

June 30 PM Council Session - Item 511

No.	First Name	Last Name	Zip
1	Tri	Sanger	97215
2	Edith	Gillis	97206
3	Bob	Sallinger	97212
4	Derek	Boyd	97206
5	Nora	Apter	97213
6	Damon	Motz-Storey	97211
7	leslie	kochan	97202
8	Loretta	Smith	
9	Sarah	Taylor	97231
10	Monica	Zazueta	98663
11	Diane	Meisenhelter	97211
12	Sandy	Polishuk	97212

From: [Jae Pasari](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#); [Commissioner Fritz](#); [Commissioner Eudaly](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Carrillo, Yesenia](#)
Subject: Climate Emergency Declaration
Date: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 7:59:49 AM

Hi,

Please consider the following as you craft your climate emergency declaration at the June 30th council meeting....

Jae Pasari
97215

2050 is TOO LATE for net zero: Annual concrete actions steps for 10% decarbonization yearly are in line with the demands of the scientific community, which sets global goals of 7.6% annual decarbonization. Since we in the developed (industrialized) world are creating the vast majority of emissions, we must do more and faster. If the global goal is to be met, it will necessitate significant annual local actions of that magnitude and beyond before it is too late.

Annual reporting on progress: Interim emissions milestones and inventory reports every 4 years are not enough. These plans must include reporting annually on progress, which could take the form of a checklist on annual concrete action steps for decarbonization. Quarterly posting to the [Bureau of Planning and Sustainability](#) about specific action items would also be helpful.

Electrification of mass transit: This major issue is ignored. It is tied to frontline communities' health as well as to greenhouse gas emissions reductions. Trimet must enact an immediate moratorium on the purchase of additional diesel buses and develop a clear transition plan to get to full electrification of public transit. Also on buses: we demand free or deeply discounted public transit for low income, elderly, and disabled riders – not just free youth passes (which we also support).

Community control of electricity sources: This should be spelled out. Other communities have used this as a means to achieve their goals more quickly, and to create funds to meet other climate and renewables goals. The existing utilities have little to no incentive to get rid of electricity generated from coal-fired plants.

Fossil fuel issues: Beyond simply preventing expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure in Portland, we demand shrinking and eventually removing the existing fossil fuel infrastructure from a liquefaction zone between Forest Park and the Willamette River. In the interim: address storage, transport, and export issues with specific goals relating to public safety and health. We oppose, without condition, the widening of the

I-5 freeway through NE Portland.



250 SW Taylor Street
Portland, OR 97204

503-226-4211
nwnatural.com

Mayor Ted Wheeler, City of Portland
Commissioner Amanda Fritz
Commissioner Chloe Eudaly
Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty

June 26, 2020

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the City of Portland's Climate Emergency Declaration and for your continued leadership in lowering carbon emissions.

These are historic times for our community in many ways—from racial equity and public safety to climate justice and a global pandemic. As we consider the crisis and opportunity before us, our next phase of economic recovery will allow us to more deeply examine policies as a community and determine our direction for generations to come. We stand with the City and frontline communities to address the climate imperative we face with collective action.

The City of Portland's Climate Emergency Declaration asks NW Natural to commit to a carbon-neutral pipeline by 2050, and to prioritize the protection of low-income customers in this transition to a renewable energy future. NW Natural is committed to this vision. With energy efficiency, first-of-its-kind renewable natural gas and renewable hydrogen legislation in Oregon, we see no technical barrier to achieving our vision. By using the natural gas infrastructure already in place – one of the tightest, newest pipeline networks in the nation – we can help reach climate goals faster and more affordably, while prioritizing the protection of our most vulnerable customers.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the public comments on the draft declaration. We look forward to sitting down with the community and stakeholders, including those with statewide and regional perspectives, to share our vision, research and technical expertise, while learning more from each other. Together we can create a data-driven model—a technological, policy and partnership framework—to lead on carbon neutrality for natural gas utilities. As the declaration states, we will tackle the complex challenge of decarbonizing an interdependent energy system strategically, equitably and affordably.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kathryn Williams'.

Kathryn Williams
Vice President of Public Affairs and Sustainability

From: [Carlson, Nina E.](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Written testimony for Portland City Council Climate Emergency Resolution on 6/30/2020
Date: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 4:49:23 PM
Attachments: [COPDeclarationPublicLetterJune2020-06-23_SW.docx.pdf](#)

Please find the attached letter to be submitted for the record under the Climate Emergency Resolution to heard by council on Monday 6/30/2020.

Nina Carlson
[NW Natural](#)- Government Affairs
w: 503.721-2474 m: 503.312-0683
nina.carlson@nwnatural.com

From: [Tim Crump](#)
To: [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Eudaly](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Fritz](#); [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Climate Emergency Declaration
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 5:19:19 PM

Dear Ted, JoAnn, Chloe, and Amanda,

Thank you for your work in the Climate Emergency Declaration. However, The Declaration is strong in process and weak in actions. It is groundbreaking in proposing a community input process including BIPOC and youth led groups to work addressing these issues. Unfortunately, it is lacking both in its timeline and action steps not to mention details on many issues that could have been included.

As written, **the Climate Emergency Declaration fails to meet the actual emergency. 2050 is way TOO LATE for net zero** carbon emissions. The City of Portland needs to spell out its **annual decarbonization goals, with concrete plans for 10% yearly reduction of greenhouse gas emissions**--in line with the demands of the scientific community, which sets global goals of 7.6% annual decarbonization although industrialized countries which add more to the problem need to do more and rapidly.

If the Covid crisis has shown us anything, it is that when there is clear evidence of lethal threats, early bold actions save lives and decrease the human and socioeconomic costs. We must follow the science. Each new report shows climate chaos escalating at rates far faster than anticipated. Now there is little hope of holding global warming to 1.5 degrees C. which will result in the early death of millions and it is quite possible we are on a path towards 5 degrees C. instead of the 3 degrees originally feared. Arctic warming is proceeding at twice the global warming average and just last week it was over 100 degrees in the Arctic Circle. Scientists say that one of the tipping point indicators, the Blue Ocean Event, is likely to occur by the end of this year or next and there are plenty of feedback loops that have not even begun to operate.

Thank you again for your work and I hope you will make a much stronger and faster timeline to get to net zero emissions. Best, Tim Crump, 503-346-1152; 4626 NE 19th Ave, Portland, OR 97211

From: [Howard + Pamela](#)
To: [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Eudaly](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Fritz](#); [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Climate Emergency Declaration
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 9:32:51 PM

Dear Councilmembers, We applaud your inclusion of so many disparate organizations into this process.

However, we fear that reaching net neutrality by 2050 is too long to wait; the planet doesn't have the capacity to wait that long without massive repercussions.

We'd prefer to see a commitment to creating action plans that require 10% reductions per year.

Thanks for your consideration,

Pamela Echeverio and Howard Cutler

3912 NE 36th, 97212

From: [Emily Herbert](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Item 511 for June 30 2020 Climate crisis action
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 12:03:20 PM

Dear Mayor and Councilors,

The action steps to take now to meet our Fossil Free goals are emerging with great clarity. Primary is halting all possible additions to the mix of pollutants with an emergency declaration. No new additions of gas or oil to heat or power buildings in new construction, including very dangerous gas stoves. No additional diesel trucks, trains or planes to pollute our air and skies. Wherever possible, Portland says no to more carbon and more particulate matter.

Use the emergency COVID money given the city to establish clean air and cooling centers in each neighborhood, starting with those with the most BIPOC. A shift to more local meeting of needs, with equitable representation, is essential.

Thank you for your leadership and concern for the Common Good.

Sincerely,
Emily Herbert
2120 NE Halsey #29
Portland OR 87232
541-408-1516

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"Voting will not save us from harm, but silence will surely damn us all." Stacey
Abrams 2020

From: [Jae Pasari](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#); [Commissioner Fritz](#); [Commissioner Eudaly](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Wheeler, Mayor](#)
Subject: Climate Emergency Declaration
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 12:28:05 PM

Hi,

Please amend your Climate Emergency Declaration to include annual concrete action steps toward 10% decarbonization (reduction of carbon emissions) each year.

Net-zero by 2050 is far too late!

