

Fw: Blair Beekman. Friday, November 12, 2021.....City Charter Questions of Re-imagine, Future city elections, and 2022.

Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Fri 11/12/2021 2:50 PM

To: Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

From: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>**Sent:** Friday, November 12, 2021 2:16 PM**To:** Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** FW: Blair Beekman. Friday, November 12, 2021.....City Charter Questions of Re-imagine, Future city elections, and 2022.

Hello!

Seems Like he already forwarded it, but I thought I would forward this to you just in case you need it.

Thank you!



From: b. beekman <[REDACTED]>**Sent:** Friday, November 12, 2021 1:34 PM**To:** Charter Review Commission 10a <CRC10a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 10b <CRC10b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 1a <CRC1a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 1b <CRC1b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 2a <CRC2a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 2b <CRC2b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 3a <CRC3a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 3b <CRC3b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 4a <CRC4a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 4b <CRC4b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 5a <CRC5a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 5b <CRC5b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 6b <CRC6b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 6a <CRC6a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 7b <CRC7b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 7a <CRC7a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 8a <CRC8a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 8b <CRC8b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 9a <CRC9a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 9b <CRC9b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission Citywide 1 <CRCCW1@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission Citywide 2 <CRCCW2@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission Chair <CRCChair@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter.Review@sanjoseca.gov; Taber, Toni <toni.taber@sanjoseca.gov>; Vanni, Mark <Mark.Vanni@sanjoseca.gov>; Maguire, Jennifer <jennifer.maguire@sanjoseca.gov>; Pereira, Paul <Paul.Pereira@sanjoseca.gov>; Rios, Angel <Angel.Rios@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Envrión. Laura Mitchell <l.mitchell@sanjoseca.gov>; Doan, Elise <Elise.Doan@sanjoseca.gov>; Parra-Garcia, Sabrina <Sabrina.Parra-Garcia@sanjoseca.gov>; [REDACTED] Paul Soto <[REDACTED]> tessa woodmansee <[REDACTED]> CivicCenterTV26 <civiccentertv26@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** Blair Beekman. Friday, November 12, 2021.....City Charter Questions of Re-imagine, Future city elections, and 2022.

[External Email]

Dear san jose city charter commission, sj city govt, & community,

The video, of the Nov. 6, City Charter commission public meeting, has some serious buffering issues. and video issues, making it very hard to watch. And at this point , the video can only be found, on the Civic Center TV calendar site. It is not placed on, the SJ Master Calender.

All of these issues, may be happening, due to a combination of things.

From this, I worry, there are some, within San Jose city govt., who may be fighting too hard, for the City Charter commission study process, to adhere, to a closed, conservative process, at this point. And for the study sessions, to be limited, to end, and to simply not continue. It would be hurtful, if public meeting video, is not be allowed, good open community practices.

Yet it was clear to myself, from the first hour, of the Nov. 6, video.....(and that did not have buffering issues) - that current study session questions, simply may have, an important place, in the future of the Charter. These important study session concepts, should not be dismissed, so easily. And that the current use, of a 'wall of silence', by sj city govt. elite, may be the wrong approach, in how to address & understand, these incredibly decent minded, study session issues, in the few remaining weeks, of the City Charter commission. A more open approach, can possibly accomplish, much of the same need, to streamline. modify and readjust, how to address, a wide range, of study session ideas, questions, and legal language issues, for the future, of the SJ City Charter.

For in fact, we should be aware, the city charter commission, may have to be extended, into the spring of 2022, to continue the work, in how to better develop & prepare, a clear, good legal language, for the City Charter - from some, if not all, of current study session questions. Equity, Green Sustainability, and Community Police Oversight, all may simply need, some more work, on its legal language, for the City Charter, by the City Charter commission, into the spring of 2022. And don't forget, how affordable housing issues, voting rights for low income, and Ohlone issues, can still be included, in how all of these good study session concepts, can overlap & work together, with legal language ideas, as well .

The point of this letter writing, is so we can all be, more open & clear, in how all of the community can understand, and make, informed, good decisions, for the remaining time, the City Charter commission is active. Yet, the wall of silence, from the sj city govt. elites, and their current strong rebuke, on these study subjects, does nothing to address, what may be, the honest questions, needed to be asked, for the remainder, of city charter commission. process. Including, possible legal language issues, for the future of the City Charter itself.

To also note, as I have tried to mention often, in public comment time, there may be important planning issues, of 2022, to consider, that can be simpler, yet possibly different, than the planning, that may be needed, for SF Bay Area natural disaster issues, of 2023, 2024, 2025, and this decade. To create, a full, clear, open, understandable, clear plan, now, would be helpful, for all sides, in however we plan to navigate, the next few years in San Jose, and the SF Bay Area. This is overall planning, in the future of City Charter study session questions, that should be open to consideration, by all of the community, And not simply, as final commands, handed down, by a select few, from local sj govt.

The study session topics, has been a process, of our better human ideals & practices. In the next few weeks, and months, with the scheduled remaining time, of the City Charter commission, I hope, as an entire san jose community, we can learn how trust, how to more openly address, the re-adjustments & modifications, to study session issues. As there seems, a very real possibility, that some of these study session issues, may make it, to a June 2022, city wide ballot. An additional legal language, for the SJ City Charter, itself, may also needed. So from this, the need of an extension of the City Charter process, into the early spring, may also be needed.

These are ideas,, not meant as absolutes. But only in the importance, in how to consider options, in the remaining, scheduled, 6 weeks,, of the City Charter commission. It takes practice, but these sorts of questions, should be allowed, to be asked & considered openly. It is from this, I hope, remaining public meeting videos, for community review, can be, a more, open. accessible process. And that can be free, of questionable buffering issues & glitches, that is possibly meant, by some with sj city govt. to silence good thought & ideas, along with, remaining options and choices.

sincerely,
blair beekman

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NEW CHARTER ARTICLE XX: AN ACT TO ELIMINATE GREENHOUSE GASES, BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND MAKE THE EARTH A GARDEN AGAIN.

tessa woodmansee <[REDACTED]>

Mon 11/15/2021 9:29 AM

To: To: Alrie Middlebrook <[REDACTED]> Andrew Boone <[REDACTED]> Blaire Beekman <[REDACTED]> Charter Review Commission 10a <CRC10a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 10b <CRC10b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 1a <CRC1a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 1b <CRC1b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 2a <CRC2a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 2b <CRC2b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 3a <CRC3a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 3b <CRC3b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 4a <CRC4a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 4b <CRC4b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 5a <CRC5a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 5b <CRC5b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 6a <CRC6a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 6b <CRC6b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 7a <CRC7a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 7b <CRC7b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 8a <CRC8a@sanjoseca.gov>

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Dear Charter Review Commissioners and City Council Members,

I know that the commissioners and the council will be considering adding ARTICLES to the City Charter... Please add the proposed **climate crisis ARTICLE**:

We urgently need added to our City Charter : **AN ACT TO ELIMINATE GREENHOUSE GASES, BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND MAKE THE EARTH A GARDEN AGAIN** added **Into our city Charter**: A municipal charter is the basic document that defines the organization, powers, functions and essential procedures of the city government.

This addition to our CITY CHARTER IS essential if we are to have a government! As Noam Chompsky says: Now aged 90, Noam Chomsky WHO continues to write, and is co-teaching a course on politics and global crises at the University of Arizona...Apart from his paradigm-creating work in linguistics, Chomsky has been an outspoken and cogent critic of American foreign policy and its connection with human rights violations and military aggression around the world. In recent years, Chomsky has turned his prodigious mind to **the existential threat of global warming, a “threat to the perpetuation of organized human life,” on par with nuclear war.**

Adding direction to the city about climate change is essential for the well being and survival of the citizens of this city. Since the role of government is to protect the people from harm we need this ARTICLE : AN ACT TO ELIMINATE GREENHOUSE GASES, BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND MAKE THE EARTH A GARDEN AGAIN.

In addition, the Subcommittee on Accountability, Inclusion and Representation has NOT included two of the legs suggested by Scientist, futurist Cat Woodmansee into the Climate Crisis Article after the last San Jose city charter article XIX : An Act to Limit Urban Sprawl and the Fiscal and Environmental Effects of Specified Development in Outlying Areas.

THE THREE LEGS FOR OUR CHARTER ARTICLE ARE written BELOW AS written by Scientist, educator Cat Woodmansee, BS Biology:

“Consider an approach like a stool with THREE legs. In our case, one leg is data collection concerning carbon emissions and fossil fuel consumption for the sake of transparency and decision-making. Another leg is identifying communities in harm’s way and ensuring they become resilient to climate disasters where resilience is lacking, focusing in particular on historically under-served communities. And the third leg is the creation of a commission of the people to ensure that the political and business elites understand the importance of saving the People.”

We urgently need the new ARTICLE XX : AN ACT TO ELIMINATE GREENHOUSE GASES, BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND MAKE THE EARTH A GARDEN AGAIN.

This addition into the charter is essential since this change is so integral to our survival and demands transformational change that the politicians our so called leaders who serve businesses can NOT do this job.

Business is all about fossil fuels, this is the way we make money, business and money is all about fossil fuels. We need to go back to the way we lived before business, before fossil fuels, before money—abstract tokens of exchange— not REAL GOODS. MONEY which was brought to us by the Romans starting in about **400 BC** who were the first invaders and capitalists –**exploiting people and nature for profit.**

So adding **the three legs of this document below** included into the Article : CLIMATE CRISIS: AN ACT TO ELIMINATE GREENHOUSE GASES, BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES, AND MAKE THE EARTH A GARDEN AGAIN is essential not just the Subcommittees proposed **Climate Crisis Commission C3** but the fossil fuel use **data collection** and the **building resilient communities** as written by Cat Woodmansee, Master Biologist, Science Teacher, Historian, and Futurist :

AS SCIENTIST CAT WOODMANSEE SAYS:

Consider an approach like a stool with three legs. In our case, one leg is data collection concerning carbon emissions and fossil fuel consumption for the sake of transparency and decision-making. Another leg is identifying communities in harm's way and ensuring they become resilient to climate disasters where resilience is lacking, focusing in particular on historically under-served communities. And the third leg is the creation of a commission of the people to ensure that the political and business elites understand the importance of saving the People.

So please add ARTICLE XX: We urgently need added to our City Charter : AN ACT TO ELIMINATE GREENHOUSE GASES, BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND MAKE THE EARTH A GARDEN AGAIN added Into our city Charter:

Warm Regards.

Tessa Woodmansee
MA Mass Communications and Education,CSUN

COMPLETE PROPOSED CHARTER ARTICLE WRITTEN BY CAT WOODMANSEE, MS BIOLOGY, ECOSYSTEMS ECOLOGIST, CREDENTIALLED SCIENCE TEACHER,CSU

Global heating, and the associated changes in regional climate, together create a global issue. We cannot say yet if there will be a global solution, however, we do know with certainty that any harms will be of a local nature. We are already seeing signs of what we can expect from the future in the horrifying, record-breaking fires, floods, freezes, droughts, cyclones, and the accelerating breakdown of previously stable parts of the whole Earth system. The most recent IPCC report suggests we can expect 30 more years at least of increasingly worse outcomes, with each year potentially breaking records set just the year before.

It seems we find ourselves now at a crossroads, where every step forward takes us further off a map defined by 8,000 years of Earth systems stability. Beyond here there will be monsters. People are going to suffer in large numbers, due to changes in the climate. People are going to die.

It is time we accept the challenge to save the people. All the people, but starting with the people in our fair city.

The political class certainly understands the challenge, but perceived political expedience prevents timely, realistic actions in response. For the moment it seems the political class cannot save the people. The financial and business classes also understand the challenge but apart from the insurance sector they cannot generally consider threats any further out than the next quarterly results. The insurance sector in particular has seen the future of climate impacts and is canceling policies. Obviously, this will not save the people, either.

It appears the people must for now endeavor to save themselves.

The purpose of a city is to serve the needs of people. The laws and regulations of the city are created with the intent to provide a civilized experience for all. Today we consider amendments to the Charter of the City of San Jose, to add language that will inform the City's response to a looming global climate crisis, so as to save the people, and in so doing to preserve civilization. Permit me now to outline what such Charter language should contain.

Consider an approach like a stool with three legs. In our case, one leg is data collection concerning carbon emissions and fossil fuel consumption for the sake of transparency and decision-making. Another leg is identifying communities in harm's way and ensuring they become resilient to climate disasters where resilience is lacking, focusing in particular on historically under-served communities. And the third leg is the creation of a commission of the people to ensure that the political and business elites understand the importance of saving the people.

I will now provide some details on how this could work, starting with the first leg, data collection. The Charter should be amended with language to require City departments and services to analyze and report their current and projected annual fossil fuel consumption and other sources of greenhouse gas emissions, and to report how they are mitigating these emissions if at all, and if not how they might reduce them or mitigate, and if they cannot why then they cannot. The exact same requirement would apply to private enterprises operating inside the City or providing goods or services to the City.

The Charter should also require analyzing the fossil fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions of citizens in aggregate. For example, how often and where citizens drive, commute patterns into and out of the City, adoption rates for electric vehicles, bicycles, and mass transit, mass transit passenger-mile carbon emissions, the expansion of suburbs, freeway passenger miles, densification of the urban core, the pace and locations of new home construction, and the like. It is potentially a long list, the actual measures would also evolve over time so the Charter must specify the need for this data as an aid to planning and not the exact kinds of data. Data collection of citizen emission patterns could be via surveys and/or longitudinal studies and should be completely anonymized.

