

# EMAILS RECEIVED REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

## CITY OF ALBANY, CALIFORNIA



ALBANY CITY HALL  
1000 SAN PABLO AVENUE  
ALBANY, CALIFORNIA 94706

### *Study Session: Climate Action & Adaptation Plan*

CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2019

**From:** [Theresa Halula](#)  
**To:** [citycouncil](#)  
**Cc:** [theresa\\_halula](#)  
**Subject:** Comment for Draft Climate Action and Adaptation Plan  
**Date:** Monday, September 16, 2019 11:49:17 AM

---

Albany City Council Member and Citizens of the City of Albany  
City Council Meeting September 16, 2019 Open Comment Period.

These comments are intended to be shared with the team developing the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan for the city. As a member of the Gill Tract Community Farm Project I have a desire to report on our progress as it relates to the city's long term goals for a livable village, sustainable city and resilience for our population. We appreciate the opportunity to support the City of Albany via active engagement from our members to assist your efforts to drive down carbon emissions.

We would like to share our message with the City Council. We strive to provide food security by growing food sustainably, teaching in the community about food production and offer a center to build community relationships. All are welcome to participate at the farm during our open hours. The Gill Tract Community Farm has been growing food and medicinal herbs organically since 2012. In addition to our large community of volunteers, we also have won the support of the Alameda and Contra Costa Master Gardeners Program the California Agricultural Extension Representatives and many other nonprofit community-based organizations working for food security in the East Bay. We strive to and continue to grow in our ability to reach those with the greatest need for fresh and nutritious produce locally. We have become a stable and community-based resource teaching local sustainability and resilience, teaching each other how to grow food in our home gardens, how to build stronger ties with each other and to act as a center for community change.

With growing support in Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, and the University of California, Berkeley the Gill Tract Community Farm is launching plans to expand our programs for community development by bringing on staff to better organize our efforts to reach out into the community. We support the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan the city is developing. We want to be part of the city's effort to reach these critical goals. We would be happy to meet with you to discuss our program further as the Climate Action Plan moves forward.

Theresa Halula  
Gill Tract Community Farm Working Group Member

**From:** [Dan Johnson](#)  
**To:** [citycouncil](#)  
**Subject:** Comments on CAAP  
**Date:** Monday, September 16, 2019 12:16:57 PM  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)

---

Council members and staff,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the CAAP. Specific comments:

1) Goal date for Zero Carbon/ Zero Emissions city is 2045, not 2050. [State goal is 2045](#); Albany would be a laggard, not a leader, to use 2050

2) Interim goal needs to be -40% carbon by 2030---I think this might be consistent with -60% by 2035---or the 2045 date is not achievable, and the integrated emissions over the timeline exceed our allowance

3) Should be included specifically in the plan:

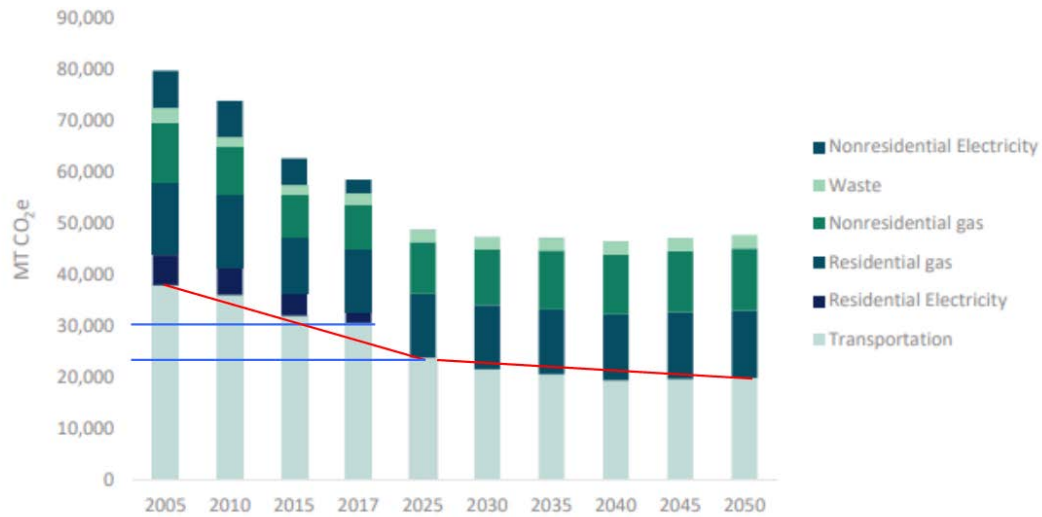
- Contact vendors of fossil fuels in Albany (gasoline dispensaries, PG&E, etc.) and tell them they must cut sales 40% in the next 10 years; for PG&E, no new connections are allowed, effectively immediately (2020), and all vendors need a plan in place to exit this market and move customers to other energy sources. If they don't help with this, they are in violation of Albany's Climate Plan.
- We want this to be a win-win for the vendors, for example, help PG&E decommission it's dangerous and money-losing gas infrastructure, which is also a PG&E goal. They would prefer no gas customers. What is the plan for the gasoline dispensaries? They need a new business model to thrive.
- Extend this thinking to other businesses affected directly by the CAAP plan; **it's actually a business plan for them**