Jae Pasari
97215

From: [Karen Demsey](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Climate Emergency Declaration
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 2:14:31 PM

To the City Council,

I am writing as Portland resident and voter regarding the City's revised draft Climate Emergency Declaration. I support further revisions of the Declaration to include concrete and measurable goals to achieve a 10% annual reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,
Karen Demsey



Scott D. Bolton
Senior Vice President
External Affairs and Customer Solutions
825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000
Portland, Oregon 97232
phone (503) 813-7202
scott.bolton@pacificcorp.com

The Honorable Ted Wheeler
Mayor, City of Portland
1221 SW 4th Ave, Room 340
Portland, OR 97204

Mayor Wheeler:

Pacific Power commends the City of Portland's efforts to address the threats posed by climate change and recognizes the broad array of voices that have provided input and helped shape the Climate Emergency Declaration. As the electricity provider to 80,000 customers in North, Northeast and downtown Portland, Pacific Power also very much appreciates the opportunity to provide input and build upon our continued partnership.

Our company is making major investments in new wind, solar and storage that will make Pacific Power a national leader in all three areas over the next five years. Pacific Power has also been supportive of Oregon's greenhouse gas reduction efforts and has helped lead a transformation of regional energy markets that has facilitated the rapid growth of renewable energy and significant emissions reductions across the West. As a local provider that serves a diverse array of customers and communities, we will continue to do our part to help Portland realize its energy and sustainability goals.

Our trajectory will continue toward more renewable energy resources, and Pacific Power is well-positioned to meet Oregon's greenhouse gas reduction targets.

At the same time, we are aware that the Climate Emergency Declaration's direction to achieve 100 percent renewable electricity community-wide by 2030 is an ambitious goal that will require a significant effort by the city, its utility providers, and the broader community to achieve. Pacific Power believes we are in a position to help reach this goal through a combination of our own resource planning and trajectory, coupled with an evolving set of opportunities for customers and communities like Portland to go further and faster than the broader energy sector. We look forward to getting to work on how to make this happen.

We recognize and support the City of Portland's emphasis on frontline communities and equity for residents, and will keep these concerns front and center as we move to implement the Climate Emergency Declaration.

In addition to remaining focused on ways to move forward on climate while maintaining affordability of an essential service for all Portlanders, we will ensure that our customer programming supports organizations and portions of our service area that represent

frontline communities and that help advance the city's racial justice and equity goals. In addition to grants and sponsorships, this includes opportunities for electric vehicle infrastructure, community-based solar installations, resiliency projects and other community energy projects.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on both the draft and revised Climate Emergency Declaration. We look forward to continued engagement with the City, stakeholders and the community on this critical work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott D. Bolton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Scott D. Bolton
Senior Vice President, External Affairs and
Customer Solutions

From: [Gravely, Bob](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [Watson, Amanda](#)
Subject: Pacific Power written testimony - Climate Emergency Declaration
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 2:30:01 PM
Attachments: [Pacific Power comments - Climate Emergency Declaration 6-29-20.pdf](#)

Good afternoon,

Please find attached written comments from Pacific Power regarding the Climate Emergency Declaration scheduled to be heard by the City Council on June 30, 2020.

Please let me know if this format does not work for the comments to be included in the record, or let me know if there is anything else needed. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Bob Gravely

Regional Business Manager, Pacific Power

Office: 503-813-7282 | Mobile: 503-568-3174 | bob.gravely@pacificorp.com

From: [Diane Meisenhelter](#)
To: [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Eudaly](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Fritz](#); [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Climate Emergency Declaration Testimony
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 4:11:41 PM

My name is Diana Meisenhelter with Extinction Rebellion PDX and this Declaration has definitely been improved upon by the City taking into account some of the feedback of BIPOC, youth, labor, and environmental organizations. Process-wise, it is **groundbreaking** in providing a commitment by local government to work in conjunction with community organizations, with BIPOC and youth led groups taking the lead, to tackle one of the most significant global challenges we face. Nonetheless, **net zero still allows for pollution offsets and 2050 is far too late!** The City needs to ensure that there are **annual concrete action steps** towards carbon emission reductions in the range of 10% each year. It was disappointing to see the City not respond to the rather conservative IPPC's call for 7.6% annual decarbonization globally especially since it is clearly necessary for those of us in industrialized nations who contribute more to emissions to do even more than the global average and hopefully at a faster pace. This is an equity issue with the Global South as is in the spirit of this Declaration. The urgency of this is enforced by the most recent scientific reports suggesting that the climate crisis overall is escalating at rates far faster than anticipated and that it is quite possible we are on a path closer to 5 degrees Celsius warming instead of the 3 degrees originally feared when those guidelines were originally put forward. Scientists are saying that a major tipping point indicator is likely to occur with the next 18 months and there are plenty of feedback loops that have not even begun to operate. Actions to stem this crisis must begin immediately and it will take the hard sacrifices and bold actions of communities everywhere if that goal is to be accomplished. The City's Declaration should not just have concrete action steps for annual decarbonization, but must develop annual accountability measures. If the Covid crisis has shown us anything, it is that when there is clear evidence of lethal threats, early bold actions save lives and decrease the human and socioeconomic costs. We must follow the science. That is why **we stand with the amendment being proposed by the Portland Youth Climate Council.**

This Declaration is stronger on process than on substance. For example, the City must demand an immediate moratorium on Trimet's purchase of diesel transit busses and a zero emissions vehicle transition plan put into place regionally both for health and environmental concerns. Expanding free transit to other vulnerable and low-income populations beyond youth could shrink our reliance on single occupancy vehicles. Along those lines it is important to place a moratorium on further building of freeways or roads in the Metro area until large scale electrification of both public and private transit have been accomplished. The City could look to Europe and other cities in the US which have car-free zones to build up cycling rates and eventually mass transit once the current pandemic starts to subside. Community control of electricity sources can create funds to meet other climate justice goals as has been done in several cities in California and across the country. There need to be concrete steps in shrinking fossil fuel infrastructures, particularly from the current HUB located within a liquefaction zone.

The City needs to look to best practices around the world and in other parts of the US in addressing climate change and then act boldly on decarbonization. Extinction Rebellion hopes to work with you and other community groups to identify and implement such concrete steps quickly. Thank you for taking this first step in truth-telling by declaring a Climate Emergency and for setting up a community involvement process that will take us in a better direction.

Sincerely, Diana Meisenhelter, 503-349-1460.

From: [annie](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: climate emergency declaration
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 4:50:58 PM

The current Black Lives Matters movement reinforces that climate change and the city's response is an issue of racial justice. Now is the time to protect all residents, especially those of color, those with disabilities and those living in poverty. i look forward to reading the climate emergency declaration.

thanks

annie capestany

97202

From: [A Shapiro](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Climate Emergency
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 5:16:50 PM

We are facing a climate emergency. We must not forget this, even as we deal with the geometric spread of Covid. In order to do all the we can to attempt to mitigate the climate emergency, I urge the City Council to implement the following (and more)

- allow all riders to use Tri-met free of charge--this way money will be saved from not needing "fare enforcers"

- expand and make even more safe bicycle and pedestrian pathways

- close more streets to vehicular traffic

- stop Zenith and other fossil fuel companies from existing in Portland (or anywhere else!!!)

- expand and improve public transit in outer Portland communities

- switch to electric buses and trucks

- have truck lanes

- have tighter controls and work towards prohibiting diesel fuel vehicles

- issue fines for trucks an cars for idling

Best,

Alice Shapiro

2545 SW Terwilliger Blvd #320

Portland, OR 97201

From: howeird3@gmail.com
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Our climate emergency
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 5:50:42 PM

We have been hearing a lot of words over the years about how Portland is going to deal with the world's climate emergency. Our current system is not designed to deal with rapid change. However the climate seems to be changing faster than our system allows us try to mitigate it. Possibly we need to think of changing our system so that it allows for the quick changes in laws that are necessary.

For example, we have been attempting to deal with the Zenith fossil fuel storage facility for several years. At meetings I have attended with sympathetic city leaders, we came up with several ideas, which to my knowledge, haven't been implemented because we ran head-on into the inflexible system which didn't allow us to change.

We cannot endanger our health and well-being because of an archaic and rigid system that was determined many years ago before the climate, economic and social emergencies we are facing today.

Howard Shapiro
2545 SW Terwilliger Blvd Apt. 320
Portland, 97201 541-999-1581

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Teresa McFarland](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Hearing on Climate Emergency
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 6:13:13 PM

Dear Mayor and City Council members,

As a Portland resident and voter and member of 350.org, I urge you to vote for the strongest possible measures to stop climate catastrophe. We have no more time to waste if we want to save human life on earth. Take a strong stand now before it's too late.