As described above, the first leg of our approach would be used to identify areas where the City and local businesses could and likely should reduce fossil fuel consumption and greenhouse

gas emissions, a first step toward paring down our contribution to the problem. The actual numerical goals for this work, meaning the targets for reductions, might come to the City via state law, or federal law, or even international treaties, but there is nothing to stop the City from having more aggressive goals either for itself, the citizens, or the business community. Where multiple goals for reductions exist at different levels of governance including international agreements, or via different jurisdictions, the City will take on the more aggressive target. The ultimate target for fossil fuels consumption by the City, citizens, and businesses within the City is taken to be numerically zero, meaning no consumption of any kind. Likewise, the ultimate goal of carbon emissions is taken as zero. These are difficult goals to be sure, and will be deemed politically unpalatable or in other ways impossible, but like it or not these are the real goals of the work being described here even if lesser, more acceptable, targets are pursued instead. But reducing fossil fuel reliance is not just about doing with less for the sake of less, it can be viewed as a strategic, defensive measure where reducing reliance can forestall serious local economic damage in the event that national or state climate actions require us to take on a sudden, forced, and dramatic reduction in fossil fuel and energy consumption. The sooner the City, the citizens, and businesses can operate without significant reliance on fossil fuel consumption, the least harm will be felt when energy supplies become deliberately curtailed or the price of fuels enter the stratosphere. These are trends we can anticipate as global heating begins to bite, and national governments take concerted, draconian steps to save the human world from disaster.

The second leg of our approach is to create resilient communities.

All communities of the City will be impacted by global heating. No neighborhood or ZIP code can escape this. Extreme heat events, water usage curtailments, large-area flooding, strategic power cut-offs and restrictions, food disruptions, and civil unrest are on the shortlist of what we

can realistically expect at some point. These will affect all the people of the City at one time or another, and probably everyone at once in particular cases. Some neighborhoods will suffer weeks of disruption and multiple threats at the same time, like large-area excessive heat coupled with regional power interruptions and resulting food shortages. Threats from global heating will generally impact large areas of the City, overwhelming emergency services, dislocating people by the thousands, and resulting in potential mass casualty events that overwhelm first responders, hospitals, and morgues.

Creating resilient communities is hard work, is politically unpopular, and it can be difficult to quantify success. Charter language that requires resilience must specify resilient outcomes based on models of expected harms. For example, identifying the requirement to provide cooling centers to neighborhoods against the expectation of weeks-long extreme heat events. It would fall to City planners to then figure out how cooling centers are to be made available, how and when people can be notified to seek shelter, and how shelters will be kept working in the event of power curtailments. Where cooling centers do not exist, how they should be created and operated, and how to pay for this. How far a citizen can be expected to travel in safety and by what means to get to a shelter. How they will be fed while at the shelter, and for how long this can be expected to go on.

All of that is just cooling centers and just for extreme heat events.

But this is what it takes to save the people, if saving the people is indeed what we intend.

It is extremely important to recognize a historic trend to sidestep the needs of certain communities in City planning, a practice that creates unnecessary islands of vulnerability, and to make sure this practice does not continue into an era of climate-driven catastrophes. Poor, unrepresented, and under-served people are in no position to go it alone in the struggle against global heating and climate change impacts. They will need help, education, and services where these are lacking or are not suitable to purpose. As the City rolls out resilience measures into communities, whatever those turn out to be, the measures must be distributed in the most equitable way possible as a moral imperative. The Charter language should require the identification of all vulnerable communities, the exact nature of their vulnerabilities -- which will be multiple -- and then direct City planners and leaders to ensure these communities are not left to suffer and perish.

All communities will need support during a regional or City-wide climate-driven calamity. The scope of this challenge could at times be absolutely massive, but the more the City can get out in front of the problem, starting with the most vulnerable among us, the better will be the outcomes. This simply cannot be overstated. Again, it is a matter of the highest moral imperative that we do this right.

That is the second leg of our approach to saving the people. Creating resilience is a daunting task, one fraught with political landmines, budget-busting expenses, class struggle, festering grievances, and everything else that comes with societal change on a massive scale. But

juggling all that is the challenge before us, now and into the future. If you intend to keep your civilization, then this is how you keep your civilization.

The third leg of our approach is to create what I will call here a Climate Crisis Commission. C3, for short. Or for conversation, the Commission. The C3 will be the interface between the people, who sense their own growing and present vulnerability to climate changes, and the political and business classes, which are at present apparently not as concerned.

Because of this mismatch in goals, I feel compelled to state from the outset what the Commission is not. This is not another political playground. It is not a business roundtable. It is not an academic sideshow. It is not a place to discuss economic growth, jobs, innovation, or anything related even if more jobs and innovation are seen as a good thing for an under-served community. The C3 scope of work is here expressly directed away from economic, political, or budgetary considerations. If that appears harsh, unrealistic, or arbitrary, it is actually none of those. It is an honest assessment of what it will take to save people from destruction. We can have our politics, economics, and budgets back after we have saved the people. I should hope this is obvious, if it is not obvious then we need to take a collective moment to realign our moral compasses.

Put simply, the C3 -- indeed the entire Charter amendment language outline here -- all are expressly constructed to preserve the lives and livelihoods of the most number of people possible, in the very teeth of the greatest threat to survival the human project has seen in probably 70,000 years.

Now to the structure of the C3 itself. As this is the gravitational center of the work I am identifying, I spend more time on this component than the others. I think the Commission represents the most challenging to implement, and its proper working the best chance for total success.

The Commission will be grounded in the work of two communities that need to inform our climate crisis response; the community of scientists acting in an advisory capacity, and the non-science public who need a specific understanding of how climate challenges will impact their communities so they can respond to preserve themselves.

The Charter language here should here specify the C3 be created by the City and funded to the extent required for its given purpose, being data collection, analysis, outreach, and internal operations required for regular meetings. The C3 will not implement policy or direct City budgets but will by regular reports inform the City Council of the challenges people are facing and will face in the future, and recommend mitigations and projects. The C3 will submit reports from meetings to the City Council and into the public record on a regular basis. The C3 should have some representation at Council meetings to answer questions or provide critical updates.

The C3 will meet at a location and time determined by C3 participants, or else via remote technology, as agreed or required. Either the location or the time can change from meeting to

meeting, or be static. Meetings must be held within the City of San Jose, in either public or private venue with a budget provided for any site-specific expenses, but the best solution is to hold meetings via remote technology if at all possible.

The C3 will consist of a Citizens' Panel and a Science Panel, the latter acting in a specific advisory capacity, with a Commission Chair selected in rotation.

As the City currently consists of ten Districts there will be that many Citizen Panel caucuses on the C3, each caucus consisting of two voting district citizen representatives and one or more nonvoting alternates. The initial participants in the C3 will be selected by serving City Councilmembers, who will submit their recommendations for the Citizen Panel, selected using whatever recruitment process the Councilmember deems suitable, provided that each Citizen Panelist will submit into the public record a written statement describing their background, the nature of their interest in the work of the C3, acceptance of the consensus science concerning global heating and climate change, and an expressed agreement to support the mission of the C3 to save the people. Citizen Panelists will serve on the C3 for no more than a year, but can return to serve again after the lapse of a year. They can resign at will, to be replaced by an alternate. After the initial selection of C3 Citizen Panelists, new members will be brought forward by the district caucus along with their written letter as described above, the applicant's inclusion to be subject to a majority (51%) vote of the rest of the combined panels of the C3.

A nonvoting Commission Chair will be selected from the current rotation district caucus by that caucus (reducing their vote by one) to serve as Chair for one meeting of the Commission. The position of Chair will rotate in a round-robin fashion through all the districts, changing for each meeting, and the Chair will be announced by the next district in rotation in advance of the meetings as part of the next agenda. The Chair of the first meeting of the C3 will be taken from District 1, with rotation into the other districts after that.

The Science Panel will consist of at least three participants granted voting rights on Commission matters, and having the necessary skills and expertise to address the complex nature of climate science, having knowledge of scientific reporting such as that issued by the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), and understanding how climate impacts will intersect with local concerns such as the emergency provision and continuity of water supply, food supply, electrical power, and transportation.

The Science Panel can be drawn from the academic community, local citizenry, out-of-town experts, or City staff, this list not being exhaustive at all. The sole requirement for inclusion in the Science Panel is that the participant expressly and in writing accepts the consensus science regarding global heating and climate change, has an understanding of known and expected threats to human welfare, can speak to mitigation strategies regarding climate threats, and supports the aim of saving the people of the City as a first priority. Potential participants will signify their interest in sitting on the Panel by submitting into the public record a written statement of intent addressing the above points, and further describing their areas of expertise, experiences in the field as these might apply to the aims of the Commission, and an acceptance

of the C3 mission to save the people from disruption and mortality caused by climate changes. Anyone submitting the desired profile can sit on the Science Panel at any time and provide advice, but only three can be designated to vote on Commission work. There is no district-level caucus or exact limit in the number of participants from the science community but there is a Charter requirement that three voting Science Panelists be present during Commission meetings, with at least one nonvoting alternate to fill any unforeseen gaps in attendance. The Science Panel informs the Citizens' Panel, and thus all the people, concerning their most likely future under climate change, to the best extent this can be known at any given time, so that the Citizens' Panel can in aggregate plot their course toward a comprehensive and equitable resilience for the people.

The Citizen's Panel, once formed, will be tasked with seating the Science Panel and designating the three voting participants, based on submitted letters of interest from potential participants in the scientific and technical communities. A simple majority (51%) vote of acceptance from the Citizens' Panel will suffice for this.

The Citizens' Panel and Science Panel voting members vote as equals on all matters before the C3, except for those matters already designated to district caucuses. Matters before the Commission will be passed with a majority (51%) vote.

The C3 will meet on a cadence to be determined by the C3 in session, meaning the C3 will be in a position to dynamically address the urgency of the work or the complexity of the challenges being taken on, as the Commission itself sees these.

The next meeting agenda work of the C3 will be determined at the end of a given meeting, as will the rotating Chair, as will the location and time of the next meeting if this is allowed to change. Any item can be added to the next meeting agenda, the entire agenda and Chair will be accepted by the current meeting assembly by a majority vote.

The C3 will be the audience for the data reporting mentioned as the first leg of the Charter language. The Citizens and Scientists together will determine the suitability for purpose of the reporting or any needed clarifications, will determine if and how to publish the reporting for the benefit of the larger community, and will pass the reporting with comments and recommendations for actions to the City Council when it is deemed complete, not less than once per year.

The Commission is otherwise free to determine what else will constitute their work. Where that work requires funding, the Commission will need to approach either private funding sources or the City. At the very least, C3 work will likely consist of work such as:

1. Identify the most likely climate threats to afflict the people of the City of San Jose. This

should include direct threats such as flood, fire and heat, as well as indirect threats such

as water curtailments, power outages, and food supply interruptions. The list almost writes itself, but how these threats play out across the city will be harder to determine.

2. Create a process to identify non-overlapping, culturally distinct communities, if there are such, consisting of no fewer than 5,000 citizens each. Publish a written description of these communities and their distinct and defining cultural attributes, as well as their unique and defining requirements to survive as a distinct culture during a crisis. These cultural communities may have a recognized neighborhood structure or not.

3. Commission work will identify the boundary extent of under-served communities, whether culturally distinct or not. This can be broadly defined, it need not be an actual map of streets and intersections. At the same time, and working with community representatives, determine what the community will require to endure the kinds of previously defined climate impacts.

4. Commission work to identify where described communities lack basic services critical to surviving climate change impacts, where these omissions present a threat to community integrity, and how to mitigate that threat. Mitigations can span multiple communities but must be large enough to adequately serve a significant part of communities that need mitigation. This work will be submitted annually to the City Council.

5. The Commission will identify best climate mitigation and defense practices for anticipated climate impacts as these have been developed in other cities and regions, and describe how these might be incorporated into the effort to increase resilience among citizens of the City.

6. Identify goals for fossil fuel consumption reduction targets, and for carbon emission reduction targets, using the best science and technological solutions that apply. This can be done for individual City departments or services where reductions seem most warranted, for example in first responders who are ultimately the most vulnerable to fuel shortages or restrictions, or fuel cost increases.

7. Report annually to Council the state of the climate science, and the state of knowledge of how climate changes are expected to cause harm to the City and the citizens and businesses. Report instances of impacts having occurred in the City and how these might have been caused by global heating or climate changes. Academic rigor is not the goal, a simple statement recognizing impacting events and how these tie into the work of the Commission is sufficient.

8. Work to develop resilience definitions around know impact vectors such as extreme heat, floods, food crises, water disruptions, and the like will reduce resilience across the City. Catalog what would be required in the best case to protect the most number of people and vulnerable communities from undo harm or excessive mortality.

9. Perform climate crisis modeling and response. This need not be an academically or scientifically rigorous approach, it could instead be a set of narrative scenarios focusing on likely single or combined impacting events, across a few or many communities, with supporting data drawn from real-world disasters in similar situations as what exist in San Jose. To be published as completed to the City Council, with recommendations if any

recommendations make sense.

That is a good start at a list of work for the C3, no doubt a much longer list could develop as a discovery process unwinds, and unseen vulnerabilities and solutions alike come to the surface.

