

Escondido Community Advisory Group on Climate and Environmental Action
Subcommittee on Equitable and Effective Measures for the ECAP



April 9, 2020

Mr. Mike Strong
City of Escondido
Via Email

RE: Transmittal of Community Advisory Committee research report and recommendations on ECAP

Dear Mr. Strong,

The Community Advisory Committee for Climate and Environmental Action is happy to provide you with the work we have done thus far as a group focused on the Escondido Climate Action Plan Update (ECAP). Our Subcommittee has been meeting regularly during the past several months and we presented the results of our research and recommendations to our full Committee on April 6th. The [recording of the presentation is here](#) (presentation begins at 11:19) and we hope you have a chance to view it.

To supplement our 'red-line' comments on your current draft measures, we would like to underline the following major areas for prioritized inclusion in the upcoming ECAP revision. The details can be found in the attached presentation and supplemental research report.

Broadly, our recommendations request the city take the following actions in the ECAP.

1. Adopt the approach to address social equity outlined in our proposal: to identify priority neighborhoods based on CalEnviroscreen data; develop formal education and outreach for these areas; and, prioritize funding for these communities. (Slides 9-23)
2. Include a major focus on building energy efficiency, water conservation, electrification, and distributed solar for current buildings. (Slides 22-26)
3. Adopt or join a Community Choice Energy program that prioritizes green energy, labor standards and local job provisions, and prohibits nuclear energy. (29-31)
4. Accelerate transition to electric vehicles and electric transit options, provide free youth passes, and partner with schools on electric buses. (Slide 27-28)
5. Elevate and expand land use measures to include riparian and chaparral restoration and preservation and reduces wildlife risks by relocating development out of high-fire risk areas. (Slides 32-41)
6. Elevate and increase measures to promote regenerative agriculture or 'carbon farming', both in established ag areas as well as develop new urban ag opportunities. (Slide 38)

7. Develop and implement a robust City Forestry Master Plan focused on use of tree canopy to reduce climate impacts and provide co-benefits to residents. (Slide 42-44)
8. Include dedicated staffing, reporting, enforceability, and a cogent community involvement program during the implementation of the plan. (Slides 47-48)

In addition, we are requesting that the city request a presentation for the Council from UCSD Scripps Institute of Oceanography on climate change impacts, mitigation and adaptation in the San Diego region.

We appreciate this opportunity to provide our input on this extremely important effort and we look forward to working with the city to make the ECAP, as the Council requested in 2018, the “best” Climate Action Plan in the region. Please contact Tim Swift with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Members of the Community Advisory Committee

Cc.

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