclub@gmail.com

We would appreciate your letting us know if you foresee any obstacle to adoption of such a fee. If not, please let us know the steps involved in establishing this fee.

Thank you for considering our comments. We are grateful for your and your staff's efforts to fulfill the County's CAP commitments and look forward to assisting in any way we can.

Sincerely,



Laurie Litman, President  
350 Sacramento



Ralph Propper, President  
Environmental Council of Sacramento



Barbara Leary, Chairperson  
Sacramento Group, Sierra Club

cc: County of Sacramento Board of Supervisors

Chair, Phil Serna, District 1  
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Susan Peters, District 3  
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Navdeep S. Gill, County Executive