Thank you,

Teresa McFarland

10740 SW 11th Dr.

Portland 97219

From: [Maris Toalson](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: The City of Portland Must Declare a Climate Emergency
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:01:01 PM

To The City of Portland,

Hello! My name is Maris Toalson. I am 18 years old and I am a resident of Portland, Oregon. I'm writing to urge you to declare a Climate Emergency at the City Council Meeting on June 30th, 2020.

By declaring a Climate Emergency, Portland has the opportunity to make a statement and be a leader. This declaration is also especially timely, given the current movement for racial justice taking place in our city and across the country. Black communities and communities of color are disproportionately affected by climate change and other environmental problems. Climate justice and racial justice are linked, and declaring a Climate Emergency is the first step towards achieving a more just and equitable world for ALL.

Being 18 years old, climate change will determine my future. However, by voting to declare a Climate Emergency, the City of Portland can make a conscious choice to work towards creating a more sustainable future for the youth in our city and beyond.

Thank You and Sincerely,
Maris Toalson

From: pnj1000-orca@yahoo.com
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [P. Jacson](#)
Subject: Portland's Climate Emergency Declaration Hearing and Vote
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 8:18:57 AM

I urge the members of the city council to vote for the updated Climate Emergency Declaration. The updates are important steps forward in combating climate change in Portland, while emphasizing climate justice for people of color.

Pauline Jackson
Portland, Oregon
pnj1000-orca@yahoo.com

From: [Jean M. Avery](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Climate Emergency Declaration
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 8:21:05 AM

Bravo to Mayor Wheeler and the Portland City Council for taking this important step.

As you know, the critical challenge of climate change intersects with issues of racial and economic justice. This is an opportune time to move forward with an equitable, clean-energy recovery that protects our environment for current and future generations.

Jean M. Avery
Vancouver

From: [Katy Kolker](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Comment on Draft Climate Emergency Resolution
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 10:23:40 AM

The following comments were sent to the Mayor and Commissioners individually this morning. We are also sending a copy to you.

Dear Council Clerk,

We are an organization of parents, families, and kids taking action for climate justice, and a livable future for all. We are deeply concerned for our children's future, and for the wellbeing of all young people and future generations, if we do not take bold action now to address the climate crisis. We believe Portland's Climate Emergency declaration is an important step for the City as it does its part to "bend the curve" of greenhouse gas emissions down to net-zero as fast as possible. However, despite improvements in this latest draft of the declaration, we still find it lacking in several critical aspects.

The Bureau of Planning and Sustainability's climate page prominently displays a graphic declaring Portland's "*Legacy of Leadership*" (emphasis added). With over 1,700 city and local governments worldwide beating Portland to declaring a climate emergency—which it has taken up only after years of demand by community advocates—we implore you to further strengthen the declaration such that Portland can boldly reassert its *current* leadership on climate. Our priorities are below:

Emissions Reduction Milestones

The declaration should align the City's decarbonization goals with the best available science. As per the 2019 UN Environment Programme's Emissions Gap Report, "We need to close the 'commitment' gap between what we say we will do and what we need to do to prevent dangerous levels of climate change." Globally, this requires a 7.6% reduction in emissions every year between 2020 and 2030. Since we here in Portland, as part of the industrialized world, create the overwhelming majority of emissions, we must cut more emissions, faster. An even stronger target of 10% per year is necessary in order for Portland to do its part in a just and equitable transition. The declaration's current target of "50% reduction in carbon emissions below 1990 levels by 2030" substantially underperforms this more aggressive and necessary goal.

Public Reporting

With respect to the reporting required under section 32, we encourage the City to explicitly require that such reports are released publicly, are written in clear and direct language, and included in a prominent manner on the City's website. Such reports should include progress updates on the "interim goals" described under section 28.

Mass Transit Electrification

The declaration does not address the electrification of mass transit, only infrastructure for electric vehicles. This is a major issue, which impacts the health of frontline communities, as well as our GHG emissions bottomline. The City must work with Metro to ensure that Trimet enacts an immediate moratorium on the purchase of additional diesel buses, and to develop a clear transition plan to get to full electrification of public transit as rapidly as possible.

Eliminating Dependence on Dirty Power

As we move to "electrify everything" to meet our climate goals, it is crucially important that we have community control of electricity sources. Other communities have used this as a means to achieve their climate goals more quickly. Our existing utilities have little meaningful incentive to get rid of electricity generated from coal-fired plants. Currently, over 60% of electricity supplied by Pacific Power comes from burning coal. A recently released 2035 Report from UC Berkeley demonstrates that "[t]he United States can achieve 90% clean, carbon-free electricity nationwide by 2035, dependably, at no extra cost to consumers, and without new fossil fuel plants. But without robust policy reforms, most of the potential to reduce emissions and increase jobs will be lost." Given the increasing costs of maintaining and operating coal plants, the plummeting costs of renewables, and the increasing viability of battery storage, Pacific Power's current timeline for decarbonizing their energy supply is unacceptable.

We also strongly support a ban on fossil gas in new construction or major remodels, starting in 2021. It is entirely inadequate to call for NW Natural to "fully decarbonize its gas pipeline no later than 2050."

Fossil Fuel Infrastructure

Beyond simply preventing the expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure in Portland, we demand shrinking and eventually removing the existing fossil fuel infrastructure from the liquefaction zone between Forest Park and the Willamette River. In the interim, the city must address storage, transport, and export issues with specific goals relating to public safety and health. And we oppose, without condition, the widening of the I-5 freeway through NE Portland.

For the sake of our children and their entire generation, we urge you to be bold and take the strongest possible action towards a future in which Portland is not merely livable, but an equitable and verdant city.

Sincerely,

The Board and staff of Families for a Livable Climate

--

Katy Kolker (she/her)
Executive Director
Families for a Livable Climate

www.familiesforclimate.org

Mobilizing parents & kids to take action for climate justice and a livable future for all.

From: [Pauline Allen](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: testimony for Climate Emergency Declaration 6/30/20
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 12:05:49 PM

Thank you so much for working on the The Climate Emergency Declaration and taking feedback from the community. This is extremely important and I am glad that Portland is finally going to pass a Climate Emergency Declaration. I am also glad that the document says that Frontline communities will continue to be consulted and will be compensated for their time and expertise. This is so very important! I have a few suggestions for the document.

1) Although section R says that expanding roadways does not solve congestion, but leads to more carbon emissions, there is no direct language saying that roadway and freeway expansion projects, which harm frontline communities the most, will not be done in frontline communities, thereby expanding on current injustices. Please add wording that bans freeway expansion within and adjacent to frontline communities.

2) Section 28 says that the City of Portland will work to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050, that is too slow. Please make necessary the bold transition to carbon neutrality by 2030.

Thank you,
Pauline Allen

From: [Forest Resener](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony for Tonight's Hearing
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 12:18:23 PM

Dear City Council,

We must act as radically as possible to set a good example for the rest of the world when it comes to climate change. The United States has the power to lead the rest of the world one way or another, and cities like Portland must push especially hard to set a good example. This is the most important issue of our times, and we must do everything we can to take advantage of every opportunity like this emergency declaration. The rest of the world is counting on us!

Thank you for considering my testimony.



Forest Resener

Treasurer, Citizens' Climate Lobby - Portland, Oregon Chapter
541-255-6723 | forestresener@gmail.com

Website: www.citizensclimatelobby.org

From: [Linda S Craig](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Climate Emergency Declaration City Council Item #511 6/30/20 Agenda
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:12:25 PM

To the Mayor and members of Portland City Council:

I am writing to support the Council's adoption of the Climate Emergency Declaration. Covid 19 has shown us that we can react in substantial ways to an emergency. Distilleries making hand sanitizer, manufacturers switching production to ventilators, citizens staying home and refusing to fly. There is no doubt that the climate catastrophe puts all of humanity and all of the rest of life on the planet at risk, and we are way overdue in responding.

I ask that you think of the ways that the City can creatively address the crisis. PCEF funds can be directed to support low-income communities in ways that also most effectively reduce GHG emissions. Incentives for parking and travel could support electric vehicles and bicycles without costing money. Permitting for solar and other construction that reduce GHG emissions can be expedited without sacrificing safety.

The City also needs to lobby for strong action by state agencies as they address the Governor's Executive Order to reduce GHG emissions. The Governor has provided an opportunity to get us back on course to meet climate goals as long as we plan creatively.

We need to remember that a renewable future will be healthier for people and other living beings. We ask that the transition be managed with compassion.