4) Yes, **no new gas connections starting 1/1/2020**. This is consistent with other Bay Area cities, it would be a laggard position to not adopt this policy.

5) **Please target a much greater reduction in VMT**. Page 33 indicates only 25% reduction in passenger vehicle VMT by 2050. This needs to be more aggressive. **Target a VMT cut of 50% by 2050.**

- Chart on page 12 shows nearly 25% reduction in transportation carbon from 2005->2017 was already achieved, with nearly 40% reduction by 2025, but nearly a flat line for transportation carbon from 2025 to 2050---why?

Figure 4. Albany community greenhouse gas emissions forecast from 2025 to 2050.



- 
- Achieve -50% VMT by 2050 with land use changes: **start with safe routes to school: protected bike lanes that are buffered by landscape:** big trees, stormwater retention.
- Goal that **\*no child in Albany should NEED to be driven to school for their safety\***
- 60% of my 2nd Grader's classmates get to Marin Elementary by car. In a city less than 1 sq. mile, this is disgusting. The parents feel so unsafe about walking and biking that they must drive the children for their own protection. Other factors too. Identify these and correct them.
- This is a situation that the Council has created through land-use planning directives (public rights of way, street design), and it's within the Council's power to provide safe and appealing routes to school for all Albany children that do not involve strapping into multi-ton steel shells.

Thank you.

Dan Johnson  
510-325-5672 cell

**From:** [Douglas Donaldson](#)  
**To:** [citycouncil](#)  
**Subject:** Climate Action Plan Comments  
**Date:** Monday, September 16, 2019 8:37:11 PM  
**Attachments:** [Climate Action Plan Comments - Donaldson.docx](#)

---

Hello Council,

Here are my notes for the comments I made at the City Council Study Session tonight. I ran out of time before I could make the last 3 points. Please add this to the record.

Thanks,

Doug

Doug Donaldson  
627 Spokane Ave.  
Albany, CA 94706  
(510) 524-4835

EMAIL ATTACHMENT SUBMITTED BY DOUG DONALDSON, 9/16 8:37 EMAIL

P. 4 – If not Albany, Who? Statement – this should come from the City Council, not an anonymous “We.” This page should be entirely re-written.

P. 6: Strategies - over stated: “We’ll convert our natural gas infrastructure” We’ll eliminate fossil fuel use” What? Won’t happen. We all know that, and language to this effect has no business in a City adopted Plan.

P32: Electrify our buildings? With EBCE only? Where is solar? Not mentioned anywhere in the Plan. Are we really going to abandon our natural gas infrastructure? At a time when natural gas is very plentiful?

p. 34: Where are programs for solar in apartment buildings – hot water and PV?? Also incentives for SFDs?

pp. 33-35: Mandate fuel switching? Really? This could be a major task, even if limited to major residential additions.

P. 36: Where do Uber/Lyft fit into our transportation strategy?

p.42: Farmer’s Market, delete. We tried that and it didn’t work. I have 2 farmers markets within walking distance of my home – they are just not in Albany.

p. 45: include El Cerrito and CCC in FEMA mapping; add policies for infiltration basins/ rain gardens and policies to acknowledge 501 c 3 requirements to be met in new construction