So those are the three-legs of an approach to how the City of San Jose might be instructed, via the Charter, to accept the challenge of saving the people. Data collection, identifying vulnerable communities and likely impacts, and forming a Commission to represent the goal of the people to save themselves from massive dislocations, suffering, and mortality. The recommendations here are not meant to be dystopian or punitive, no particular business, City service or class of people are called out or targetted for blame since doing so would not promote survival. The purpose is simply to accept the challenge, and to then to set aside egos and grievances and past practices and venture as a unified community of people into that unknown future dynamic planetary system, where lay the monsters. Where the Earth's own global engines are already set in grinding motion against us.

Against all of us.

We will none of us flourish alone in this struggle. But we may just make it to the end with most of our institutions, our precious cultures, our neighborhoods, and our civilization intact.

In this, I wish us all good luck.

And thank you for your time and consideration.

--

Clean Air and Quiet Neighborhoods--A Natural Right.

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Re: NEW CHARTER ARTICLE XX: AN ACT TO ELIMINATE GREENHOUSE GASES, BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND MAKE THE EARTH A GARDEN AGAIN.

Charter Review Commission 4b <CRC4b@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 11/15/2021 11:03 AM

To: tessa woodmansee <[REDACTED]> To: Alrie Middlebrook <[REDACTED]> Andrew Boone <[REDACTED]> Blaire Beekman <[REDACTED]> City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; Gladwyn D'Souza <[REDACTED]> Kathryn Mathewson <[REDACTED]> District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; Roche, Megan <megan.roche@sanjoseca.gov>; Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>; Meredith Muller <[REDACTED]>

Good morning Tessa,

Thank you for being present on all of our Commission meetings. I have removed the emails of the other commissioners so as not to violate the Brown Act. I left every other email you included for transparency.

I also want to thank you and your partner for a very thorough proposal regarding the creation of a Climate Change Commission.

I do have a lot of questions about the proposal, and recognizing that you and your partner put in a lot of work on this, I wanted to pose it directly to you ahead of tonight's meeting to get your thoughts. Let me ask the biggest question I have for you, which is why you believe that this Commission must be included in the Charter. I ask because for this to happen, the Council will have to vet your proposal and prepare it for presentation before the voters. I assume that part of this process may include a referral to staff to dig deeper into it as well. I don't believe that this is something that the Council or staff would recommend adopting outright because there needs to be a deeper analysis of whether your proposed structure is the most effective, inclusive, and accountable way to work towards fighting climate change (a goal which I believe the vast majority of people - elected or not - would support). Additionally, each commission in our City is assigned to specific departments for support and staffing. There would need to be some analysis about which department would work with your proposed commission as well.

All of this is meant to say that taking the extra step of putting this Commission into the Charter will take more time away from the work that this new proposed Commission should be doing. To have it included in the Charter would require voter approval. I have no idea what the current staff or council capacity is, but we have elections coming up in 7 and 11 months respectively. That may seem like enough time to do the work necessary to get this vote prepared for an election, but that assumes that they have sufficient capacity to do this *on top of* everything else. If the City cannot get through this process in time for either of the 2022 elections, we would have to wait until the 2024 elections.

I agree 100% with you that climate change is something that we have to address, and we cannot hold back on bold ideas to get it done. That said, chartering a brand new commission isn't necessarily a bold idea. All we are doing is trying to create some new platform or medium for where ideas can be generated and considered when there has been no indication that what we currently have is holding us back.

Two thoughts for you and your partner to consider. First, are you open to creating this commission outside of the charter process? That saves all of us time, effort, and money, which provides the opportunity for your proposed commission to be created sooner and get to work faster and still get to

your goals. It also gives us the flexibility to adjust or modify the Commission structure if we discover ways to improve its work (any commission that exists in the charter CANNOT be modified without voter approval). Second, do you have specific proposals outside of creating a commission (related to emission standards, development, or transportation for example) that you want considered by our elected officials?

Huy Tran
District 4 Commissioner
Charter Review Commission

From: tessa woodmansee <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021 9:29 AM
To: Alrie Middlebrook <[REDACTED]> Andrew Boone <[REDACTED]> Blaire Beekman <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> Charter Review Commission 10a <CRC10a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 10b <CRC10b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 1a <CRC1a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 1b <CRC1b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 2a <CRC2a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 2b <CRC2b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 3a <CRC3a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 3b <CRC3b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 4a <CRC4a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 4b <CRC4b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 5a <CRC5a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 5b <CRC5b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 6a <CRC6a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 6b <CRC6b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 7a <CRC7a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 7b <CRC7b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 8a <CRC8a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 8b <CRC8b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 9a <CRC9a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 9b <CRC9b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission Chair <CRCCChair@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission Citywide 1 <CRCCW1@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission Citywide 2 <CRCCW2@sanjoseca.gov>; CharterReview <CharterReview@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; Gladwyn D'Souza <[REDACTED]> Kathryn Mathewson <[REDACTED]> District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; Roche, Megan <megan.roche@sanjoseca.gov>; Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>; tessa woodmansee <[REDACTED]> Meredith Muller <[REDACTED]> Marty Stuczynski <[REDACTED]>
Subject: NEW CHARTER ARTICLE XX: AN ACT TO ELIMINATE GREENHOUSE GASES, BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND MAKE THE EARTH A GARDEN AGAIN.

[External Email]

Dear Charter Review Commissioners and City Council Members,

I know that the commissioners and the council will be considering adding ARTICLES to the City Charter... Please add the proposed **climate crisis ARTICLE:**

We urgently need added to our City Charter : **AN ACT TO ELIMINATE GREENHOUSE GASES, BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND MAKE THE EARTH A GARDEN AGAIN** added **Into our city Charter:** A municipal charter is the basic document that defines the organization, powers, functions and essential procedures of the city government.

This addition to our CITY CHARTER IS essential if we are to have a government! As Noam Chompsky says: Now aged 90, Noam Chomsky WHO continues to write, and is co-teaching a course on politics and global crises at the University of Arizona...Apart from his paradigm-creating work in linguistics, Chomsky has been an outspoken and cogent critic of American foreign policy and its connection with human rights violations and military aggression around the world. In recent years, Chomsky has turned his prodigious mind to **the existential threat of global warming, a “threat to the perpetuation of organized human life,” on par with nuclear war.**

Adding direction to the city about climate change is essential for the well being and survival of the citizens of this city. Since the role of government is to protect the people from harm we need this **ARTICLE : AN ACT TO ELIMINATE GREENHOUSE GASES, BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND MAKE THE EARTH A GARDEN AGAIN.**

In addition, the Subcommittee on Accountability, Inclusion and Representation has NOT included two of the legs suggested by Scientist, futurist Cat Woodmansee into the Climate Crisis Article after the last San Jose city charter article XIX : An Act to Limit Urban Sprawl and the Fiscal and Environmental Effects of Specified Development in Outlying Areas.

THE THREE LEGS FOR OUR CHARTER ARTICLE ARE written BELOW AS written by Scientist, educator Cat Woodmansee, BS Biology:

“Consider an approach like a stool with THREE legs. In our case, one leg is data collection concerning carbon emissions and fossil fuel consumption for the sake of transparency and decision-making. Another leg is identifying communities in harm’s way and ensuring they become resilient to climate disasters where resilience is lacking, focusing in particular on historically under-served communities. And the third leg is the creation of a commission of the people to ensure that the political and business elites understand the importance of saving the People.”

We urgently need the new **ARTICLE XX : AN ACT TO ELIMINATE GREENHOUSE GASES, BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND MAKE THE EARTH A GARDEN AGAIN.**

This addition into the charter is essential since this change is so integral to our survival and demands transformational change that the politicians our so called leaders who serve businesses can NOT do this job.

Business is all about fossil fuels, this is the way we make money, business and money is all about fossil fuels. We need to go back to the way we lived before business, before fossil fuels, before money—abstract tokens of exchange— not **REAL GOODS**. **MONEY** which was brought to us by the Romans starting in about **400 BC** who were the first invaders and capitalists –**exploiting people and nature for profit.**

So adding **the three legs of this document below** included into the Article : **CLIMATE CRISIS: AN ACT TO ELIMINATE GREENHOUSE GASES, BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES, AND MAKE THE EARTH A GARDEN AGAIN** is essential not just the Subcommittees proposed **Climate Crisis Commission C3** but the fossil fuel use **data collection** and the **building resilient communities** as written by Cat Woodmansee, Master Biologist, Science Teacher, Historian, and Futurist :

AS SCIENTIST CAT WOODMANSEE SAYS:

Consider an approach like a stool with three legs. In our case, one leg is data collection concerning carbon emissions and fossil fuel consumption for the sake of transparency and decision-making. Another leg is identifying communities in harm's way and ensuring they become resilient to climate disasters where resilience is lacking, focusing in particular on historically under-served communities. And the third leg is the creation of a commission of the people to ensure that the political and business elites understand the importance of saving the People.

So please add **ARTICLE XX: We urgently need added to our City Charter : AN ACT TO ELIMINATE GREENHOUSE GASES, BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND MAKE THE EARTH A GARDEN AGAIN** added **Into our city Charter:**

Warm Regards.

Tessa Woodmansee
MA Mass Communications and Education, CSUN

COMPLETE PROPOSED CHARTER ARTICLE WRITTEN BY CAT
WOODMANSEE, MS BIOLOGY, ECOSYSTEMS ECOLOGIST,
CREDENTIALLED SCIENCE TEACHER, CSU

Global heating, and the associated changes in regional climate, together create a global issue. We cannot say yet if there will be a global solution, however, we do know with certainty that any harms will be of a local nature. We are already seeing signs of what we can expect from the future in the horrifying, record-breaking fires, floods, freezes, droughts, cyclones, and the accelerating breakdown of previously stable parts of the whole Earth system. The most recent IPCC report suggests we can expect 30 more years at least of increasingly worse outcomes, with each year potentially breaking records set just the year before.

It seems we find ourselves now at a crossroads, where every step forward takes us further off a map defined by 8,000 years of Earth systems stability. Beyond here there will be monsters. People are going to suffer in large numbers, due to changes in the climate. People are going to die.

It is time we accept the challenge to save the people. All the people, but starting with the people in our fair city.

The political class certainly understands the challenge, but perceived political expedience prevents timely, realistic actions in response. For the moment it seems the political class cannot save the people. The financial and business classes also understand the challenge but apart from the insurance sector they cannot generally consider threats any further out than the next quarterly results. The insurance sector in particular has seen the future of climate impacts and is canceling policies. Obviously, this will not save the people, either.

It appears the people must for now endeavor to save themselves.

The purpose of a city is to serve the needs of people. The laws and regulations of the city are created with the intent to provide a civilized experience for all. Today we consider amendments to the Charter of the City of San Jose, to add language that will inform the City's response to a looming global climate crisis, so as to save the people, and in so doing to preserve civilization. Permit me now to outline what such Charter language should contain.

Consider an approach like a stool with three legs. In our case, one leg is data collection concerning carbon emissions and fossil fuel consumption for the sake of transparency and decision-making. Another leg is identifying communities in harm's way and ensuring they become resilient to climate disasters where resilience is lacking, focusing in particular on historically under-served communities. And the third leg is the creation of a commission of the people to ensure that the political and business elites understand the importance of saving the

people.

I will now provide some details on how this could work, starting with the first leg, data collection. The Charter should be amended with language to require City departments and services to analyze and report their current and projected annual fossil fuel consumption and other sources of greenhouse gas emissions, and to report how they are mitigating these emissions if at all, and if not how they might reduce them or mitigate, and if they cannot why then they cannot. The exact same requirement would apply to private enterprises operating inside the City or providing goods or services to the City.

The Charter should also require analyzing the fossil fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions of citizens in aggregate. For example, how often and where citizens drive, commute patterns into and out of the City, adoption rates for electric vehicles, bicycles, and mass transit, mass transit passenger-mile carbon emissions, the expansion of suburbs, freeway passenger miles, densification of the urban core, the pace and locations of new home construction, and the like. It is potentially a long list, the actual measures would also evolve over time so the Charter must specify the need for this data as an aid to planning and not the exact kinds of data. Data collection of citizen emission patterns could be via surveys and/or longitudinal studies and should be completely anonymized.

As described above, the first leg of our approach would be used to identify areas where the City and local businesses could and likely should reduce fossil fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, a first step toward paring down our contribution to the problem. The actual numerical goals for this work, meaning the targets for reductions, might come to the City via state law, or federal law, or even international treaties, but there is nothing to stop the City from having more aggressive goals either for itself, the citizens, or the business community. Where multiple goals for reductions exist at different levels of governance including international agreements, or via different jurisdictions, the City will take on the more aggressive target. The ultimate target for fossil fuels consumption by the City, citizens, and businesses within the City is taken to be numerically zero, meaning no consumption of any kind. Likewise, the ultimate goal of carbon emissions is taken as zero. These are difficult goals to be sure, and will be deemed politically unpalatable or in other ways impossible, but like it or not these are the real goals of the work being described here even if lesser, more acceptable, targets are pursued instead. But reducing fossil fuel reliance is not just about doing with less for the sake of less, it can be viewed as a strategic, defensive measure where reducing reliance can forestall serious local economic damage in the event that national or state climate actions require us to take on a sudden, forced, and dramatic reduction in fossil fuel and energy consumption. The sooner the City, the citizens, and businesses can operate without significant reliance on fossil fuel consumption, the least harm will be felt when energy supplies become deliberately curtailed or the price of fuels enter the stratosphere. These are trends we can anticipate as global heating begins to bite, and national governments take concerted, draconian steps to save the human world from disaster.

