



Post Office Box 1526 | Sacramento, CA 95812-1526

April 26, 2022

Mayor and Council Members
City of Sacramento
915 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Sent via email

RE: City Council Meeting, April 26, 2022, Item 19 Quarterly Climate Update

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers:

ECOS urges the City in its Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) to portray the entire path of greenhouse gas reductions from the present 3.4M MTCO_{2e} to an estimated year for carbon neutrality. The later years should be described in terms of the sectors from which reductions will occur and the rough magnitude of the reductions in each sector. If future projects are to be relieved of evaluating their GHG emissions impacts because the projects are deemed consistent with a CEQA-qualified plan, then the CAAP must show how the path to carbon neutrality will be achieved.

Sacramento can be a leader in sustainable and equitable growth and reducing of GHG emissions. The Sacramento region is the home of the Blueprint, upon which was modeled the landmark law SB375 linking land use and transportation. The concept of coordinating or integrating land use and transportation was right in 2008 and it is still right today. The key is to implement it.

Therefore, ECOS urges the City to use SacRT's transit system as the backbone for redevelopment. Five- to seven-story buildings should frame the light rail station areas. Streets with existing high-ridership bus routes should be transformed into boulevards with consistently high street walls, wide sidewalks, protected bikeways, street trees on park strips, and curb parking. New parks and public plazas should be inserted.

A whole network of development and active transportation should be planned, starting with the light rail stations and heavily used bus routes. This approach offers much potential for building community and transit ridership, increasing housing and equity, reducing transportation-related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and vehicle miles traveled, preserving open space, and attracting federal grants.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Herre", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL OF SACRAMENTO
Susan Herre AIA AICP, President of the ECOS Board of Directors
<https://www.ecosacramento.net/>
202-747-4087