Sincerely,

Linda Craig
2433 NW Quimby
Portland, OR 97210

From: [Margaret Butler](#)
To: [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Council Clerk – Testimony](#); [Commissioner Fritz](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Eudaly](#)
Subject: testimony regarding Climate Emergency Resolution
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:12:02 PM

Hello Mayor Wheeler and City Council members,

I'm Margaret Butler and I have spent my whole life in Portland and my adult life working for justice through many roles in the labor movement. Some of you know me from my time as Executive Director of Portland Jobs with Justice. I have spent the last few years working to build a movement to stop the climate catastrophe. I am heartened to see the ways in which frontline communities, including BIPOC organizations, youth and labor are being engaged with and listened to as the City moves forward with a climate emergency declaration.

As an Extinction Rebellion activist who helped build the garden on the railroad tracks at Zenith, I felt compelled to act peacefully to block Zenith's expansion. I felt so compelled because science tells us we have less than 10 years to make a massive transition away from fossil fuels. The Climate Emergency Declaration doesn't act like it's an emergency. We need concrete actions that decarbonize our city, starting this year. I support the youth climate council's amendment moving forward the timeline on getting to net zero carbon emissions. 2035 is much better than 2050. 2050 is not emergency action. I hope you will listen to the youth, pass the amendment and climate declaration and get to work right away with all the partners to make a real plan. The Climate Emergency Declaration has to be just the beginning. By the end of 2020, we need to see a plan with concrete steps to drop carbon emissions by 8-10% a year.

Thanks very much!

Margaret Butler
NE Portland

From: [Michael Mitton](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: City Council Meeting - June 30, 2020
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:11:55 PM

I am submitting the following testimony for today's City Council meeting.

WE'VE NOW BEEN SCHOOLED BY CORONAVIRUS. LET'S LEARN FROM IT AND AVOID THE LOOMING CLIMATE CRISIS

The horrific human cost is starting to surge across the planet and the massive economic impact is becoming more and more apparent. The Covid-19 pandemic is definitely teaching us some valuable lessons. For example, some emergencies don't recognize borders and are truly global. Everyone has to do their part to meet the challenge. There is no urban-rural divide for this threat. It will affect Republicans and Democrats equally. It is now quite clear that we are all in it together.

Another lesson tells us early action, based on science and recommended by experts, can make a huge difference in the final outcome. Disregarding the evidence leads to views like "alarmist" before the crisis and then, afterwards, "we didn't do enough". If we wait until the emergency forces us to act, the chaos will cause immeasurable human suffering and ravage the economy.

We are also learning early action on a crisis can be sidetracked by political pressures despite clear and dire warnings by scientists. The priorities of politicians are sometimes set by those who contribute the most to their campaigns. That often conflicts with what is best for the public. But since we elect them, the ultimate responsibility rests with us, the voters. Bearing that responsibility can be difficult because the underlying science is complex which can make it hard to see what the full impact will be. We all need to make an effort to understand as much as possible about the key issues. Then we need to elect candidates that will listen to experts and do what is necessary.

Coronavirus is showing us that we already have the technology and know-how needed to fight the emergency. But we need leadership that is well prepared and can apply our resources effectively. Everybody should recognize that the price tag for getting ready for an imminent crisis is really an investment in our future. What might seem like a high cost can be greatly exceeded by the cost of losing control of the crisis.

Each and every one of these painful lessons applies to the climate crisis. Covid-19 is like a dress rehearsal stuck on fast forward. Scientists and other experts have warned for decades that climate change is global, serious, and imminent. It will have huge impacts everywhere. In spite of that, many politicians and others have blocked attempts to take action against this growing threat. We missed the opportunity to avoid much of the devastation from the Covid pandemic, but we still have the ability to mitigate the more severe consequences of global warming if we do what is needed.

Best of all, transitioning the entire world to run on clean energy will create an economic opportunities everywhere. It will generate more jobs than those it replaces in the fossil fuel industries. Despite these increased labor costs, renewable energy like wind and solar can produce electric power at lower cost than coal and gas simply because the fuel is free. It's already happening; we just need to do it faster to flatten the pollution curve.

We cannot afford to wait. Let's tackle the climate crisis before it tackles us.

Michael Mitton, Portland, OR 97209

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Council Clerk <no-reply@zoom.us>

To: "michaelmitton.climate@gmail.com" <michaelmitton.climate@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020, 07:13:41 PM PDT

Subject: Reminder: City Council Meeting - June 30, 2020 starts in 1 day

Hi Michael Mitton,



This is a reminder that "City Council Meeting - June 30, 2020" will begin in 1 day on:

Date Time: Jun 30, 2020 06:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

See below for important hearing tips

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:

[Click Here to Join](#)

Note: This link should not be shared with others; it is unique to you.

Password: 2G%yb6\$J8

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US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 301 715 8592
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+1 646 876 9923 or 877 853 5257 (Toll Free) or 888 475 4499
(Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 883 1844 9458

International numbers available:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88318449458>

You can [cancel](#) your registration at any time.



Portland General Electric
121 SW Salmon Street · Portland, Ore. 97204

June 30, 2020

Mayor Ted Wheeler
Councilor Chloe Eudaly
Councilor Amanda Fritz
Councilor Jo Ann Hardesty
Portland City Hall
1221 SW 4th Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

Re: Support for the Adoption of the Climate Emergency Declaration

Dear Mayor Wheeler, Councilor Eudaly, Councilor Fritz, and Councilor Hardesty:

Portland General Electric (PGE) appreciates the opportunity to voice our support for the adoption of the Climate Emergency Declaration. As a Portland-headquartered company serving more than 237,000 customers in Portland, we applaud and appreciate the leadership the City and community partners continue to show through community engagement, purposeful and collaborative planning and policymaking, and vision to address the climate emergency and advance environmental racial justice.

We understand the urgency of addressing the climate emergency and creating a clean energy future that supports equitable outcomes, especially for frontline communities. For our part, PGE will continue to drive forward to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions by more than 80%, a goal we established in 2018, and work collaboratively with customers, the City, and community partners to develop mutually beneficial products and programs that enable PGE customers to be served by 100% clean and renewable electricity by 2030.

Right now, our entire 3,000 plus workforce is engaged in the day to day work to transform our electric system to drive down greenhouse gas emissions while keeping electricity affordable, safe and reliable for all customers. We are doing this work because electricity is essential to a healthy, vibrant society and the advancement of our community. Specifically, we are actively investing in clean and renewable energy projects, building a smart, resilient and flexible grid, and providing innovative renewable programs that align with our customers' values, like our voluntary renewable energy program, Green Source, which supports the Renewable Development Fund, and our demand response programs. We will continue to engage with the community and build the trust necessary to ensure that our frontline community partners have equitable access to Oregon's clean energy future as we work together to develop additional clean energy programs and products. Please see the appended brochure that highlights some of PGE's actions to build a clean reliable, resilient, and affordable energy future for all customers.



Portland General Electric
121 SW Salmon Street · Portland, Ore. 97204

June 30, 2020

Page -2-

We appreciated the City's commitment to obtain meaningful feedback from diverse stakeholder groups, and that the declaration provides opportunities for many partners to actively engage in the process of reaching Portland's climate goals. As described in our February 12th comment letter on the draft Climate Emergency Declaration, we continue to strongly urge the City to reconsider the wording of Resolution 31 to ensure this resolution calls on *all* electricity suppliers that serve customers in the City of Portland to find ways to power their customers with 100% clean and renewable electricity. We recommend amending the first sentence of Resolution 31 to say: *"that the City of Portland is calling on investor-owned electric utilities, Portland General Electric and PacifiCorp, and all electric service suppliers, to deliver 100% clean, renewable electricity..."*

Changes in the energy sector are rapidly unfolding. We know it will take collaboration from many stakeholders to achieve a clean energy future and working with frontline and low-income communities to understand their needs and priorities to ensure no community is left behind. Thank you for your leadership, and we look forward to continued teamwork.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Robertson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dave Robertson
Vice President of Public Affairs

From: [Andrew Speer](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [Moore-Love, Karla](#)
Subject: RE-FILING: PGE's Written Comments for CofP Climate Emergency Declaration
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:48:08 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Ltr re adoption and support for Climate Emergency Declaration.pdf](#)
[Ltr re adoption and support for Climate Emergency Declaration.pdf](#)

Good afternoon,

Please accept this second version of PGE's comments. Upon review, we noticed an error and are requesting this be the version of official record for PGE's written comments.

