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Subject: Testimony to the Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission on Comprehensive Plan policies October 28, 2014

To preserve neighborhood character, green space and solar access, a goal needs to be added in housing policy section 5 that stipulates replacement housing in single family home neighborhoods be compatible to existing homes as it relates to mass, height, lot coverage and street setbacks. Additionally, a goal needs to be included to encourage that single family homes when torn down are responsibly deconstructed with the majority of materials recovered for re-use as opposed to teardowns being mechanically demolished where the majority of materials are crushed and sent to the landfill.

Partners in decision making policy 2.1 must apply not just to land use, but also to transportation planning with the users of all modes proportionally represented. More weight also needs to be given to neighborhood associations and coalitions.

In policy 9.28, instead of digging up the streets to add rails and install messy overhead wires; keep Portland moving forward by scrapping the 19th century streetcar plan - replacing it with a new technology, less costly, environmentally friendly 21st century electric bus plan. Include bus pullouts at transit stops so other traffic is not obstructed when boarding passengers. Traffic congestion associated with buses stopping in motor vehicle travel lanes is counter productive to reducing fuel consumption and emissions. Transportation policy must also include a financially self-sustainable goal for transit

There is no royalty status as it applies to transport mode. The Oregon Constitution forbids special privileges and immunities. Policy 9.6 "Transportation hierarchy for movement of people" is about exclusive privilege and therefore discriminatory. It needs to be completely removed.

Space reserved for bicycles is a commodity. Equity needs to be added to section 9 specifying that bicyclist paid license and/or user fees help pay for bicycle infrastructure. Freeloading, ignoring traffic laws and just providing lip service is no longer acceptable. Also needed to achieve equity is a re-write of policy 9.53 whereby bicyclists must pay for bike parking in areas where parking for motorists is metered or managed with a fee.

One of the factors as to why Oregon's economy lags behind the national average is because of the politically induced anti-automobile environment. With strong input from the motorist community, parking management policy needs to be completely rewritten. Not providing adequate residential off-street parking in policy 9.51 negatively impacts the quality of life in surrounding neighborhoods. Encouraging lower rates of car ownership hurts the economy. The comp plan needs a reality check by requiring a sufficient off-street for all new residential development - including on civic corridors like Sandy Boulevard, in town centers like Hollywood and around transit stations.

Finally, the comp plan must equitably reflect diversity and the freedoms this country was founded on. Be it housing choice, transport mode choice or lifestyle; the comp plan must not attempt to dictate, socialistically favor or financially impact one choice over another. As an example, policy 9.47 needs to apply to all vehicle modes or be removed.

Respectively submitted,
Terry Parker, Northeast Portland

Climate hysteria pays political dividends

MYVIEW

By Gordon Fulks

It was something that was never supposed to happen in climate science where so many are so happy with the vast largesse they receive from American taxpayers in exchange for supporting a politically charged paradigm.

But former scientific colleagues from the University of Washington had a remarkable falling out the other day over whether the climate of the Pacific Northwest has shown any evidence of man-made Global Warming.

Although completely ignored by the political class, and largely ignored by their partners in crime, the lapdog media, this dispute has the potential to unravel the vast climate industry, a parasitic industry that rivals the oil industry in extent but produces nothing useful.

On the one hand, we have Phil Mote, who was hired by Oregon Democrats unhappy with then State Climatologist George Taylor's annoying habit of thinking for himself.

With vast Obama administration help, Mote built an impressive empire at Oregon State University that, to no one's surprise, sees relentless warming from carbon dioxide.

On the other, we have Nate Mantua who is famous for his work on the Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO), an ocean cycle known to strongly influence our local climate and salmon runs. When Mote first showed up at OSU, government contract monitors were trying to get his group to stop mentioning the PDO. But even his characteristically compliant employees would not do that.

Now the PDO is coming back to haunt him.

Mantua looked at the entire thermometer record for our area and concluded that "We do not see a human hand in the warming of the West Coast." Mote concentrated on the period after 1960 when temperatures and CO2 rose in tandem. This has been a trademark of Warmers and especially Mote. They only want to study that portion of the available data that might support a link between CO2 and warming.

After Mote and Mantua published their papers, Mote attempted to discredit Mantua's work, but was himself refuted by the well-known University of Washington meteorologist Cliff Mass. Mass, like Mantua, is well aware of the natural causes that are the most likely explanation for the thermometer record. As to the future, all are still predicting CO2 warming, but for Mass at least only after he is gone. Mantua seems to have learned something from being so wrong in the alarmist "Consensus Statement" that he and Mote signed 10 years ago. It brought perhaps a billion dollars to Northwest universities by predicting relentless warming that never materialized.

To make matters worse for the climate industry, one of Obama's prominent scientific advisers in his first term, theoretical physicist Steven Koonin from New York University, wrote a high profile op-ed in The Wall Street Journal ("Climate Science is Not

Settled") that pointed out much of what Skeptics have been saying. I was especially pleased to see him mention the very simple argument that I find compelling. The lack of any global warming trend for the past two decades (despite rising CO2) clearly says that man-made CO2 is less important than natural factors and

may have no observable climate signature. Even Alarmists have acknowledged this by lowering their estimate of "climate sensitivity."

Meantime, President Obama still calls the many scientists who dare to disagree with him "members of the Flat Earth Society." And his secretary of state, John Kerry, pedals the utter nonsense that carbon dioxide accumulates in a thin layer at the top of the atmosphere to cover the earth much as plastic covers real greenhouses. If Kerry were to attend a meeting of the 'Flat Earth Society,' he would surely lower the intellectual level.

At a recent rally in New York City, Robert F. Kennedy Jr. was even more extreme. "Deniers" should be tried at the International Criminal Court in the Hague and locked away for "war crimes." Never mind that we have the scientific educations, and they do not. Never mind that we are political moderates, not Nazi sympathizers denying the Holocaust. If we oppose them, we are evil and should be locked up with those who work for the fossil fuel industry.

Is such political nonsense and stupidity sustainable in a world where objective science still has a foothold? How long can extremist Democrats continue to promote climate hysteria when the scientific conversation is headed in a much different direction? They clearly hope that they can keep this going forever with their unholy alliance between heavily conflicted scientists, journalists and the scientifically illiterate.

But I doubt it. And when the paradigm falls, all who supported it will face a day of reckoning. That is necessary to make sure that politicians and journalists never again drag science down to the level of politics.

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UNRESPONSE

This My View was written in response to the Sept. 18 Sustainable Life story "Some like it hot," that argued GOP state and national leaders were blocking solutions to a man-made climate problem.