

From: [Jenna Kay](#)
To: [Don Steinke](#)
Cc: [Heidi Cody](#); [Small, Rebecca](#); [Oliver Orjiako](#); [Sonja Wisser](#)
Subject: RE: Steinke's feedback on the Climate Amendment discussion
Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 4:25:02 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
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[image004.png](#)

Good afternoon Mr. Steinke,

Thank you for sharing your comments and interest in this topic. We are writing to confirm receipt and note that we will add them into the 2025 comprehensive plan record.

As you know, the county is just getting started on its climate work, and, we look forward to hearing any additional ideas you might have as we get further along in this project.

Regards,
Jenna



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From: Don Steinke <crvancouverusa@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 3:46 PM
To: Gary Medvigy <Gary.Medvigy@clark.wa.gov>; Sue Marshall <Sue.Marshall@clark.wa.gov>; Glen Yung <Glen.Yung@clark.wa.gov>; Oliver Orjiako <Oliver.Orjiako@clark.wa.gov>; Jenna Kay <Jenna.Kay@clark.wa.gov>
Cc: Heidi Cody <hcodystudio@gmail.com>; Small, Rebecca <Rebecca.Small@cityofvancouver.us>
Subject: Steinke's feedback on the Climate Amendment discussion

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From Don Steinke

To Clark County

Cc others

Subject: My hopefully-helpful feedback to comments heard today regarding the GMA Climate Amendment.

Hello all,

Re: Councilmember **Yung's** comment regarding the polarized public sentiment on Climate Change.

Arnold Schwarzenegger says, just call it pollution.

Broadly speaking there are two kinds of air pollution:

- health-harming pollutants
- climate harming pollutants.

Climate harming pollutants always come with health harming pollutants. Reduce climate pollutants and automatically the health harming pollutants are reduced.

Re: Councilmember **Medvigy's** mentioning of the word *interim*.

I'd like to expand on that. We in ACE, The Alliance for Community Engagement, have expressed concern that the City of Vancouver is taking no action on pollution reduction during the interim while developing permanent ordinances.

Speaking only for myself, during the interim, I think that anytime a development proposal comes to staff or the planning commission, the question at least needs to be asked, "*Does this create barriers to clean energy, increase pollution or per-capita vehicles traveled in SOV?*"

Regarding **other jurisdictions**

I'm reaching out to all the cities in Clark County to encourage them to implement the Climate Amendment.

Re **False Solutions**

Don't assume that biofuel, biogas, renewable diesel or hydrogen are automatically good. They all can have a role to play but only in specific applications. I would not be surprised if the *Builders* promoted various forms of gas. Probably the worst thing is to blend it with fossil gas and the claim the emissions have been reduced.

Re Heather Tishbein's **comment on youth**

Vancouver has prioritized the young and POC for its Advisory Climate Committee

Re The Dept of **Commerce**

Commerce recommends that a citizen advisory committee be recruited. Thank you, Councilmember **Marshall**, for bringing that up.

Resilience planning is a responsible thing to do, but I leave that to others. I focus on pollution reduction. The quicker we reduce emissions, the less severe the climate impacts.

I've reviewed the guidance document from Commerce. I believe it could be simplified as I did in my **public comments below**.

Hello, my name is Don Steinke. I live in East Clark County. I taught physics and math for 43 years, mostly at Camas and FVHS.

I'm here to support implementation of the amendment to the GMA.

The Amendment to the Growth Management Act requires Clark County and all cities in Clark County with a population >6000 to reduce ghg emissions and per-capita-miles travelled in SOV.

In a separate policy our legislature established the target of reducing emissions 45% below 1990 levels by 2030 and 95 percent by 2050 statewide. The teeth come in the form of carrots and sticks.

The sticks are two laws that require polluters to purchase permits to pollute. Those programs are expected to raise \$2 billion this biennium, and between 1 and 2 \$billion each biennium moving forward until we've stopped polluting. Those funds are will be available to you as competitive grants. Those funds are the carrots. Those programs will probably raise the price of polluting fuels and thus encourage everyone to transition away from fossil fuels to save money.

If the goal is to reduce emissions, **then**:

1. We need to stop approving barriers to clean energy. Barriers to clean energy include:
 - a. Roofs and buildings that are not solar ready
 - b. New parking lots that are not EV ready.
 - c. And new construction that is not all-electric ready
2. We need to stop approving projects that will increase emissions such as fossil fuel heating systems in new buildings or the new gas station on E Fourth Plain and 162nd Ave.

3. We need to maximize energy efficiency in new construction
4. We need to require that new buildings are net zero energy, like the PAE building in downtown Portland.
5. Make it safe for kids to walk or bike to schools and stores.
6. For all County operated properties, we need to replace gas heating systems with heat pump systems as they age out.
7. Replace all County owned vehicles with ZE vehicles as they age out.

As a result of those actions, we'll have healthier air and grow our economy. Thanks for all you do.