



June 20, 2020

Chair Anne Stausboll  
The Mayors' Commission on Climate Change

Dear Ms. Stausboll,

On behalf of organizations identified on this letter, we ask the Climate Commission to make the following changes in their Built Environment Recommendation and Year One recommendations as currently proposed in the DRAFT Mayors' Commission on Climate Change Report:

**Built Environment Recommendation #2: Electrification of New Construction**

Adopt ordinances for all-electric construction to eliminate fossil-fuel use by 2030, unless the subject sites on the grid do not have the adequate electrical capacity and/or the building use and its operations cannot support an all-electric building.

This revised language would align with many of the other time-bound goals set for 2030, and provide the time needed to improve both infrastructure and technology to support these ambitious goals. The exceptions would also allow for the continued development of large commercial, manufacturing and office projects that rely on equipment operated by other energy sources and would not be able to meet all-electric goals.

We encourage the city of Sacramento and city of West Sacramento to work with their utility partners to address infrastructure issues in select neighborhoods (e.g. Midtown Sacramento) that create barriers for infill projects, including an aging grid without the capacity to support additional development and transformer requirements that are difficult and costly to implement in dense, urban environments. We encourage the cities to partner with utility operators on expanding incentives for all-electric technologies, including solar energy and innovation to bring efficiency to built projects.

Also, there are some of our members and those in our coalition who have deep concerns that new greenhouse gas controls will stifle the economy through strict regulations and that new policies mandating all-electric building before the market and technical innovations can adapt may hurt the economy and cause further job losses at a time when unemployment is at its highest. For these reasons, we respectfully ask for an economic analysis and cost-benefit study to be conducted to provide decision-makers the data need to make a more informed decision.

We appreciate the bold vision of the commission and for looking for innovative ways to slash fossil fuel use and to meet California greenhouse gas reduction goals. As both cities pursue adopting aggressive greenhouse gas emission reduction goals, we look forward to collaborating with the commission, city councils, industry and community leaders to achieve these stated goals and intent behind the Climate Commission for a Carbon Zero community by 2045, while recognizing that the construction industry is vital to the success of California and critical to the resiliency of the state and its people.

Sincerely,

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cc: Mayor Christopher Cabaldon, City of West Sacramento  
Mayor Darrell Steinberg, City of Sacramento  
Executive Director, Kate Meis, Local Government Commission