The second leg of our approach is to create resilient communities.

All communities of the City will be impacted by global heating. No neighborhood or ZIP code can escape this. Extreme heat events, water usage curtailments, large-area flooding, strategic power cut-offs and restrictions, food disruptions, and civil unrest are on the shortlist of what we

can realistically expect at some point. These will affect all the people of the City at one time or another, and probably everyone at once in particular cases. Some neighborhoods will suffer weeks of disruption and multiple threats at the same time, like large-area excessive heat coupled with regional power interruptions and resulting food shortages. Threats from global heating will generally impact large areas of the City, overwhelming emergency services, dislocating people by the thousands, and resulting in potential mass casualty events that overwhelm first responders, hospitals, and morgues.

Creating resilient communities is hard work, is politically unpopular, and it can be difficult to quantify success. Charter language that requires resilience must specify resilient outcomes based on models of expected harms. For example, identifying the requirement to provide cooling centers to neighborhoods against the expectation of weeks-long extreme heat events. It would fall to City planners to then figure out how cooling centers are to be made available, how and when people can be notified to seek shelter, and how shelters will be kept working in the event of power curtailments. Where cooling centers do not exist, how they should be created and operated, and how to pay for this. How far a citizen can be expected to travel in safety and by what means to get to a shelter. How they will be fed while at the shelter, and for how long this can be expected to go on.

All of that is just cooling centers and just for extreme heat events.

But this is what it takes to save the people, if saving the people is indeed what we intend.

It is extremely important to recognize a historic trend to sidestep the needs of certain communities in City planning, a practice that creates unnecessary islands of vulnerability, and to make sure this practice does not continue into an era of climate-driven catastrophes. Poor, unrepresented, and under-served people are in no position to go it alone in the struggle against global heating and climate change impacts. They will need help, education, and services where these are lacking or are not suitable to purpose. As the City rolls out resilience measures into communities, whatever those turn out to be, the measures must be distributed in the most equitable way possible as a moral imperative. The Charter language should require the identification of all vulnerable communities, the exact nature of their vulnerabilities -- which will be multiple -- and then direct City planners and leaders to ensure these communities are not left to suffer and perish.

All communities will need support during a regional or City-wide climate-driven calamity. The scope of this challenge could at times be absolutely massive, but the more the City can get out in front of the problem, starting with the most vulnerable among us, the better will be the outcomes. This simply cannot be overstated. Again, it is a matter of the highest moral imperative that we do this right.

That is the second leg of our approach to saving the people. Creating resilience is a daunting task, one fraught with political landmines, budget-busting expenses, class struggle, festering grievances, and everything else that comes with societal change on a massive scale. But

juggling all that is the challenge before us, now and into the future. If you intend to keep your civilization, then this is how you keep your civilization.

The third leg of our approach is to create what I will call here a Climate Crisis Commission. C3, for short. Or for conversation, the Commission. The C3 will be the interface between the

people, who sense their own growing and present vulnerability to climate changes, and the political and business classes, which are at present apparently not as concerned.

Because of this mismatch in goals, I feel compelled to state from the outset what the Commission is not. This is not another political playground. It is not a business roundtable. It is not an academic sideshow. It is not a place to discuss economic growth, jobs, innovation, or anything related even if more jobs and innovation are seen as a good thing for an under-served community. The C3 scope of work is here expressly directed away from economic, political, or budgetary considerations. If that appears harsh, unrealistic, or arbitrary, it is actually none of those. It is an honest assessment of what it will take to save people from destruction. We can have our politics, economics, and budgets back after we have saved the people. I should hope this is obvious, if it is not obvious then we need to take a collective moment to realign our moral compasses.

Put simply, the C3 -- indeed the entire Charter amendment language outline here -- all are expressly constructed to preserve the lives and livelihoods of the most number of people possible, in the very teeth of the greatest threat to survival the human project has seen in probably 70,000 years.

Now to the structure of the C3 itself. As this is the gravitational center of the work I am identifying, I spend more time on this component than the others. I think the Commission represents the most challenging to implement, and its proper working the best chance for total success.

The Commission will be grounded in the work of two communities that need to inform our climate crisis response; the community of scientists acting in an advisory capacity, and the non-science public who need a specific understanding of how climate challenges will impact their communities so they can respond to preserve themselves.

The Charter language here should here specify the C3 be created by the City and funded to the extent required for its given purpose, being data collection, analysis, outreach, and internal operations required for regular meetings. The C3 will not implement policy or direct City budgets but will by regular reports inform the City Council of the challenges people are facing and will face in the future, and recommend mitigations and projects. The C3 will submit reports from meetings to the City Council and into the public record on a regular basis. The C3 should have some representation at Council meetings to answer questions or provide critical updates.

The C3 will meet at a location and time determined by C3 participants, or else via remote technology, as agreed or required. Either the location or the time can change from meeting to

meeting, or be static. Meetings must be held within the City of San Jose, in either public or private venue with a budget provided for any site-specific expenses, but the best solution is to hold meetings via remote technology if at all possible.

The C3 will consist of a Citizens' Panel and a Science Panel, the latter acting in a specific advisory capacity, with a Commission Chair selected in rotation.

As the City currently consists of ten Districts there will be that many Citizen Panel caucuses on the C3, each caucus consisting of two voting district citizen representatives and one or more nonvoting alternates. The initial participants in the C3 will be selected by serving City Councilmembers, who will submit their recommendations for the Citizen Panel, selected using whatever recruitment process the Councilmember deems suitable, provided that each Citizen

Panelist will submit into the public record a written statement describing their background, the nature of their interest in the work of the C3, acceptance of the consensus science concerning global heating and climate change, and an expressed agreement to support the mission of the C3 to save the people. Citizen Panelists will serve on the C3 for no more than a year, but can return to serve again after the lapse of a year. They can resign at will, to be replaced by an alternate. After the initial selection of C3 Citizen Panelists, new members will be brought forward by the district caucus along with their written letter as described above, the applicant's inclusion to be subject to a majority (51%) vote of the rest of the combined panels of the C3.

A nonvoting Commission Chair will be selected from the current rotation district caucus by that caucus (reducing their vote by one) to serve as Chair for one meeting of the Commission. The position of Chair will rotate in a round-robin fashion through all the districts, changing for each meeting, and the Chair will be announced by the next district in rotation in advance of the meetings as part of the next agenda. The Chair of the first meeting of the C3 will be taken from District 1, with rotation into the other districts after that.

The Science Panel will consist of at least three participants granted voting rights on Commission matters, and having the necessary skills and expertise to address the complex nature of climate science, having knowledge of scientific reporting such as that issued by the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), and understanding how climate impacts will intersect with local concerns such as the emergency provision and continuity of water supply, food supply, electrical power, and transportation.

The Science Panel can be drawn from the academic community, local citizenry, out-of-town experts, or City staff, this list not being exhaustive at all. The sole requirement for inclusion in the Science Panel is that the participant expressly and in writing accepts the consensus science regarding global heating and climate change, has an understanding of known and expected threats to human welfare, can speak to mitigation strategies regarding climate threats, and supports the aim of saving the people of the City as a first priority. Potential participants will signify their interest in sitting on the Panel by submitting into the public record a written statement of intent addressing the above points, and further describing their areas of expertise, experiences in the field as these might apply to the aims of the Commission, and an acceptance

of the C3 mission to save the people from disruption and mortality caused by climate changes. Anyone submitting the desired profile can sit on the Science Panel at any time and provide advice, but only three can be designated to vote on Commission work. There is no district-level caucus or exact limit in the number of participants from the science community but there is a Charter requirement that three voting Science Panelists be present during Commission meetings, with at least one nonvoting alternate to fill any unforeseen gaps in attendance. The Science Panel informs the Citizens' Panel, and thus all the people, concerning their most likely future under climate change, to the best extent this can be known at any given time, so that the Citizens' Panel can in aggregate plot their course toward a comprehensive and equitable resilience for the people.

The Citizen's Panel, once formed, will be tasked with seating the Science Panel and designating the three voting participants, based on submitted letters of interest from potential participants in the scientific and technical communities. A simple majority (51%) vote of acceptance from the Citizens' Panel will suffice for this.

The Citizens' Panel and Science Panel voting members vote as equals on all matters before the C3, except for those matters already designated to district caucuses. Matters before the Commission will be passed with a majority (51%) vote.

The C3 will meet on a cadence to be determined by the C3 in session, meaning the C3 will be in a position to dynamically address the urgency of the work or the complexity of the challenges being taken on, as the Commission itself sees these.

The next meeting agenda work of the C3 will be determined at the end of a given meeting, as will the rotating Chair, as will the location and time of the next meeting if this is allowed to change. Any item can be added to the next meeting agenda, the entire agenda and Chair will be accepted by the current meeting assembly by a majority vote.

The C3 will be the audience for the data reporting mentioned as the first leg of the Charter language. The Citizens and Scientists together will determine the suitability for purpose of the reporting or any needed clarifications, will determine if and how to publish the reporting for the benefit of the larger community, and will pass the reporting with comments and recommendations for actions to the City Council when it is deemed complete, not less than once per year.

The Commission is otherwise free to determine what else will constitute their work. Where that work requires funding, the Commission will need to approach either private funding sources or the City. At the very least, C3 work will likely consist of work such as:

1. Identify the most likely climate threats to afflict the people of the City of San Jose. This should include direct threats such as flood, fire and heat, as well as indirect threats such

as water curtailments, power outages, and food supply interruptions. The list almost writes itself, but how these threats play out across the city will be harder to determine.

2. Create a process to identify non-overlapping, culturally distinct communities, if there are such, consisting of no fewer than 5,000 citizens each. Publish a written description of these communities and their distinct and defining cultural attributes, as well as their unique and defining requirements to survive as a distinct culture during a crisis. These cultural communities may have a recognized neighborhood structure or not.

3. Commission work will identify the boundary extent of under-served communities, whether culturally distinct or not. This can be broadly defined, it need not be an actual map of streets and intersections. At the same time, and working with community representatives, determine what the community will require to endure the kinds of previously defined climate impacts.

4. Commission work to identify where described communities lack basic services critical to surviving climate change impacts, where these omissions present a threat to community integrity, and how to mitigate that threat. Mitigations can span multiple communities but must be large enough to adequately serve a significant part of communities that need mitigation. This work will be submitted annually to the City Council.

5. The Commission will identify best climate mitigation and defense practices for anticipated climate impacts as these have been developed in other cities and regions, and describe how these might be incorporated into the effort to increase resilience among citizens of the City.

6. Identify goals for fossil fuel consumption reduction targets, and for carbon emission reduction targets, using the best science and technological solutions that apply. This can be done for individual City departments or services where reductions seem most warranted, for example in first responders who are ultimately the most vulnerable to fuel shortages or restrictions, or fuel cost increases.
7. Report annually to Council the state of the climate science, and the state of knowledge of how climate changes are expected to cause harm to the City and the citizens and businesses. Report instances of impacts having occurred in the City and how these might have been caused by global heating or climate changes. Academic rigor is not the goal, a simple statement recognizing impacting events and how these tie into the work of the Commission is sufficient.
8. Work to develop resilience definitions around know impact vectors such as extreme heat, floods, food crises, water disruptions, and the like will reduce resilience across the City. Catalog what would be required in the best case to protect the most number of people and vulnerable communities from undo harm or excessive mortality.
9. Perform climate crisis modeling and response. This need not be an academically or scientifically rigorous approach, it could instead be a set of narrative scenarios focusing on likely single or combined impacting events, across a few or many communities, with supporting data drawn from real-world disasters in similar situations as what exist in San Jose. To be published as completed to the City Council, with recommendations if any recommendations make sense.

That is a good start at a list of work for the C3, no doubt a much longer list could develop as a discovery process unwinds, and unseen vulnerabilities and solutions alike come to the surface.

So those are the three-legs of an approach to how the City of San Jose might be instructed, via the Charter, to accept the challenge of saving the people. Data collection, identifying vulnerable communities and likely impacts, and forming a Commission to represent the goal of the people to save themselves from massive dislocations, suffering, and mortality. The recommendations here are not meant to be dystopian or punitive, no particular business, City service or class of people are called out or targetted for blame since doing so would not promote survival. The purpose is simply to accept the challenge, and to then to set aside egos and grievances and past practices and venture as a unified community of people into that unknown future dynamic planetary system, where lay the monsters. Where the Earth's own global engines are already set in grinding motion against us.

Against all of us.

We will none of us flourish alone in this struggle. But we may just make it to the end with most of our institutions, our precious cultures, our neighborhoods, and our civilization intact.

In this, I wish us all good luck.

And thank you for your time and consideration.

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Clean Air and Quiet Neighborhoods--A Natural Right.

NEW CHARTER ARTICLE XX: AN ACT TO ELIMINATE GREENHOUSE GASES, BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND MAKE THE EARTH A GARDEN AGAIN.

tessa woodmansee <[REDACTED]>

Mon 11/15/2021 6:08 PM

To: Alrie Middlebrook <[REDACTED]> Andrew Boone <[REDACTED]> Blaire Beekman <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> Charter Review Commission 10a <CRC10a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 10b <CRC10b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 1a <CRC1a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 1b <CRC1b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 2a <CRC2a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 2b <CRC2b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 3a <CRC3a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 3b <CRC3b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 4a <CRC4a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 4b <CRC4b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 5a <CRC5a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 5b <CRC5b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 6a <CRC6a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 6b <CRC6b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 7a <CRC7a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 7b <CRC7b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 8a <CRC8a@sanjoseca.gov>

[External Email]

Good Evening San Joseans,

These are the headlines today that show that we are in a climate crisis NOW 2021, from our Global heating from the human activity of burning fossil fuels and emitting heat trapping Greenhouse gases from burning fossil fuels , and illustrates our need to go to zero fossil fuels by 2025 or 2030 the latest.

