

From: [publiccomment](#)
To: [Karen Bowerman](#); [Glen Yung](#); [Michelle Belkot](#); [Gary Medvigy](#); [Sue Marshall](#)
Cc: [Oliver Orijako](#); [Jenna Kay](#); [Sonja Wiser](#)
Subject: FW: Council Hearing Public Comment
Date: Thursday, November 16, 2023 12:25:22 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Please see the below public comments re: the PPP – Climate Change element.

Thank you!



Rebecca Messinger
Clerk to the Council
COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

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From: Clark County <webmaster@clark.wa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 2:20 PM
To: publiccomment <publiccomment@clark.wa.gov>
Subject: Council Hearing Public Comment

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Submitted on Wed, 11/15/2023 - 2:20 PM

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Subject

Wa. state/Clark County Climate Action Plan deficit

Date of Hearing

Tue, 11/28/2023

Comment

I am proud to be a Clark County resident since 2006 getting married and having a child in Vancouver. I am very concerned that the county's inaction at the last meeting where climate action plan was tabled? The loud voices of the minority that denies science and relies on unproven blogs and opinions is distracting us from taking action. Whether or not people show up to give an opinion, the Clark County Council needs to take note of the fact that over 98% of Climate scientists, Environmental scientists, and other fields are in unison when it comes to the need to take action to prevent our county, state, nation and world from teetering into a climate that will make it uninhabitable for all humans except those that will have underground bunkers and stashed supplies of food, medicine and fuel. Most people will not feel the changes as early as those of us with lung issues (more and more people are being diagnosed as the earth heats and the air becomes dirtier with increased numbers of cars and forest fires), elderly, small children and those with compromised ability to regulate cooling in their bodies. As the earth gets hotter more people are presenting with irreversible kidney disease especially outdoor workers and many that don't have enough access to water throughout the day. Our county council can acknowledge the opinions of naysayers but in the end make informed decisions based on science not internet scrolling. Clark county must formulate an action plan for reducing vehicle trips, build and/or designate parter cooling areas for those with inadequate resources to cool themselves, and finally invest in building solar banks to provide power for the future that will contribute much less to climate changes.

There are large amounts of funds available to help counties and citys build this infrastructure. We also must have improved traffic planning to reduce idling of vehicles instead of building more pavement to accommodate cars. We need to build infrastructure to accommodate electric cars and provide incentives at the local and county level to provide tax breaks and incentives to business locations that install charging stations. Tax breaks and streamlining of permits can be provided for individuals, local corporations and business that retrofit or build structures that have a much smaller carbon footprint and lower energy use including those that opt for electric instead of gas for heating. All members of this council have friends and family that are now and will be affected by the changes in our climate and must act to protect all life on this family. This is a local way that we can do our part while benefitting local residents. Procrastination by this council because of naysayers is not an option. Contrary to what a vocal few are saying, there is no agenda by scientists to deceive the public.

In closing I want to relate an observation that was made before we jumped into the 24th century. As early as the 1980's to 1990's elder citizens all over the world that are well versed in paying attention to the natural world noticed every year that migrations to the south were happening later and later on a linear scale because of how much later winter arrived as well as migrations back north were happening earlier and earlier on the same scale because summer was happening earlier. They also observed that plants were showing the same response because of the warmer climate. These observations are part of the scientific method and not something gleaned from unqualified or proven opinions by those denying the total (98%) agreement of scientists.

Last, Gunnison Colorado, a town of 1300 folks, avoided the deadly Spanish flu in 1918 by doing one thing. They put their lives in the hands of the local doctor by following the dictates of science. They declared "a quarantine against the world" They used barricades, sequestered visitors, arrested violators, closed schools and churches and banned parties and street gatherings. (Source: The Guardian, Sunday 1 March 2020)

Finally they gave persons arriving on the train the option of continuing on without stepping into town, or staying in an isolated building so as not to infect the locals. The Spanish flu of 1918 was so deadly that 675,000 people perished which was more people than died in the WWI. The denial of science during the Covid Pandemic caused excess deaths due to the dissemination of unproven conspiracy theories, lack of trust in science when it came to things as simple as masking and crowd gathering. What caused this distrust of science? There are many factors because everyone knows someone that believed they lost someone to poor medical practice (despite that fact that the overwhelming majority of people have been helped by medicine),

and they will also forget the amazing eradication of Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Chicken Pox and the worst of all Polio. Medicine cannot make a difference 100% of the time but does make a difference for the vast majority of people. The single largest factor regarding distrust of medicine and science is the spread of misinformation and disinformation spread by talking heads with their own agenda. These same people will say one thing to get the attention of others yet in private will follow the advice of scientists and health professionals.

In closing, it behooves all of us to take action to slow down Climate change and mitigate it's disastrous and deadly effects especially those of you in our Council that have the ability to make a positive change for Clark County.

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