PGE respectfully submits the following written comments (with attachment) for the June 30th Council meeting regarding the Climate Emergency Declaration agenda item.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written comments. If there are any questions or follow up needed regarding the comments or attachment, please reach out to me with any questions.

Thank you,



Andrew Speer

Local Government Affairs Manager • (o) 503-464-7486 • (c) 503-830-6000

PortlandGeneral.com • Follow us on social @PortlandGeneral

From: [Lars Kasch](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Fwd: Testimony for the City Council 6/30/20 meeting
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:59:46 PM
Attachments: [noname](#)
[image001.png](#)

I'm shocked to hear the City of Portland boldly and bravely say:

"Racial justice = climate justice: Declaration focuses on communities most affected by climate change, including Portland's Black, Indigenous and communities of color, including youth from those communities."

Please get off your racial soapbox. "Climate justice"? "Climate action"? Who do you people think you are? I ask that your City employees stop making EVERYTHING ABOUT RACE. EVERYTHING.

The City is ignorant on this issue. Linking race with pollution is nonsense.

Yes we all hope for less pollution. The 2050 goal of ZERO emissions is an INSANE one. I read the entire article "Portland City Council to host virtual public hearing and vote on Climate Emergency Declaration" which I received via email.

I'm sad to hear that the City of Portland is using the "black" card when trying to justify their Political Correctness & Affirmative Action cause. Saying that "climate change" impacts groups of color more than white groups because of "extreme heat and poor air quality" makes the speaker look like a total fool.

Lars Kasch
VP Technology & Tariffs

[cid:image003.png@01D49130.212BBFC0]
16303 NE Cameron Blvd.
Portland, OR 97230

503-766-6083
lars@pitb.com<mailto:lars@pitb.com>

From: [melly belly](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Climate emergency
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:59:08 PM

Dear Mayor and Council members,

I hope when we say that Black and brown lives matter that this means in addition to police reforms that this means in adding black and brown voices to saving our environment. This should mean that more sell at the farmers' markets and/ or better access to the markets for black and brown people in our community.

Perhaps access to starting a co-op for these members not by white ownership to start with but with black or brown ownership and with subsidies from the city to keep it going.

Also I fully believe it is longer overdue when we say gentrification that we look at who we gentrified to even become a state and how less sustainable we've become. In that regard, I hope that the city will integrate Indigeonous ideas on how to make the city more sustainable such as more permaculture buildings in Portland and with water harvesting techniques. As well as an invite to sell at the local farmers' markets as I haven't seen any do so. Give Indigeous people a voice in how our city will be sustained. It's time for this reparation to be made.

Best,
Mel Scott

From: [Lars Kasch](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony for the 6/30/20 City Council meeting regarding Climate
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 4:06:45 PM

A a Portlander, I'm shocked to hear the City of Portland boldly and bravely say:

"Racial justice = climate justice: Declaration focuses on communities most affected by climate change, including Portland's Black, Indigenous and communities of color, including youth from those communities."

Please get off your racial soapbox. "Climate justice"? "Climate action"? Who do you people think you are? I ask that your City employees stop making EVERYTHING ABOUT RACE. EVERYTHING.

The City is ignorant on this issue. Linking race with pollution is nonsense.

Yes we all hope for less pollution. The 2050 goal of ZERO emissions is an INSANE one. I read the entire article "Portland City Council to host virtual public hearing and vote on Climate Emergency Declaration" which I received via email.

I'm sad to hear that the City of Portland is using the "black" card when trying to justify their Political Correctness & Affirmative Action cause. Saying that "climate change" impacts groups of color more than white groups because of "extreme heat and poor air quality" makes the speaker look like a total fool.

Lars Kasch



Office 800.447.3794
 Fax 503.296.5490
www.choosesq.com

3333 NW 35th Ave,
 Buildings C&D
 Portland OR, 97210

June 30, 2020

Mayor Ted Wheeler and City Commissioners Eudaly, Fritz, and Hardesty
 1220 SW Fourth Ave.
 Portland, OR 97201

RE: Support the City of Portland's Climate Emergency Declaration and Renewable Fuel Standard –

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Members of the Council,

For the record my name is Ian Hill, co-founder of SeSequential Biodiesel. I am here today to testify in support of the city's Climate Emergency Declaration and in support of updating Portland's Renewable Fuel Standard to better align with the state's Clean Fuel Program and the city's carbon emissions reductions goals.

SeSequential is a vertically integrated biodiesel company, meaning that we collect the raw material that we need to make our primary product and sell our finished products directly to end users. In our case the primary raw material or feedstock that we use is used cooking oil from the restaurant and food industry. The feedstock or oil collection section of the business operates in 5 states up and down the west coast. We currently serve over 20 thousand food establishments including approximately 20% of the restaurants in OR. The material that we collect is not only used for making ultra low carbon biodiesel. But also some of the material that is not suitable for efficiently making biodiesel is excellent feedstock for anaerobic digesters or making renewable natural gas. We currently supply this high energy waste material to most of the digesters in OR.

In the Fall of 2018 we merged with a CA biodiesel producer, Crimson Renewables. Our combined annual capacity is over 50 million gallons a year and growing.

SeSequential supports the city's carbon emissions reduction goals, and the specific focus on the transportation sector. Transportation-related emissions make up approximately 40% of our carbon emissions. Electrification of our transportation is an effective means of significantly reducing emissions in the passenger and light duty vehicle fleet. However, the heavy duty and freight segments are more difficult to electrify and will take longer to do so, perhaps decades. We have the ability to dramatically reduce our transportation carbon emissions quickly with current technology.

But there is still a market access problem. After 100 plus years of being the only transportation option available to consumers, displacing the petroleum fuels out of the marketplace is difficult.

The City of Portland's Renewable Fuel Standard plays a critical role to reduce carbon emissions. We strongly support the work the Bureau of Sustainability is doing to improve the City's Renewable Fuel Standard to reduce carbon emissions with currently available technology to best achieve the carbon reduction goals in the Climate Emergency Declaration.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the city's Climate Emergency Declaration and Renewable Fuel Standard.

Sincerely,



Office 800.447.3794
Fax 503.296.5490
www.choosesq.com

3333 NW 35th Ave,
Buildings C&D
Portland OR, 97210

Ian Hill
Co-founder SeQuential
541.515.9711
ianH@chooseSQ.com

From: [Michelle Plambeck](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Climate Emergency Declaration written testimony
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 4:11:02 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[SQ Testimony in Support of Portland Climate Emergency Resolution 06.30.20.pdf](#)

Good afternoon,

Please enter the attached written testimony for the record for Council Item 511 today on the Climate Emergency Declaration. Thank you!



MICHELLE PLAMBECK

Vice President of Government Affairs, Oregon

C 503.260.7966

240 NORTH BROADWAY

SUITE 215

PORTLAND, OR 97227

STRATEGIES360.COM

From: [Anthony Holmes](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Re: Climate Change Written Testimony
Date: Wednesday, July 1, 2020 11:33:06 AM

Keelan,

Hi, sorry to do this again, but I had to fix a few more things. Please update the record with this version if possible. Sorry I've never done this before!

Updated Version below:

"It is now two minutes to midnight" (Science and Security Board, 2018)

According to former Secretary of Homeland Security, Michael Chertoff, as quoted in the report "National Security and the Threat of Climate Change" published in 2007:

"projected climate change is a complex multi-decade challenge. Without action to build resilience, it will increase security risks over much of the planet. It will not only increase threats to developing nations in resource-challenged parts of the world, but it will also test the security of nations with robust capability" (CNA Corp, 2007).

According to the same report, by 2030, worldwide demand for food will grow by up to 35% while the demand for energy will bump up 50% (Ibid). The compounding effect of the various issues associated with climate change and population growth mean it will be even more difficult to meet these demands in the future.

Climate change is one of the greatest collective threats we face in the next century and has already had far-reaching impacts on human and natural systems. These trends are largely driven by anthropogenic forces which have led to atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations that are higher than they've been in the last 800,000 years. Reversing these trends is critical to preserving life as we know it and minimizing the likelihood of severe, pervasive and irreversible impacts for people and ecosystems. These threats include diminishing food security, the extinction of species, flooding, wildfire and threats to human health and economies (IPCC, 2014). Adaptation, mitigation and sustainable development are complementary strategies to minimizing long term impacts, holding global warming to below 2°C relative to pre-industrial levels. Why is 2°C such a big deal? A 2016 study published in Earth System Dynamics projects some of the following impacts of a 2-degree rise compared to a rise of 1.5 degrees (Schleussner et al. 2016):

- Heat-wave duration, rainstorm intensity and sea-level rise would increase by roughly a third.
- There would be a disproportionately greater impact on certain basic crops like corn, soy and wheat.
- Tropical coral reefs would be completely wiped out.

