



June 24, 2020

To: Mayors' Steinberg and Cabaldon

From: Sacramento Tree Foundation, Ray Tretheway, executive director

Subject: Letter of Support for Mayors' Commission of Climate Change Strategies Recommendations

PRESIDENT  
Dr. Janine Bera

VICE PRESIDENT  
Allison Post Harris

SECRETARY  
Caylyn Wright

TREASURER  
Steve Johns

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Costa  
Roger Dickinson  
Eric Douglas  
Della Gilleran  
Steve Harriman  
Tim Holliday  
Ryan Hooper  
John Lane  
Charles Metzinger  
Meredith Nikkel  
Tom Rotelli  
Rev. Jean Shaw  
Robert Sherry  
Michelle Smira Brattmiller  
Jeff Townsend  
John Webre  
Melissa Williams

BOARD EMERITI

Jane Hagedorn  
Ann Kohl

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Raymond Tretheway

The Sacramento Tree Foundation strongly supports the initiatives and strategies to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions in our communities and region. As an active participant in the Community Health and Resiliency working group the Tree Foundation staff, board of directors and neighborhood volunteers are prepared to fully support and implement the set of strategies necessary to achieve the carbon zero goals by 2045 that are outlined by the commission.

Our urban forest is an asset whose benefits grow over decades as the canopy spreads. While the urban greening strategies in this report are oriented toward carbon sequestration and storage goals, they will have additional positive impacts on the health, quality of life, justice and equity, environmental quality and economic prosperity of our two cities.

The vast majority of trees – up to 90% - in our two cities are owned and managed by private property owners. While the two cities will mainly focus on street and park trees, at the Tree Foundation it is our goal to inform, enlist and engage citizens of all ages from all neighborhoods to plant and establish new trees at their homes, to help plant trees in public areas, and help to manage the health and longevity of their neighborhood's mature trees.

With the Sacramento Municipal Utility District's nationally recognized shade tree program and our NeighborWoods program we are focusing our resources on addressing the canopy disparity in low-income neighborhoods. By expanding and caring for an extensive and healthy tree canopy through local leadership, volunteerism and workforce opportunities, we are offering ways to remake and revitalize neighborhoods most in need across our cities.

The Sacramento Tree Foundation appreciates how the Commissions' set of strategies are interlinked and interdepend on one another to achieve sustainable, equitable and responsible growth in the coming decades.

We urge the respective city councils to adopt the suite of electrification strategies and goals and timelines as presented in the Commission's report.

It was our honor to serve on the Community Health and Resiliency working group. We are ready to lend our full support, resources and voice to build a carbon zero future for our communities.