Putting Climate Crisis into our San Jose City Charter NOW is critical and will be addressed below.

Record rainfall prompts evacuations along the Pacific north-west

Communities in western Canada and Washington state forced to flee homes after record downpour leads to severe floods

 A view of the Coquihalla Highway following mudslides and flooding in British Columbia, Canada on 14 November 2021.

A view of the Coquihalla Highway following mudslides and flooding in British Columbia, Canada, on Sunday. Photograph: British Columbia Transportation/Reuters

Leyland Cecco in Toronto

Mon 15 Nov 2021 17:55 EST



Communities in western [Canada](#) who were forced to flee their homes this summer by wildfires and extreme heat are once again under evacuation orders after overwhelming floods across the region.

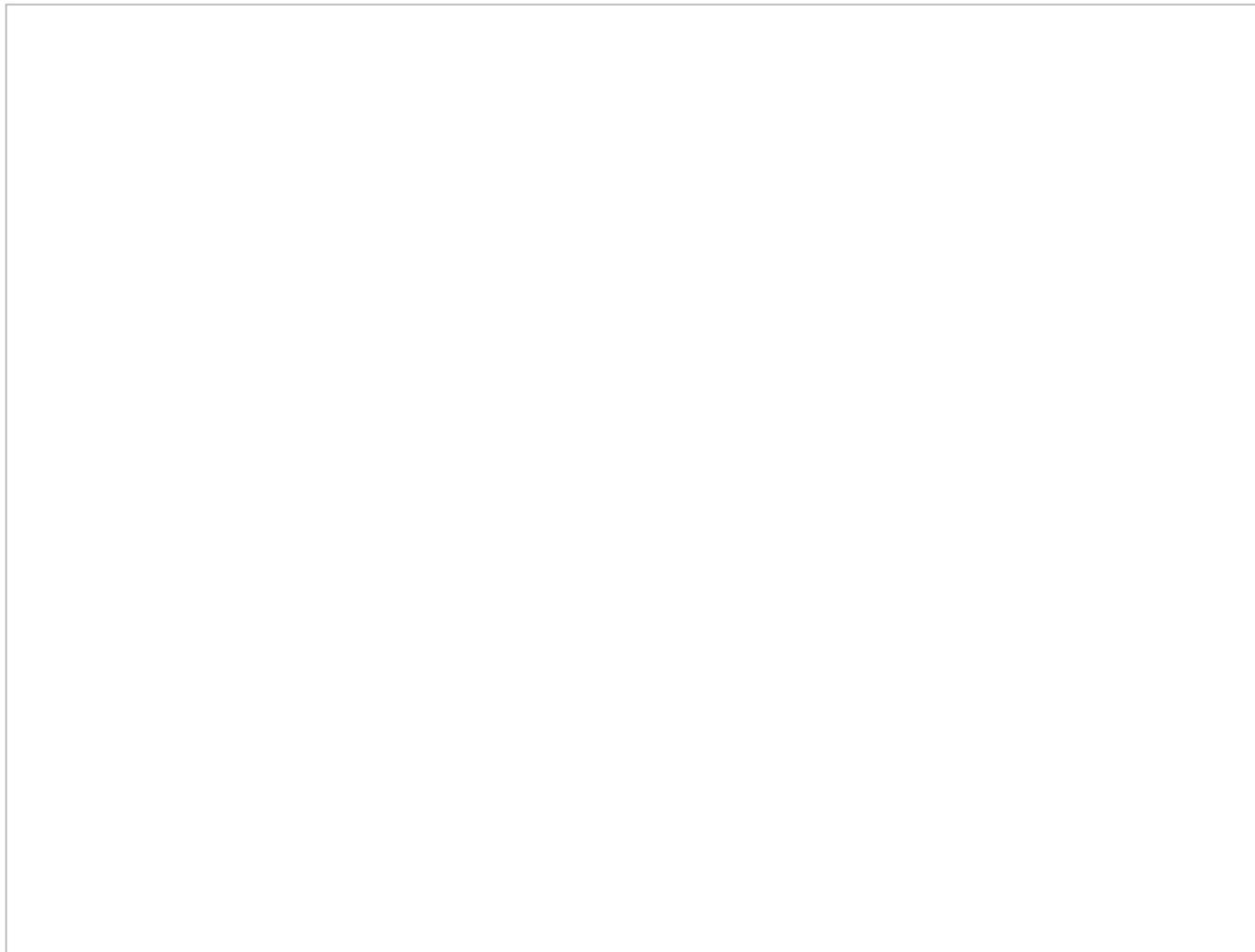
The heavy rainfall and pounding storms are also taking a toll on the US Pacific north-west, where flooding and mudslides in Washington state have also forced evacuations and school closures.

Helicopters were dispatched on Monday to Highway 7, more than 100 kilometres (62 miles) east of Vancouver, to rescue about 275 people, including 50 children, who had been stranded on the road since it was blocked by a mudslide late on Sunday.

[Footage from the area](#) shows stranded travelers heading toward a yellow emergency helicopter during the rescue operation. The surrounding landscape is littered with debris from a landslide blocking access to the highway.

Canada rains cause city evacuation, shut down major oil pipeline

Officials in Merrit, British Columbia, order residents to leave as floodwaters 'inundated two bridges' and forced waste water treatment plant to close.



A view of the Coquihalla Highway following mudslides and flooding in British Columbia, Canada, November 14, 2021 [Courtesy of British Columbia Transportation/via Reuters]

15 Nov 2021

Massive rainstorms have lashed the western Canadian province of British Columbia on Monday, triggering landslides, shutting roads, prompting the evacuation of an entire town and forcing an oil pipeline to close.

Authorities in Merritt, some 200km (124 miles) northeast of Vancouver, ordered all 7,100 citizens to leave after rising waters cut off bridges and forced the wastewater treatment plant to close.

KEEP READING

Floods, landslides kill more than 150 in India and Nepal

'Worst thing in lifetime': South Sudan floods affecting 700,000

Deadly floods hit Indonesia's Java, mud hampers relief work
Flash floods in Bosnia prompt evacuations, power outages

“Continued habitation of the community without sanitary services presents risk of mass sewage back-up and personal health risk,” the city said in an official notice.

Some areas received 200mm (8 inches) of rain on Sunday – the amount they usually see in a month – and the deluge continued on Monday, with roads covered by mud or up to 250mm (10 inches) of water.

So this is what could be in our future as we face the catastrophic climate change science has projected... like my biologist husband Cat Woodmansee, MS Biology and Ecosystems Ecology and credentialed Biological Science Teacher says, the Earth is on an Excursion. The stability we have experienced in the last 10,000 years is gone DUE TO THE RELEASE OF HEAT TRAPPING GREENHOUSE GASES CAUSED BY HUMAN ACTIVITY. And now we can't project what is possible... it's all unknown and as Cat also says, "Beyond Here there are monsters."

So this letter is to answer some of the questions that I very much appreciate from commissioner and former city council candidate for district 4, Huy Tran that includes San Jose's highly threatened coastal community of Alviso.

"Let me ask the biggest question I have for you, which is why you believe that this Commission must be included in the Charter." Well like the climate crisis news I opened this letter with is not enough to add our climate crisis to the charter and the words of

renowned Linguist teacher, Naom Chompsky's quote that our climate crisis is " the existential threat of global warming, a 'threat to the perpetuation of organized human life,' on par with nuclear war," is not enough to scare us to intense climate action I don't know what is.

In addition, the reasons I have stated before is that intense climate action must be put into the charter so it is NOT at the whims of our politicians. The politicians have their livelihood to protect and they therefore serve the business elite wealthy class that sponsor their campaigns and their future governmental positions... not the people. The charter is a special document that has to be approved by the people and the proposed Charter Amendment which is : AN ACT TO ELIMINATE GREENHOUSE GASES, BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND MAKE THE EARTH A GARDEN AGAIN is all about saving as many people as we can and to address the Sixth Mass Extinction. This is the work we must do and having it in our charter will unify us to try to Save the World and Save Ourselves.

Human beings have existed for just 200,000 years, yet our impact on the planet is so great that scien the Earth's history to be named the 'Anthropocene' – the age of humans. The changes we are now n world around us. It's vital that people understand the impact we have. Help us spread the word.

"Looking across the world at the present time it is obvious to anybody at all who has even the slightes numbers are already out of balance."

Prof Aubrey Manning, zoologist

Two hundred years ago, there were less than a billion people on Earth. Today, there are 7.8bn and our pop Nations, unless we take action there is likely to be 30% more of us by 2050 and 11 billion people by 2100

Every one of us places demands upon our planet—the very demands that have caused the changes that thr

THE ‘SIXTH MASS EXTINCTION’

- Species are becoming extinct 100 times faster than they would without human impacts.
- Populations of wild animals have more than halved since 1970, while the human population has dou
- Only five times before in our planet’s history have so many species and so much biodiversity been l
wiped out. That is why scientists and conservationists call what is happening now the ‘**sixth mass e**
biodiversity today as ‘biological annihilation’
-
- ANTHROPOCENE AIR, WATER, AND WEATHER

- Because of industry, agriculture and fossil fuel use, carbon dioxide in the air is at its highest level for other chemical cycles is turning seas and rivers into dead zones.
 - Climate change is already affecting the world around us. Global warming is causing glaciers to melt weather events such as floods, droughts, and hurricanes to increase.
-

MORE QUESTIONS FROM HUY TRAN:

First, are you open to creating this commission outside of the charter process? That saves all of us time, for your proposed commission to be created sooner and get to work faster and still get to your goals. It a Commission structure if we discover ways to improve its work (any commission that exists in the charter

My response:

I think the urgency of this issue demands Charter inclusion and the vote of the people to save themselves we have seen from the Corona Virus Covid 19 issue and their response. The science says we need transfo
GETTING OUR FOSSIL FUEL USE TO ZERO IS critical to avoid more catastrophic weather like Canada is experi

Second, do you have specific proposals outside of creating a commission (related to emission standards, i you want considered by our elected officials?

My response: This is what needs to be **added** to the proposed Climate Crisis to be added to the City Charter as proposed by the Subcommittee of Accountability, Inclusion and representation :

“Consider an approach like a stool with **THREE** legs. In our case, one leg is data collection concerning carbon emissions and fossil fuel consumption for the sake of transparency and decision-making. Another leg is identifying communities in harm’s way and ensuring they become resilient to climate disasters where resilience is lacking, focusing in particular on historically under-served communities. And the third leg is the creation of a commission of the people to ensure that the political and business elites understand the importance of saving the People.”

So we need the data at a granular level about our fossil fuel use by each departments and each activity s the private businesses, industry and the people of the city of san jose.

And we need to share this data on fossil fuel use and planned mitigations to reduce our use to zero with the people on a regular basis.

In addition, we need the issue of building resilient communities as the third leg of the "Another leg is identifying harm’s way and ensuring they become resilient to climate disasters where resilience is lacking, focusing in historically under-served communities.

"And the third leg is the creation of a commission of the people to ensure that the political and business elites understand the importance of saving the People." This Climate Crisis Commission needs to lead our city to bring our emissions to zero by 2030.

Here is the plan of Extinction REbellion thoughts on a CITIZENS ASSEMBLY THAT we should emulate.

Extinction Rebellion is a politically non-partisan initiative that uses non-violent direct action to persuade governments on the Climate and Ecological Emergency.

We have

Tell the truth

Government must tell the truth by declaring a climate and ecological emergency with other institutions to communicate the urgency for change.

Act Now

Government must act now to halt biodiversity loss and reduce net zero by 2025.

Go Beyond Politics

Government must create and be led by the decisions of climate and ecological justice.

Warm Regards,

Tessa Woodmansee
President Garden Alameda Village Association
MA, Mass Communication and Education CSUN

--

Clean Air and Quiet Neighborhoods--A Natural Right.

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FW: Blair Beekman.....Monday. November 15, 2021. City Charter commission, public comment.

Roche, Megan <megan.roche@sanjoseca.gov>

Wed 11/17/2021 12:00 PM

To: Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

From: b. beekman <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Wednesday, November 17, 2021 11:50 AM

To: Roche, Megan <megan.roche@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Blair Beekman.....Monday. November 15, 2021. City Charter commission, public comment.

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

[External Email]

Dear community and city charter commission,

Hi, it is Blair Beekman here. I sadly fell asleep, during the last portion, of the city Charter Commission on Monday. I missed public comment, on COPA issues, a Smart City Advisory Committee, and Open Forum

Hopefully, I can try to make up, and try to offer, 2 minute public comment speeches, below, for each item, I missed last night.

Copa Issues.

With the very good ideas, of the COPA program, I think we need to be aware, that this an issue, of the empowerment, of the everyday person, within a community.

This can be, an uncomfortable concept to some. Yet, it can be incredibly helpful, to people of local neighborhoods, before the need, of free market capitalism.