Additionally:

- 37% of all species on earth could go extinct by 2050 versus 15% under a 1.5°C scenario [Thomas et al. \(2004\)](#)
- According to the 2019 Global Report on Food Crises, more than 113 million people in 53 countries were plunged into crisis levels of hunger in 2018, climate and natural disasters alone triggered food crises for an additional 29 million people.
- The percentage of the world population exposed to deadly heat for over 20 days per year could rise 44% by 2020 if GHG emissions continue to grow ([Mora et al., 2017](#)).
- According to The Environmental Justice Foundation, Anthropogenic Global Warming could create 150 million climate refugees in the next 40 years ([Guardian, 2009](#)).
- According to [Sekerci and Petrovskii \(2015\)](#), "the oxygen production by marine phytoplankton can stop suddenly if the water temperature exceeds a certain critical value. Since the ocean plankton produces altogether more than one half of the total atmospheric oxygen, it would mean oxygen depletion not only in the water but also in the air. Should it happen, it would obviously kill most of life on Earth" (p. 2349).
- Climate change-related food shortages alone are projected to cause a net increase of 529,000 adult deaths [by 2050](#) forcing another 100 million people into extreme poverty [by 2030](#).
- Outdoor air pollution is already causing an estimated 3 million deaths per year and due to global warming, this figure could double by 2050.
- Under the "best-case scenario", global warming will cause an estimated 300 million premature deaths in the next century and under the worst-case scenario, that number jumps up to a staggering 3 Billion (Parncutt, 2019).

The [2017 report on countywide emissions](#), the County and City of Portland are responsible for the release of 7,700,000 Metric Tons CO₂e. using the "1,000 tonne rule," **countywide emissions alone are indirectly responsible for the premature deaths of 9,000 future people every year.** No one's immune, but certain populations of people bear the brunt of the burden, this include people who live in

poverty who can't afford air conditioning, adequate healthcare or relocation, the homeless and elderly, people with disabilities, displaced populations and migrant communities, children, people in the developing world and minority racial and ethnic groups. The unequal distribution of these threats is an unprecedented social and environmental injustice, an effect of countless years of systemic and opaque bias against minority communities, the exploitation of undeveloped countries, workers and the natural world. According to the UN Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, Philip Alston, "We risk a 'climate apartheid' scenario where the wealthy pay to escape overheating, hunger and conflict while the rest of the world is left to suffer."

The IPCC projects that a greater than 1.5 °C rise in temperature can be avoided through any combination of emissions reduction and sequestration that lead to a 45% reduction in CO₂ emissions from 2010 levels by 2030 and 100% by 2050. To prevent warming greater than 1.5 °C would require a 25% reduction by 2030, reaching net zero around 2070 (IPCC, 2014). As of 2017, CO₂ emissions in Multnomah county have decreased by 4% over 2010 levels and 15% over 1990 levels (City of Portland, 2019). In order to meet these targets, Multnomah county will need to reduce CO₂ emissions by another 1.8 (2°C) to 3.3 (1.5°C) Million MTCO₂e in the next decade. The Climate Action Plan adopted by Multnomah County and the City of Portland in 2009 calls for a 40% reduction in countywide emissions over 1990 levels by 2030 or approximately 3.6 million MTCO₂e.

When we talk about *reducing* emissions, the question we should ask ourselves is, "is it justified?" Is it ever justified to take an innocent human life? To risk harm to anyone for the sake of maintaining the status quo? Or should we do everything in our power to cut or offset all county and citywide emissions? Better yet, to save lives by being a net sink of CO₂? To welcome and support climate refugees? To offer assistance and aid to communities both here and abroad who are adversely affected by climate change? To demand systemic and structural change and make the investments we need to bring about a zero-carbon economy?

We have a choice and a moral obligation to do everything in our power to stop global warming and the death of innocent people. The City of Portland and Multnomah county are in a position to take swift action, setting an example for how cities can and should respond to this very real threat to human life, our environment and economy.

Based on these facts, **there should be no question, Climate Change is a local, national and global emergency.**

On Wed, Jul 1, 2020 at 8:53 AM Council Clerk – Testimony <CCTestimony@portlandoregon.gov> wrote:

Thank you Anthony. The updated version of your testimony is received. We will replace the old version with the new version.

Keelan McClymont

Assistant Council Clerk

From: Anthony Holmes <azh2@pdx.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 10:11 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony <CCTestimony@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Re: Climate Change Written Testimony

Hi I noticed a few errors in the original testimony, updated version below, please advise.

"It is now two minutes to midnight" (Science and Security Board, 2018)

According to former Secretary of Homeland Security, Michael Chertoff, as quoted in the report "National Security and the Threat of Climate Change" published in 2007:

"projected climate change is a complex multi-decade challenge. Without action to build resilience, it will increase security risks over much of the planet. It will not only increase threats to developing nations in resource-challenged parts of the world, but it will also test the security of nations with robust capability" (CNA Corp, 2007).

According to the same report, by 2030, worldwide demand for food will grow by up to 35% while the demand for energy will bump up 50% (Ibid). The compounding effect of the various issues associated with climate change and population growth mean it will be even more difficult to meet these demands in the future.

Climate change is one the greatest collective threats we face in the next century and has already had far-reaching impacts on human and natural systems. These trends are largely driven by anthropogenic forces which have led to atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations that are higher than they've been in the last 800,000 years. Reversing these trends is critical to preserving life as we know it and minimizing the likelihood of severe, pervasive and irreversible impacts for people and ecosystems. These threats include diminishing food security, the extinction of species, flooding, wildfire and threats to

425.346.1092 | azh2@pdx.edu

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Anthony Z. Holmes

[Portland State University](#)

[B.S. Geography/GISystems-Science; Sustainability; Water Resources](#)

[Sustaining Urban Places Research Lab](#) | Research Analyst

425.346.1092 | azh2@pdx.edu



June 30, 2020

Portland City Council
Attn: Mayor Ted Wheeler and City Commissioners
1221 SW 4th Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

RE: Comments in Support of Portland's Climate Emergency Resolution

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners:

Climate Solutions strongly supports the City of Portland's Proposed Resolution declaring a climate emergency, and committing the City to prioritizing solutions to the climate crisis that benefit the City's frontline communities and most vulnerable populations first.

Climate Solutions is a regional non-profit working to accelerate clean energy solutions to the climate crisis. Climate change is already harming Portlanders. According to the Oregon Climate Change Research Institute, if Oregon continues business as usual, it will have as many ninety-five degree days in 2100 as Texas does now. Climate change also threatens the health and productivity of Portlanders. Burning fossil fuels causes asthma, heart disease, stroke, cancer and results in huge health costs for families to bear. Pollution is projected to create \$1.1 billion in health-related costs to Oregonians by 2040,¹ and this pollution disproportionately harms Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) and frontline communities. We support the resolution's acknowledgement of the science, facts, and the dire circumstances we collectively face: **we must limit global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees to avoid irreversible and devastating impacts and to do that, we must dramatically curb climate pollution permanently as soon as possible.**

Portland is positioned to solidify desperately needed leadership in aggressively adopting solutions that others can follow. The 100 percent clean energy resolution passed by Portland City Council in 2017 was a prime example. It greatly impacted the planning of local electric and natural gas utilities and, since then, the region has continued to move in a similar direction with the state of Washington passing 100 percent clean legislation in 2019. We hope Oregon follows suit at the state-level and makes the Pacific Northwest the first region to be powered by 100 percent clean electricity, but for now, Portland is leading the way for the state.

While words matter - and therefore declaring it a climate emergency is important - action matters much more. As Portland rebuilds from COVID, the focus should be on having climate-smart, equitable policies in place that enable us to build back better with quality green jobs and be more resilient than before the pandemic. As Portland moves toward a 100% clean electric grid, the City must also ensure it is powering its cars, trucks, homes, buildings and industry increasingly with that clean power instead of fossil fuels. With that in mind, we are very glad to see following elements included in the resolution, and highlight some additional steps needed to achieve the ambitious new greenhouse gas goals of the climate emergency resolution:

¹ Oregon Climate Change Research Institute, "Third Oregon Climate Assessment Report," January 2017, <https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2017R1/Downloads/CommitteeMeetingDocument/99261>

1. **Transportation policy is key.** While Portland and Oregon have begun to bend emissions down in the electricity and buildings sectors, GHG emissions continue to rise, particularly those from the heavy and medium duty trucks and vehicles. Cars, trucks, freight and other vehicles currently comprise around 40% of overall climate pollution in Portland. And critically for Portlanders' respiratory health, heavy-duty vehicles have an outsized role in spewing NOx in our air.² Transportation emissions also disproportionately harm the health of low-income communities and communities of color making these communities more susceptible to respiratory illnesses, cardiovascular illnesses and now, exacerbated COVID-19 complications. In Multnomah County, census tracts with higher than average Black/African American, Asian/ Pacific Islander and/or Latino residents have two to three times more exposure to diesel particulate matter than census tracts with 90% or more non-Latino white populations.³

Portland must develop bold, innovative and effective strategies to lower GHG emissions and air pollution in this sector. And leadership matters. TriMet already has committed to transitioning its entire bus fleet to zero emission buses and to not buy any new diesel buses by no later than 2025. The City should walk the talk, make the same immediate commitment for its city fleets and scope out other opportunities that cities around the nation are testing such as zero-emission zones and equitable transit-oriented development. There are many policies, investments and changes needed to support a swift and just transition from fossil fuel-powered transportation to clean, affordable, safe and equitable transportation, and we look forward to supporting the myriad of bold action needed.

2. **Addressing the built environment and moving to Net Zero Energy Buildings.** Portland can and must follow the lead of innovative jurisdictions that already have developed policies to require existing buildings to reduce their GHG emissions over time. Portland's long-standing Climate Action Plan targets a 25% reduction of building sector's emissions within the next 13 years. To achieve that goal, Portland must aggressively reduce emissions with respect both to new and existing buildings. Portland is currently working with frontline communities to develop building performance standards for multi-family buildings. These standards will reduce the cost of paying energy bills and improve the health and quality of life for tenants in those buildings. Next, the city should adopt similar standards for commercial, and eventually residential buildings as well. These policies for multi-family and commercial buildings should be in place within a year. Finally, Portland should advocate strongly for the ability of local jurisdictions to be able to adopt building codes that exceed the statewide standards. Without such authority, it will be difficult for Portland to achieve the 25 percent reductions in the building sector as a whole. As Portland rebuilds from the economic fallout due to COVID, we must have strong, climate-smart building codes in place that enable us to build back better and more resiliently for a better future, creating quality green jobs.
3. **Prioritizing frontline, BIPOC, low income communities and communities of color is critical.** Too often, environmental policies have not been crafted with the leadership, meaningful input, and goal of addressing the conditions and impacts harming communities on the frontlines of the climate crisis, racial and economic injustices. The time is now to change that trajectory and we support the

² Heavy-duty vehicles contribute 45% of NOx emissions nationwide. Source: Union of Concerned Scientists, Ready for Work (December 2019): <https://www.ucsusa.org/sites/default/files/2019-12/ReadyforWorkFullReport.pdf>

³ Oregon Environmental Council, "Dirt on Diesel Report (2016): https://oeconline.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Diesel_2016.pdf

Seattle

Olympia

Portland

City's stated intent to center and elevate frontline community voices and perspectives to identify climate action that meaningfully benefit BIPOC, low income and communities of color. Policy solutions to the climate crisis must be equitably shared across historically underserved communities to ensure a truly just transition off of fossil fuels, and we appreciate the City's commitment to that goal in the resolution.

Portland has been and should remain a leader in combatting climate change and in transitioning to a clean energy economy. Thank you for your continued bold leadership on climate and clean energy – and taking this next step today.

Sincerely,



Meredith Connolly
Oregon Director
Climate Solutions

From: [Meredith Connolly](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [Durbin, Andrea](#); [Kane, Alisa](#); [Watson, Amanda](#); [David Van't Hof](#); [Zach Baker](#)
Subject: Climate Solutions Testimony in Support of Portland's Climate Emergency Resolution
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 4:21:38 PM
Attachments: [Portland Climate Emergency Resolution Climate Solutions Comments June 30 2020 final.pdf](#)

Climate Solutions strongly supports the City of Portland's Proposed Resolution declaring a climate emergency, and committing the City to prioritizing solutions to the climate crisis that benefit the City's frontline communities and most vulnerable populations first.

Please find our supportive testimony attached.

Thank you,
Meredith

Meredith Connolly | Oregon Director
[Climate Solutions](#) – Accelerating Clean Energy Solutions to the Climate Crisis
w: 503.548.2542 | c: 503.881.7991
222 NW Davis St, Suite 300
Portland, OR 97209
[ClimateCast](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

Provided by Yasmin Ibarra
 Political and Governmental Affairs Organizer
 SEIU Local 49

Re: Climate Emergency Declaration

June 30, 2020

Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners,

SEIU Local 49 is a 15,000 member union of janitors, security officers, health care workers, and industrial laundry workers in Oregon and SW Washington. SEIU 49 represents over 3,000 janitors in the Metro Region, including the majority of downtown janitors in the commercial real estate market. Including the Relay Resources employees who clean City of Portland facilities.

As we look to change how our city is leading the fight against climate change we know that people of color and low income communities are the most negatively impacted. As we build for a new economic future to combat our climate crisis we need to center people of color and low income communities in all solutions.

SEIU janitors black, brown immigrant and native born, are building power for their families, our community and our future. Our members have fought and won big success including \$15.25 hourly pay, fully-paid healthcare benefits, a guaranteed pension for retirement, paid time off, workplace solutions for stopping gender-based violence. SEIU 49 members are ready and are best positioned to reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions in large buildings and therefore are supporting the City's Emergency Climate Declaration.

Buildings are the single largest contributor to carbon emissions in Multnomah County, representing 40 percent of total emissions. The City's declaration commits to "prioritize and advance policies and investments through community-led participatory action reduce carbon emission from the building and transportation sectors...". We look forward to partnering with the City as it tackles these much needed polices and know that our members are ready step up to help lead the work of decarbonization. Through the Green Janitor Education Program (GJEP) that we hope to launch in Portland, it teaches janitors the fundamentals of green building practices. With a 30-hour, U.S. Green Building Council-approved curriculum covering green cleaning, energy and water conservation, health and safety and waste diversion, janitors learn why these practices are important in addition to how to implement these practices at work and at home. Since its inception in 2014, the GJEP has trained more than 1,000 janitors in hundreds of buildings across California, covering a total of over 20 million square feet. The GJEP has already produced substantial results in California cities that we hope to launch in Portland and making it a long-term opportunity for commercial building janitors.

According to a study conducted by the SEED Consulting Group published in 2017, implementation of the GJEP leads to an overall decrease in electricity and water usage. Study data shows that between 2013 and 2016, 76% of GJEP buildings saw a decrease in overall electricity and water usage, while 2016 energy usage was 5.6% lower in GJEP buildings than in non-GJEP buildings, on average.

The SEED study also documented a ripple effect that came as a result of janitors becoming advocates and practitioners of green practices in their homes. The declaration says that frontline communities must "benefit first" and "lead the planning and implementation of efforts to address climate change;"

that "any policy efforts to decarbonize the building sector will follow the lead of frontline communities."

Janitors organized with SEIU Local 49 are ready to lead, to plan and implement, and to partner with the City and with other frontline communities, in the urgent effort to transition to a just, carbon-neutral society. We look forward to working with the City in meeting these goals.



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From: [Yasmin Ibarra](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: SEIU 49 Testimony on Climate Emergency Declaration
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 4:57:19 PM
Attachments: [SEIU Local 49 Testimony on Climate Emergency Declaration 6.30.20.pdf](#)

Hello,

Attached is my written testimony on behalf of SEIU Local 49 regarding the City's Climate Emergency Declaration.

Yasmin Ibarra (She/Hers)

Political Organizer | SEIU Local 49

mobile: 503.816.4559

website: seiu49.org

address: 3536 SE 26th Ave, Portland, OR 97202

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From: [James](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: My vote on Climate Emergency Declaration
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 5:08:21 PM

I vote NO on the Climate Emergency Declaration.

Multnomah County resident, local business owner and tax payer.