Councilperson Raul Peralez, has very decently offered, that ideas of COPA, need a bit more time, of community public meetings, so all people of local neighborhoods, can better hear its ideas, and simply ask questions.

Smart City Advisory Group.

Thank you, for this item.

To begin, I was unimpressed, by the current language being used, in trying to address, the future of a Smart City Advisory Group. As I tried to state, in my previous public comment, about the future of green sustainability commission. Although we are in difficult times, we should still be allowed, to better consider, how everyday community, can be better participate, in the practices of their local govt. And the ideas, of better public oversight.

From a constant barrage, of war & emergency, we can still try to build, our better human ideals. And how practices, of more open democracy, can actually work, towards ideas of peace, and not. more war or harm.

From 2014, to better address, how to leave, an era of secrecy and confusion, from the era of 9.11 and a questionable, intl. war on terrorism, the ACLU, along with the UN, the u.s. navy,, other, good minded think tanks, and progressive legal precedence, from the state of California & Massachusettes - have come up with, some well studied, good guidelines, in how to return, to more open democratic practices, for a local community.

This can be considered, as ideas of peace, not war or harm, to try to better understand, the ideas of open public policies, and public oversight, of community technology, surveillance, and data collection. These are ideas, that can allow for, all parts of a community, to have more of a voice, in deciding, what technology can be suitable, for the future of a community. And what can be, more open, responsible practices of technology & data collection, for a community future.

I think, we have to better learn & understand, that the inventiveness of technology itself, does not have to work, in mutually exclusive terms, and be overly-distant, from the ideas of good civil rights, civil protections, and community oversight. These can be practices, that can simply learn to work, hand in hand, in the future

The important future of digital equity, based on open public policies, good civil protections, and public oversight, can be more holistic,ways, of how to create, a more trusted, sustainable, community future And how to better teach our children, about the future of technology, can be based, on good democratic practices, as how to better define, bridging the digital divide, and community sustainability .

With the events of 9/11, the US economic meltdown of 2008, the PG&E wildfires of 2015-18, and with Covid-19, we have been trying, to better comprehend, and live with, odd new forms, of state sponsored violence and extremism. I think, we may be at a time, to begin to better address, & make some adjustments, to our current political systems. In the trade-off, of possible practices of genocide, as how to create, long term social planning goals, for human kind, may not be worth it.

Although expert opinion, is always needed, an SJ Technology Advisory Board, made up of tech insiders, seems it may serve, a status quo, of large corporate structuring, and old forms of representational democracy - before interesting new ideas, of participatory democracy. And that, does not feel true to the spirit, of what most current City Charter draft recommendations, are trying to address.

I am feeling, open public policies, good community oversight, and open democratic practices, can help better define, more responsible technology practices, for our future. And what can be better ideas, of positive sustainability, at the local community level. And seems to describe well, what can be innovative about technology, at this time.

Open public policies, accountability, and public oversight, are well-intentioned, good ideas, that simply need, more open dialogue, consideration, understanding, and a seat at the table, in the future, of Smart City Technology Advisory ideas, for the city Charter Commission, and for any future San Jose municipal codes.

Surprisingly, these sorts of ideas & concepts, were barely mentioned, by Commission persons, at the Monday meeting.

Open Forum.

To conclude, I thank you for the patience, and my letter writing this past weekend. To again offer, I hope I can be of help to clarify things. And to be able to better consider, more openly, as a commission - that the city Charter process, may have to be extended, into the early spring 2022. And to work specifically, on the legal language issues, with any of the draft recommendations, that you feel, may have to be ready, for a city Charter ballot process, in 2022.

I also wanted to comment, in how to consider overall planning ideas, for the City Charter process, and its Draft recommendations, for the next decade, here in San Jose.

I feel there may be, a large earthquake, in the SF Bay Area, in 2023. This would mean, planning ideas for 2022, may be much different, than in 2023, and from 2024-25 onward.

In no way, do I mean these words, as alarmist, or these ideas, to be used, for political reasons. I am not fully sure, what may happen, in 2023. I am asking for some help, and some clarity,, about this. It is my hope, in offering these concerns, can make something clear for yourselves, in what to better expect, in 2023. . And from this, I feel, this can help, with better planning decisions, for yourselves, in the next few years

I am hopeful, there can be ways, to honestly answer, City Charter questions, issues & tasks, within 2022. And to even place, some new concepts, into the charter, by 2022.

In the very least, we can work in 2022, to have an open, clear, good guideline process in place, for all of the community to understand. And that, can then return, and go immediately to work, in 2024-25, if this sort of community emergency planning, offered above, is actually needed.

sincerely,
blair beekman

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FW: ²Blair Beekman. Thursday. December 2. 2021.

CharterReview <CharterReview@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 12/2/2021 12:12 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: b. beekman [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, December 2, 2021 11:50 AM

To: Charter Review Commission 10a <CRC10a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 10b <CRC10b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 1a <CRC1a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 1b <CRC1b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 2a <CRC2a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 2b <CRC2b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 3a <CRC3a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 3b <CRC3b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 4a <CRC4a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 4b <CRC4b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 5a <CRC5a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 5b <CRC5b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 6b <CRC6b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 6a <CRC6a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 7b <CRC7b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 7a <CRC7a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 8a <CRC8a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 8b <CRC8b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 9a <CRC9a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 9b <CRC9b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission Citywide 1 <CRCCW1@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission Citywide 2 <CRCCW2@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission Chair <CRCChair@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter.Review@sanjoseca.gov; Taber, Toni <toni.taber@sanjoseca.gov>; Vanni, Mark <Mark.Vanni@sanjoseca.gov>; Maguire, Jennifer <jennifer.maguire@sanjoseca.gov>; Pereira, Paul <Paul.Pereira@sanjoseca.gov>; Rios, Angel <Angel.Rios@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Envrión. Laura Mitchell <l.mitchell@sanjoseca.gov>; Doan, Elise <Elise.Doan@sanjoseca.gov>; Parra-Garcia, Sabrina <Sabrina.Parra-Garcia@sanjoseca.gov>; ponchog@sacredheartcs.org; Paul Soto [REDACTED]; tessa woodmansee <[REDACTED]> CharterReview <CharterReview@sanjoseca.gov>; Greene, Shasta <shasta.greene@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; Esparza, Maya <Maya.Esparza@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; Matt King <mattk@sacredheartcs.org>; SURJ [REDACTED]

Subject: ²Blair Beekman. Thursday. December 2. 2021.

[External Email]

To fix a typo, below,

....and to help with, a few remaining Mowekma questions & issues.

- blair.



Dear Charter commission,

I am sorry, where my words, got cut off, or were garbled, at public comment time, yesterday. To quickly go over, here, what I said, yesterday - In ways meant, to give yourself, simple advice, to talk with others. And to have more clear ways, to think about issues. And to also work, to relieve stress -

Is it possible, that with deadlines, for this Friday, December 3, that respect San Jose Sunshine ordinance laws, can forgiveness, be asked, if needed. And that, final deadlines, can be moved to, the next week, of Friday, December 10th ?

This can allow people, a bit more time and space, to understand, what can be, more clear, final updates & revisions.

From this place, Brown Act practices, can be respected, of public review availability, 72 hrs, before, a public meeting. And for, the Dec. 14, sj city council meeting.

It seems, City Charter commissioners, are relieved, that Dec. 14, or sooner, will conclude the work, of commissioners, as a legal body. A thank you, for all of your work, this past year.

To also note, if needed, will the city charter commission, have to continue work, on legal language questions & issues, from this January, into the early spring of 2022?

And to make sure, of certain legal language questions, for ballot items, that may appear, in June and November 2022, city-wide sj elections.

To have a very specific focus, on legal language issues, from January to early spring 2022, could work to create, a more relaxed atmosphere, to consider & review - now established, Charter subject matter.

The work this spring, can help coordinate, and offer, good beginning advice, to the Equity round table commission, the Covid-19 economic forum, and the Reimagine community safety task force.

And to help, with a few remaining questions, of Molekmuwe issues.

If nothing else, as Charter commission persons, and as sj city govt staff, I hope we can all help, these new sj commissions, in these good terms, in the next few months.

I am learning, my own personal ways, of considering important Charter issues.

But the main intention, of my words, is to try to work towards, and help with - how you can have, your own, open, clear decision making, and choices, at this time.

sincerely,
blair beekman

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To: Alrie Middlebrook <[REDACTED]>: Andrew Boone <[REDACTED]>; Blaire Beekman <[REDACTED]>; Charter Review Commission 10a <CRC10a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 10b <CRC10b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commi...

tessa woodmansee [REDACTED]

Tue 12/14/2021 1:03 PM

To: To: Alrie Middlebrook <[REDACTED]>; Andrew Boone <[REDACTED]>; Blaire Beekman <[REDACTED]>; Charter Review Commission 10a <CRC10a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 10b <CRC10b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 1a <CRC1a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 1b <CRC1b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 2a <CRC2a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 2b <CRC2b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 3a <CRC3a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 3b <CRC3b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 4a <CRC4a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 4b <CRC4b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 5a <CRC5a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 5b <CRC5b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 6a <CRC6a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 6b <CRC6b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 7a <CRC7a@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 7b <CRC7b@sanjoseca.gov>; Charter Review Commission 8a <CRC8a@sanjoseca.gov>

[External Email]

Good Morning San Jose citizens, representatives, and leaders,

Please find below the letters from scientist, futurist Cat Woodmansee and thoughts of mine on the strong demand and urgency to include our climate crisis into our city charter as we address the Charter Review Commission's recommendations to the council.

The Charter Review Commission **Did Not** recommend that the Climate Crisis be included in our charter. They did recommend climate actions to be included in a policy which is good but not enough.

Our Climate crisis needs to be in the **charter** so that our policies are **not** influenced by politicians who are serving the corporate masters that pay for their campaigns and these fossil fuel based wealthy influencers have brought us to this climate crisis and ecological collapse that we are currently facing and we need a structural system change to help us out of this existential threat.

WE need intense climate action to be placed in the charter based on the climate emergency we are at as I and Cat Woodmansee discuss below--our climate crisis needs to be in our charter--our human-caused global heating from burning of fossil fuels and using heat-trapping cement demands that our charter incorporate the climate crisis due to its urgency, and its existential threat.

HERE ARE MY THOUGHTS ON WHY Human-caused global heating from burning fossil fuels needs to be in the charter:

As we wake up from another climate-induced crisis of over 30 record-breaking tornadoes spawned by record-breaking heat in December----there are now thousands maybe millions more midwest humans

being added to the scientifically projected 1 billion climate refugees on the move by 2050.

These climate-induced tornadoes are having our midwest Americans join many others around our country and the world to the community of climate refugees...living in areas now becoming part of the fast-growing mounting places that are part of our ever growing **uninhabitable earth** due to global heating from the burning of fossil fuels.

This most recent climate catastrophe is helping to meet the scientific projection that San Jose will have at least **40 times** more climate refugees since we seem to be living in a relatively **for Now** sweet spot in terms of extreme weather though this could change at any time. That means not 1 million but 40 million residents needing food, clothing and shelter.

To bring this situation into greater focus here is what Peter Kalmus, Ph.D. on twitter @ClimateHuman , 12/12/21: says:

"Everyone, I am begging you: Every time you learn of a new climate-related disaster, please recognize that it will get worse, and worse, and worse, every year, without end ****UNTIL WE END THE FOSSIL FUEL INDUSTRY****"

"It is so damn hard for any one person to intervene meaningfully in such a powerful capitalist system that has a multi-century track record of literal genocide and is now poised to take down planetary life support systems. We must rise up in great numbers. It is the only way."

"And the capitalist system itself now ensures that it is exceedingly hard for us to organize and change it.

Peter Kalmus (born May 9, 1974) is an American [climate scientist](#) and writer based in [Altadena, California](#). He is a [data scientist](#) at NASA's [Jet Propulsion Laboratory](#) as an associate project scientist at UCLA's Joint Institute for Regional Earth System Science & Engineering. In addition to his scientific work, he is the author of the award winning^[1] book, *Being the Change: Live Well and Spark a Climate Revolution*.^[2] A documentary by the same title complements the book.^[3] In addition to authoring articles about [climate change](#), he is the founder of the website [noflyclimatesci.org](#) and co-founder of the app Earth Hero: Climate Change.

These record-breaking destructive tornadoes were created by our global heating--from our burning of fossil fuels and the use of greenhouse heat-trapping gases from cement to line our roads and tunnels and high rise buildings.

These midwest anomalous December tornadoes were a set up of record heat and moisture content being displaced by extremely cold and dry arctic air that descended from the arctic circle due to the meandering of our jet stream caused by arctic heat amplification causing the extremely powerful tornado cluster all caused by our record-breaking heat heating our gulf of Mexico meeting the cold arctic air coming out of the arctic: all created by the burning of fossil fuels.

Please find below Cat Woodmansee's letter to the city re BUILDING A RESILIENT CITY TO SAVE THE PEOPLE...the **MINORITY OPINION FOR CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION TO SAN JOSE CITY COUNCIL written December 2nd**

In addition find below that minority opinion writing his entire plan for a climate-resilient plan and ideas to become a zero emissions city by 2030.

CAT WOODMANSEE, 62 yo MS Biology and ecosystem analysis Cal State Chico, California Science teaching credential, computer and data scientist born and raised in CA and 30 years in San Jose,

husband and father of two homeschooled children.

MINORITY OPINION FOR CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION TO SAN JOSE CITY COUNCIL written December 2nd

We have been considering an amendment to the Charter for the city of San Jose to require the city leadership to adopt substantial measures intended to deal with the crisis of global heating. There is an alternative proposal to not amend the Charter but rather leave such measures in the realm of policy, subject to the priorities of the political class. Doing so would be a grave mistake. Allow me to explain why I think this is the case.

For context, we can start with the 2021 Conference of the Parties recently concluded in Glasgow, Scotland. This would be the 26th such gathering of the COP. The annual COP is where the nations of the world gather to discuss their collective response to global climate change. You wouldn't know that from just the event title. In the lead-up to COP-26, many world influencers went on record to say how this would be the most important COP ever, and admonished the participants to make genuine changes to global agreements intended to reduce global heating. Some of those voices suggesting that failing to make progress in 2021 would put the entirety of human civilization onto the path of runaway climate change for decades to come. In the end, COP-26 was an abject failure. Nothing of consequence emerged, and the world's leaders returned to their own countries to crow about how they had protected the national interests.

COP-26 is only the most recent in a decades-long series of highly visible global diplomatic failures. It is now evident from observations that the political class has no appetite for dealing with global heating caused by the burning of fossil fuels. There are currently no viable, significant solutions (or even the pretense of such) coming from the international community, nor from the US federal government, nor from the California state government. There are any

number of "greening the economy" projects, or "carbon neutral" schemes, or other such hand-waving now in flight all over the world stage, but these are almost entirely too late and too

modest in their scope. We have no time left; the planetary system that has nurtured our endeavors for centuries has finally turned against us even while the window of opportunity to "fight climate change" has closed, likely for whatever time humans remain on Earth. Now, we must learn to cope.

Cities have for thousands of years offered citizens tools to cope with threats to existence. If nothing else, a city typically had defensive walls, shared granaries, water cisterns and wells, and were made up of many self-aware small, contained, resilient communities able to support each other during trying times. None of our modern cities have these things, and our political and business elites have shown no interest in providing such. Doing so does not apparently further their class ambitions. Thus we drift into dangerous waters. If the city does not have the historical, inherited, and evolved set of responses to organize people around collective survival, and the political class is seen running from the challenges, then we need to teach the city itself how to perform the supportive role that cities of old had always offered.

And so, to our topic of the San Jose city Charter.

The initial suggestion to amend the Charter for the city of San Jose was a deliberate move to inject into the city's DNA a set of concrete rules by which to cope with the looming, grinding, existential challenge that is global heating. We can guess at some of the challenges we will face, but many more (and likely, worse) will arrive without warning. The opportunity for harmful demagoguery is immense. Placing some general rules and modest ambitions into the Charter

would somewhat insulate them from political meddling — that is, would position the needs of common people above the narrow needs of the elites in a way that the political process simply refuses to do — and would position the rules to be taken up by future standard-bearers as the crisis accelerates into unknown territory, in the process perhaps avoiding some future lethal societal implosion.

Of course, having a rule book is not a popular move when politicians would rather broker power and influence for their personal gain, but the days of playing with power are behind us. Or certainly need to be. Making a transition to shared resilience quickly, while the opportunity still

exists, requires bold actions of a kind that people naturally distrust. People need to have an explanation, which explanation sadly falls to politicians, so in substitution of that the rationale presented here will have to do.

The planetary system is changing, and we are not positioned at all well to deal with that. We have no time left to wrangle over how to prioritize the operations of the city around what is proposed to be a thousand conflicting goals. In fact we have one goal; survival. That was always the case, it remains true to this day. Simply put, we have forgotten this. We must quickly remember.

We must amend the Charter.

Scientist, futurist Cat Woodmansee's document for San Jose Charter to include: a Climate Crisis Commission, building Resiliency to save the people, and zero emission goals for San Jose Charter
PROPOSED SAN JOSE CITY CHARTER AMENDMENT XX:

Global heating, and the associated changes in regional climate, together create a global issue.

We cannot say yet if there will be a global solution, however, we do know with certainty that any harms will be of a local nature. We are already seeing signs of what we can expect from the

future in the horrifying, record-breaking fires, floods, freezes, droughts, cyclones, and the

accelerating breakdown of previously stable parts of the whole Earth system. The most recent

IPCC report suggests we can expect 30 more years at least of increasingly worse outcomes,

with each year potentially breaking records set just the year before.

It seems we find ourselves now at a crossroads, where every step forward takes us further off a

map defined by 8,000 years of Earth systems stability. Beyond here there will be monsters.

People are going to suffer in large numbers, due to changes in the climate. People are going to die.

It is time we accept the challenge to save the people. All the people, but starting with the people

in our fair city.

The political class certainly understands the challenge, but perceived political expedience

prevents timely, realistic actions in response. For the moment it seems the political class cannot

save the people. The financial and business classes also understand the challenge but apart

from the insurance sector they cannot generally consider threats any further out than the next

quarterly results. The insurance sector in particular has seen the future of climate impacts and is

canceling policies. Obviously, this will not save the people, either.

It appears the people must for now endeavor to save themselves.

The purpose of a city is to serve the needs of people. The laws and regulations of the city are created with the intent to provide a civilized experience for all. Today we consider amendments

to the Charter of the City of San Jose, to add language that will inform the City's response to a looming global climate crisis, so as to save the people, and in so doing to preserve civilization.

Permit me now to outline what such Charter language should contain.

Consider an approach like a stool with three legs. In our case, one leg is data collection concerning carbon emissions and fossil fuel consumption for the sake of transparency and

decision-making. Another leg is identifying communities in harm's way and ensuring they become resilient to climate disasters where resilience is lacking, focusing in particular on historically under-served communities. And the third leg is the creation of a commission of the people to ensure that the political and business elites understand the importance of saving the people.

I will now provide some details on how this could work, starting with the first leg, data collection.

The Charter should be amended with language to require City departments and services to

analyze and report their current and projected annual fossil fuel consumption and other sources of greenhouse gas emissions, and to report how they are mitigating these emissions if at all,

and if not how they might reduce them or mitigate, and if they cannot why then they cannot. The

exact same requirement would apply to private enterprises operating inside the City or providing

goods or services to the City.

The Charter should also require analyzing the fossil fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions of citizens in aggregate. For example, how often and where citizens drive, commute patterns into and out of the City, adoption rates for electric vehicles, bicycles, and mass transit, mass transit passenger-mile carbon emissions, the expansion of suburbs, freeway passenger miles, densification of the urban core, the pace and locations of new home construction, and the like. It is potentially a long list, the actual measures would also evolve over time so the Charter must specify the need for this data as an aid to planning and not the exact kinds of data. Data collection of citizen emission patterns could be via surveys and/or longitudinal studies and should be completely anonymized.

As described above, the first leg of our approach would be used to identify areas where the City and local businesses could and likely should reduce fossil fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, a first step toward paring down our contribution to the problem. The actual numerical goals for this work, meaning the targets for reductions, might come to the City via state law, or federal law, or even international treaties, but there is nothing to stop the City from having more aggressive goals either for itself, the citizens, or the business community. Where multiple goals for reductions exist at different levels of governance including international agreements, or via different jurisdictions, the City will take on the more aggressive target. The ultimate target for fossil fuels consumption by the City, citizens, and businesses within the City is taken to be numerically zero, meaning no consumption of any kind. Likewise, the ultimate goal of carbon emissions is taken as zero. These are difficult goals to be sure, and will be deemed politically unpalatable or in other ways impossible, but like it or not these are the real goals of the work being described here even if lesser, more acceptable, targets are pursued instead.

But reducing fossil fuel reliance is not just about doing with less for the sake of less, it can be viewed as a strategic, defensive measure where reducing reliance can forestall serious local economic damage in the event that national or state climate actions require us to take on a sudden, forced, and dramatic reduction in fossil fuel and energy consumption. The sooner the City, the citizens, and businesses can operate without significant reliance on fossil

fuel consumption, the least harm will be felt when energy supplies become deliberately curtailed or the price of fuels enter the stratosphere. These are trends we can anticipate as global heating begins to bite, and national governments take concerted, draconian steps to save the human world from disaster.

The second leg of our approach is to create resilient communities.

All communities of the City will be impacted by global heating. No neighborhood or ZIP code

can escape this. Extreme heat events, water usage curtailments, large-area flooding, strategic

power cut-offs and restrictions, food disruptions, and civil unrest are on the shortlist of what we can realistically expect at some point. These will affect all the people of the City at one time or

another, and probably everyone at once in particular cases. Some neighborhoods will suffer

weeks of disruption and multiple threats at the same time, like large-area excessive heat coupled with regional power interruptions and resulting food shortages. Threats from global

heating will generally impact large areas of the City, overwhelming emergency services, dislocating people by the thousands, and resulting in potential mass casualty events that

overwhelm first responders, hospitals, and morgues.

Creating resilient communities is hard work, is politically unpopular, and it can be difficult to quantify success. Charter language that requires resilience must specify resilient outcomes

based on models of expected harms. For example, identifying the requirement to provide cooling centers to neighborhoods against the expectation of weeks-long extreme heat events. It

would fall to City planners to then figure out how cooling centers are to be made available, how

and when people can be notified to seek shelter, and how shelters will be kept working in the event of power curtailments. Where cooling centers do not exist, how they should be created

and operated, and how to pay for this. How far a citizen can be expected to travel in safety and by what means to get to a shelter. How they will be fed while at the shelter, and for how long this

can be expected to go on.

All of that is just cooling centers and just for extreme heat events.

But this is what it takes to save the people, if saving the people is indeed what we

intend.

It is extremely important to recognize a historic trend to sidestep the needs of certain communities in City planning, a practice that creates unnecessary islands of vulnerability, and to

make sure this practice does not continue into an era of climate-driven catastrophes.

Poor,

unrepresented, and under-served people are in no position to go it alone in the struggle against global heating and climate change impacts. They will need help, education, and services where

these are lacking or are not suitable to purpose. As the City rolls out resilience measures into communities, whatever those turn out to be, the measures must be distributed in the most

equitable way possible as a moral imperative. The Charter language should require the identification of all vulnerable communities, the exact nature of their vulnerabilities -- which will

be multiple -- and then direct City planners and leaders to ensure these communities are not left to suffer and perish.

All communities will need support during a regional or City-wide climate-driven calamity. The scope of this challenge could at times be absolutely massive, but the more the City can get out

in front of the problem, starting with the most vulnerable among us, the better will be the outcomes. This simply cannot be overstated. Again, it is a matter of the highest moral imperative

that we do this right.

That is the second leg of our approach to saving the people. Creating resilience is a daunting task, one fraught with political landmines, budget-busting expenses, class struggle, festering

grievances, and everything else that comes with societal change on a massive scale.

But juggling all that is the challenge before us, now and into the future. If you intend to keep your

civilization, then this is how you keep your civilization.

The third leg of our approach is to create what I will call here a Climate Crisis Commission. C3, for short. Or for conversation, the Commission. The C3 will be the interface between the

people, who sense their own growing and present vulnerability to climate changes, and the

political and business classes, which are at present apparently not as concerned.

Because of this mismatch in goals, I feel compelled to state from the outset what the Commission is not. This is not another political playground. It is not a business roundtable. It is

not an academic sideshow. It is not a place to discuss economic growth, jobs, innovation, or anything related even if more jobs and innovation are seen as a good thing for an under-served community. The C3 scope of work is here expressly directed away from economic, political, or budgetary considerations. If that appears harsh, unrealistic, or arbitrary, it is actually none of those. It is an honest assessment of what it will take to save people from destruction. We can have our politics, economics, and budgets back after we have saved the people. I should hope this is obvious, if it is not obvious then we need to take a collective moment to realign our moral compasses.

Put simply, the C3 -- indeed the entire Charter amendment language outline here -- all are expressly constructed to preserve the lives and livelihoods of the most number of people possible, in the very teeth of the greatest threat to survival the human project has seen in probably 70,000 years.

Now to the structure of the C3 itself. As this is the gravitational center of the work I am identifying, I spend more time on this component than the others. I think the Commission represents the most challenging to implement, and its proper working the best chance for total success.

The Commission will be grounded in the work of two communities that need to inform our climate crisis response; the community of scientists acting in an advisory capacity, and the non-science public who need a specific understanding of how climate challenges will impact their communities so they can respond to preserve themselves.

The Charter language here should here specify the C3 be created by the City and funded to the extent required for its given purpose, being data collection, analysis, outreach, and internal operations required for regular meetings. The C3 will not implement policy or direct City budgets but will by regular reports inform the City Council of the challenges people are facing and will

face in the future, and recommend mitigations and projects. The C3 will submit reports from meetings to the City Council and into the public record on a regular basis. The C3 should have some representation at Council meetings to answer questions or provide critical updates.

The C3 will meet at a location and time determined by C3 participants, or else via remote technology, as agreed or required. Either the location or the time can change from meeting to

meeting, or be static. Meetings must be held within the City of San Jose, in either public or private venue with a budget provided for any site-specific expenses, but the best solution is to

hold meetings via remote technology if at all possible.

The C3 will consist of a Citizens' Panel and a Science Panel, the latter acting in a specific

advisory capacity, with a Commission Chair selected in rotation.