Please record my vote. I am organizing the Overlook property owners to vote NO as well and we all vote in the regular elections.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brannaman



June 30, 2020

Mayor Ted Wheeler
 Commissioner Chloe Eudaly
 Commissioner Amanda Fritz
 Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty
 1221 SW Fourth Avenue
 Portland, Oregon 97204

RE: Climate Emergency Resolution

Honorable Mayor Wheeler & Commissioners:

We submit this testimony on behalf of the thousands of employer members of the Portland Business Alliance, BOMA Oregon, the Homebuilders Association of Metropolitan Portland, the Working Waterfront Coalition, and the Columbia Corridor Association. Our organizations represent a broad diversity of businesses of all sizes in our city, region, and throughout the State of Oregon.

We thank you for the previous opportunity to comment on the draft Climate Emergency Resolution. We collectively affirm that we recognize the urgent need for governments and elected leaders at all levels to adopt strong policies, in collaboration with the private sector, to reduce carbon emissions and the growing impacts of climate change. Our organizations are committed to working with the City of Portland and all stakeholders to develop real solutions to speed up our community's transition to cleaner fuels, reduce emissions, and promote energy efficiency while ensuring that we can meet the energy and economic needs of our City and State today and in the future.

While we applaud your strong leadership on climate change, and we are grateful for the concrete improvements that were made to the resolution in response to our March 13th comments, we still have a number of concerns with the resolution.

First, we want to thank you for updating the resolution to acknowledge that collaboration with businesses and the private sector will be necessary to achieve the ambitious goals it sets. Our primary concern with the draft resolution was that it failed to acknowledge the business community as a key

stakeholder throughout the document. The updated resolution calls on multiple bureaus to work with the business community when developing the plans called for throughout the document. We also appreciate that the updated resolution acknowledges that hundreds of businesses, including employers both large and small have implemented voluntary measures that have already significantly reduced carbon emissions.

We continue to be deeply concerned with overly ambitious goals of the plan, and the cost it will require in both public and private resources, especially in light of the current severe economic downturn. The resolution calls for the entire City of Portland to achieve 80% of 1990 carbon emissions levels by 2030, and net zero emissions by 2050. By comparison, HB 2020, which passed the House, but failed in the Senate during the 2019 legislative session, set a target of reaching 80% of 1990 emissions by 2050 for the entire State of Oregon. While we can disagree with the necessity and practicality of such an ambitious target, we believe we can agree that this goal is not attainable without cooperation with and the tangible, voluntary contributions of the thousands of employers our organizations represent.

There are many laudable sections of the resolution.

We applaud the plans renewed focus on racial equity and reducing impacts on historically underserved communities. We specifically applaud the call for the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability to develop the city's first anti-displacement plan. We believe this plan will need to go far beyond climate policy if it will have the intended impact. Specifically it will need to consider the current lack of affordable and middle income housing, which is driving an unsustainable rise in the cost of living in our region as reported in the Portland Business Alliance 2020 Value of Jobs report. Portland continues to be in the midst of a housing crises, which was in place before we entered the current economic downturn brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additionally, the proposal to allow builders to purchase additional floor area would serve as a valuable tool to fund anti-displacement measures. We appreciate the initial work currently underway in the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, and strongly recommend that you adopt the program so that it can go into effect in conjunction with the Residential Infill Project.

Doing so would strengthen efforts to connect new housing with transit, advance energy efficiency upgrades in housing stock and existing buildings, and further collaboration with our investor owned utilities to meet their renewable energy goals. These are just a few examples of the tremendous opportunities for collaboration with business large and small presented by this resolution. With the development of the right incentives, this could unleash the creative entrepreneurial energy of the private sector to help Portland become the true climate leader it aspires to be.

Energy efficiency and housing provide another great example. In 2018, 10,420 units of housing were built in the City of Portland. These homes represent a mere 3.5% of the 294,678 permitted houses that exist. Additionally, homes built today are already approximately 40% more energy efficient than those built two decades ago. However, even incrementally increasing the energy efficiency requirements for new housing adds thousands of dollars to the price of a new home, which directly impacts Portlanders' ability to secure housing.

Based on the afore mentioned Value of Jobs report analysis by EcoNW, 46% of renters and 25% of home owners are currently spending 30% or more of their monthly income on housing costs. This rising cost of housing and the overall cost of living is due almost entirely to the fact that we have under produced new housing stock by over 23,000 units in the past decade. This has prevented more Portlanders from benefiting from the current economic expansion, and is the major driver of the rising number of Portlanders experiencing short and long term homelessness. Portland needs to

be identifying ways to incentivize, streamline, and reduce the cost of building new housing, rather than increase the costs that will come with unnecessary requirements.

Instead of creating new costly regulations, the City should focus on the existing 96.5% of older homes and work with home and property owners to bring them up to modern energy efficiency standards. Doing so will directly align with Portland Clean Energy Fund principles, tap into existing public dollars, and benefit low-income Portlanders, producing a true win-win-win. Simply put, by focusing on incentivizing home and property owners to bring the existing housing stock up to the standards we demand of new construction, we can equitably increase energy efficiency without further cost burdening home buyers and renters. This approach will also support the renewed focus on equity and support for frontline communities.

There are similar opportunities for historic public private partnerships throughout this resolution. However, we remain skeptical that the City will choose to take this approach.

The City of Portland, and the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, in particular, has a clear track record of developing similarly well intentioned proposals without any attempt at developing collaborative solutions with employers. As a result the City Council has adopted legally deficient policies, which have led to costly litigation and ultimately hindered progress toward any of the goals outlined in this resolution. Most recently, the City Council adopted a fossil fuels terminal ordinance, which Bureau officials admitted was substantially the same as a previously remanded ordinance making it virtually certain to result in litigation, which it has.

The City could take this ideologically driven, regulatory approach to achieving these goals outlined in the resolution. We will remain optimistic that, under Mayor Wheeler's leadership, we will not go down this path as it will lead to more costly litigation, which will only delay any progress toward the goals expressed in the draft resolution.

We are encouraged with the more inclusive approach to stakeholder outlined in the resolution, which will be necessary to develop the innovative public private partnerships that will be required to make real progress toward the outlined climate and energy goals. Our organizations look forward to working with you to identify real solutions, which have the opportunity to bring the entire community together to work toward a better climate future.

Thank you.

From: [Jon Isaacs](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [Watson, Amanda](#); [Alexander, Cupid](#)
Subject: written testimony on item 511: climate emergency resolution
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 5:47:34 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[20203006 FINAL climate emergency resolution written testimony.pdf](#)

Thank you for accepting the attached written testimony.

Best,

-Jon-

Jon Isaacs | *Vice President, Government Affairs*
Portland Business Alliance, *Greater Portland's Chamber of Commerce*
Desk: 503-552-6746 | Mobile: 503-757-5721 | jisaacs@portlandalliance.com



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From: [Carlson, Nina E.](#)
To: [McClymont, Keelan](#)
Cc: [Yocom, Jennifer](#); [Williams, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Oral Testimony for Council Meeting 6/30
Date: Wednesday, July 1, 2020 11:41:17 AM

Keelan,

I am submitting this on behalf of our Vice President of Public Affairs as her public testimony for the City Council meeting last evening 6/30:

Climate Emergency Declaration Testimony – 6/30/2020

Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners Fritz, Eudaly and Hardesty,

I'm Kathryn Williams, Vice President, Public Affairs and Sustainability for NW Natural and am a registered lobbyist with the city of Portland. My comments will be brief, as we have submitted materials to the record.

To the people of Portland who led on bringing forward this Declaration—thank you. We stand with you to address the climate imperative we face with collective action.

We support the meaningful integration of racial justice into this work and are listening, learning and examining our own racist history. We commit to continue listening to what the community expects from their energy providers going forward, and we are responding. NW Natural's vision is to transition from a fossil fuel-based system to a carbon neutral pipeline by 2050. With continued energy efficiency, renewable natural gas, renewable hydrogen and more—we see no technical barrier to achieving this vision. We will prioritize low income customers during this transition.

We look forward to working together and evolving as a company—sharing our vision while learning more from each other.

I heard tonight that some express doubt in our company's ability to evolve, please know we are eager to provide more information and hear feedback.

I also heard Commissioner Hardesty's comments – agree that it is not appropriate for utilities to lead but we ask for a seat at the table, and hope that that table is much bigger than ever before.

Thank you again for the opportunity to briefly comment.

Kind regards,

Nina Carlson

[NW Natural](#)- Government Affairs

w: 503.721-2474 m: 503.312-0683

nina.carlson@nwnatural.com