As the City currently consists of ten Districts there will be that many Citizen Panel caucuses on

the C3, each caucus consisting of two voting district citizen representatives and one or more

nonvoting alternates. The initial participants in the C3 will be selected by serving City Councilmembers, who will submit their recommendations for the Citizen Panel, selected using

whatever recruitment process the Councilmember deems suitable, provided that each Citizen

Panelist will submit into the public record a written statement describing their background, the

nature of their interest in the work of the C3, acceptance of the consensus science concerning

global heating and climate change, and an expressed agreement to support the mission of the

C3 to save the people. Citizen Panelists will serve on the C3 for no more than a year, but can

return to serve again after the lapse of a year. They can resign at will, to be replaced by an

alternate. After the initial selection of C3 Citizen Panelists, new members will be brought forward

by the district caucus along with their written letter as described above, the applicant's inclusion to be subject to a majority (51%) vote of the rest of the combined panels of the C3. A nonvoting Commission Chair will be selected from the current rotation district caucus by that caucus (reducing their vote by one) to serve as Chair for one meeting of the Commission. The position of Chair will rotate in a round-robin fashion through all the districts, changing for each meeting, and the Chair will be announced by the next district in rotation in advance of the meetings as part of the next agenda. The Chair of the first meeting of the C3 will be taken from District 1, with rotation into the other districts after that. The Science Panel will consist of at least three participants granted voting rights on Commission matters, and having the necessary skills and expertise to address the complex nature of climate science, having knowledge of scientific reporting such as that issued by the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), and understanding how climate impacts will intersect with local concerns such as the emergency provision and continuity of water supply, food supply, electrical power, and transportation. The Science Panel can be drawn from the academic community, local citizenry, out-of-town experts, or City staff, this list not being exhaustive at all. The sole requirement for inclusion in the Science Panel is that the participant expressly and in writing accepts the consensus science regarding global heating and climate change, has an understanding of known and expected threats to human welfare, can speak to mitigation strategies regarding climate threats, and supports the aim of saving the people of the City as a first priority. Potential participants will signify their interest in sitting on the Panel by submitting into the public record a written statement of intent addressing the above points, and further describing their areas of expertise,

experiences in the field as these might apply to the aims of the Commission, and an acceptance

of the C3 mission to save the people from disruption and mortality caused by climate changes.

Anyone submitting the desired profile can sit on the Science Panel at any time and provide

advice, but only three can be designated to vote on Commission work. There is no district-level

caucus or exact limit in the number of participants from the science community but there is a

Charter requirement that three voting Science Panelists be present during Commission

meetings, with at least one nonvoting alternate to fill any unforeseen gaps in attendance.

The Science Panel informs the Citizens' Panel, and thus all the people, concerning their most

likely future under climate change, to the best extent this can be known at any given time, so

that the Citizens' Panel can in aggregate plot their course toward a comprehensive and

equitable resilience for the people.

The Citizen's Panel, once formed, will be tasked with seating the Science Panel and designating

the three voting participants, based on submitted letters of interest from potential participants in

the scientific and technical communities. A simple majority (51%) vote of acceptance from the

Citizens' Panel will suffice for this.

The Citizens' Panel and Science Panel voting members vote as equals on all matters before the

C3, except for those matters already designated to district caucuses. Matters before the

Commission will be passed with a majority (51%) vote.

The C3 will meet on a cadence to be determined by the C3 in session, meaning the C3 will be in

a position to dynamically address the urgency of the work or the complexity of the challenges

being taken on, as the Commission itself sees these.

The next meeting agenda work of the C3 will be determined at the end of a given

meeting, as will the rotating Chair, as will the location and time of the next meeting if this is allowed to change. Any item can be added to the next meeting agenda, the entire agenda and Chair will be accepted by the current meeting assembly by a majority vote.

The C3 will be the audience for the data reporting mentioned as the first leg of the Charter

language. The Citizens and Scientists together will determine the suitability for purpose of the

reporting or any needed clarifications, will determine if and how to publish the reporting for the

benefit of the larger community, and will pass the reporting with comments and recommendations for actions to the City Council when it is deemed complete, not less than

once per year.

The Commission is otherwise free to determine what else will constitute their work. Where that

work requires funding, the Commission will need to approach either private funding sources or

the City. At the very least, C3 work will likely consist of work such as:

1. Identify the most likely climate threats to afflict the people of the City of San Jose.

This

should include direct threats such as flood, fire and heat, as well as indirect threats such

as water curtailments, power outages, and food supply interruptions. The list almost writes itself, but how these threats play out across the city will be harder to determine.

2. Create a process to identify non-overlapping, culturally distinct communities, if there are

such, consisting of no fewer than 5,000 citizens each. Publish a written description of these communities and their distinct and defining cultural attributes, as well as their unique and defining requirements to survive as a distinct culture during a crisis.

These

cultural communities may have a recognized neighborhood structure or not.

3. Commission work will identify the boundary extent of under-served communities, whether culturally distinct or not. This can be broadly defined, it need not be an actual

map of streets and intersections. At the same time, and working with community

representatives, determine what the community will require to endure the kinds of previously defined climate impacts.

4. Commission work to identify where described communities lack basic services critical to

surviving climate change impacts, where these omissions present a threat to community integrity, and how to mitigate that threat. Mitigations can span multiple communities but must be large enough to adequately serve a significant part of communities that need mitigation. This work will be submitted annually to the City Council.

5. The Commission will identify best climate mitigation and defense practices for anticipated climate impacts as these have been developed in other cities and regions, and describe how these might be incorporated into the effort to increase resilience among citizens of the City.

6. Identify goals for fossil fuel consumption reduction targets, and for carbon emission

reduction targets, using the best science and technological solutions that apply. This can

be done for individual City departments or services where reductions seem most warranted, for example in first responders who are ultimately the most vulnerable to fuel

shortages or restrictions, or fuel cost increases.

7. Report annually to Council the state of the climate science, and the state of knowledge

of how climate changes are expected to cause harm to the City and the citizens and businesses. Report instances of impacts having occurred in the City and how these might have been caused by global heating or climate changes. Academic rigor is not the

goal, a simple statement recognizing impacting events and how these tie into the work of

the Commission is sufficient.

8. Work to develop resilience definitions around know impact vectors such as extreme

heat, floods, food crises, water disruptions, and the like will reduce resilience across the

City. Catalog what would be required in the best case to protect the most number of people and vulnerable communities from undo harm or excessive mortality.

9. Perform climate crisis modeling and response. This need not be an academically or scientifically rigorous approach, it could instead be a set of narrative scenarios focusing

on likely single or combined impacting events, across a few or many communities,

with supporting data drawn from real-world disasters in similar situations as what exist in San Jose. To be published as completed to the City Council, with recommendations if any recommendations make sense.

That is a good start at a list of work for the C3, no doubt a much longer list could develop as a discovery process unwinds, and unseen vulnerabilities and solutions alike come to the surface.

So those are the three-legs of an approach to how the City of San Jose might be instructed, via the Charter, to accept the challenge of saving the people. Data collection, identifying vulnerable communities and likely impacts, and forming a Commission to represent the goal of the people to save themselves from massive dislocations, suffering, and mortality. The recommendations here are not meant to be dystopian or punitive, no particular business, City service or class of people are called out or targetted for blame since doing so would not promote survival. The purpose is simply to accept the challenge, and to then to set aside egos and grievances and past practices and venture as a unified community of people into that unknown future dynamic planetary system, where lay the monsters. Where the Earth's own global engines are already set in grinding motion against us. Against all of us. We will none of us flourish alone in this struggle. But we may just make it to the end with most of our institutions, our precious cultures, our neighborhoods, and our civilization intact. In this, I wish us all good luck. And thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you for taking the time to urgently consider including this plan into our city charter,

Tessa Woodmansee
President, Garden Alameda Village Association
MA , communications and education Cal State Northridge 1992
--
Clean Air and Quiet Neighborhoods--A Natural Right.

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Fw: In support of Moving the Mayoral Race

Gregory, Barbara <[redacted]>

Tue 1/4/2022 9:06 AM

To: Agendadesk <[redacted]>

Thank You

Barb Gregory  
Analyst II
Office of the City Clerk
200 E Santa Clara St FL T 14
San Jose, C A 95112

[redacted]
e mail: [redacted]

How is our service? [Please take our short survey.](#)

From: azucena [redacted] Azucena Nava

Sent: Monday, January 3, 2022 2:26 PM
To: City Clerk <[redacted]>
Subject: In support of Moving the Mayoral Race

[You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important at <http://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>.]

[External Email]

Dear City Clerk Toni Taber,

The voice of every voter in San Jose should matter, regardless of the color of our skin or how much money is in our pockets, and this should be especially true when it comes to selecting our future Mayors.

I urge you to support putting an amendment to the City Charter to move future San Jose mayoral elections from Gubernatorial to Presidential election years, beginning in 2024, before voters as a ballot measure this June during the 2022 Primary Elections. Furthermore I implore you to make this policy change its own ballot measure, to not include additional issues under the measure, to ensure the public is finally able to have its say on this important issue.

Moving the Mayoral election is critical to strengthening our democracy, and has been called by respected political scientists, "the single best policy solution for increasing voter turnout." This is why this change was nearly unanimously supported by the City's Charter Review Commission.

This is the only proposed change by the Commission where tens of thousands of San Jose residents across the City have already weighed in, taking action to bring this change forward, whether it was by attending hearings and rallies, writing letters or signing petitions. This is why I believe it is critical that the City Council place the change to move the Mayoral election before the voters as its own ballot measure, without any additional policy changes or poison pill amendments. Voters should finally have a chance to vote on this critical change without any additional distractions.

In previous elections, like in 2018, the City Council decided to place numerous individual charter changes before the voters, such as Measure S and Measure U, and decided to give each charter change its own ballot measure.

The City should follow on this precedent today, by placing the Mayoral Election charter change before the voters as its own measure.

Sincerely,
Azucena Nava

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Fw: In support of Moving the Mayoral Race

Gregory, Barbara <Barbara.Gregory@sanjoseca.gov>

Wed 1/5/2022 3:27 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thank You




Analyst II
Office of the City Clerk
200 E Santa Clara St FL T 14
San Jose, C A 95112
408 535 1272 Fax: 408 292 6207
e mail: barbara.gregory@sanjoseca.gov

How is our service? [Please take our short survey.](#)

From: BWheatley4SJUSD [Redacted]
Brian Wheatley [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, January 5, 2022 3:00 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: In support of Moving the Mayoral Race

[Redacted]

[External Email]

Dear City Clerk Toni Taber,

The voice of every voter in San Jose should matter, regardless of the color of our skin or how much money is in our pockets, and this should be especially true when it comes to selecting our future Mayors. Having taught in east San Jose for 35 years, I know how important this issue is for many of those families.

I urge you to support putting an amendment to the City Charter to move future San Jose mayoral elections from Gubernatorial to Presidential election years, beginning in 2024, before voters as a ballot measure this June during the 2022 Primary Elections. Furthermore I implore you to make this policy change its own ballot measure, to not include additional issues under the measure, to ensure the public

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The City should follow on this precedent today, by placing the Mayoral Election charter change before the voters as its own measure.

Sincerely,
Brian Wheatley



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January 7, 2022

The Honorable Sam Liccardo, Mayor and
Members of the City Council
City of San José
200 East Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Councilmembers,

Our collective organizations are writing to urge the San José City Council to approve the recommendation to transition mayoral elections from Gubernatorial to Presidential election years beginning in 2024. This important recommendation should be placed before voters for a Special Municipal Election to be held June 2022 as its own ballot measure, and not be combined with any other proposed charter amendments.

According to San José State political scientists, this policy can make a significant impact on voter participation and representation. Over the past four mayoral elections, an average of 43.4% of registered voters turned out to vote. With less than half of eligible San Jose residents deciding a major elected position, we must take every opportunity to improve this statistic and improve our local democratic process. Now, the San José City Council is presented with this very choice. Election research suggests that moving the timing of the city's mayoral elections to presidential years would increase voter turnout by approximately 30%.

This issue has a critical implication on San José's commitment to equitable elections. In an era of rampant voter suppression across the country that threatens the political voice of communities of color, we must pay attention to how city policies impact historically marginalized communities. The data reveal that those voters most likely to participate in both Gubernatorial and Presidential elections are disproportionately white, homeowners, more educated and affluent, and US-born. Changing the mayoral election to Presidential years would increase the representation of people of color, young voters, and women, who are more likely to vote during presidential elections.

Supporting this charter amendment will help maximize voter turnout and ensure that our democratic institutions are truly representative of the wide range of communities that make ours a remarkable city. We urge members of the San José City Council to support this recommendation as a stand-alone ballot measure and consider who has a say in electing our city's mayor.

WORKING PARTNERSHIPS USA

Respectfully,

David Bini
Executive Director
Santa Clara & San Benito Counties Building &
Construction Trades Council

Philip Nguyen
Executive Director
Vietnamese American Roundtable

Jean Cohen
Executive Officer
South Bay Labor Council

Bob Nuñez
President
SJ/SV NAACP

Maria Noel Fernandez
Campaign Director
Silicon Valley Rising Action

Jose Luis Pavon
Senior Political Organizer
SEIU USWW

Maricela Gutierrez
Executive Director
SIREN

Mayra Pelagio
Executive Director
Latinos United for a New America

Richard Konda
Executive Director
Asian Law Alliance

Ruth Silver Taube
Lead Attorney
Santa Clara County Wage Theft Coalition

Maria Maldonado
Coordinator
Fight For \$15

Dominic Torreano
Business Representative
SMART Local 104

Derecka Mehrens
Executive Director
Working Partnerships USA

Vaughn Villaverde
Director of Advocacy
AACI