

**Peter Fels**  
**5121 NW Franklin St.**  
**Vancouver WA 98663**  
**360-737-3154; [plfels@gmail.com](mailto:plfels@gmail.com)**

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TO: Clark County Council

RE: Comments on Climate Change and Resiliency Element Public Participation Plan

Dear Councilors:

I agree with the proposed resolution to adopt a Climate Change and Resiliency Element Public Participation Plan ("Plan"). I suggest you vote YES on the resolution, BUT **I propose one simple change to the Plan.**

You should adopt a Climate Change and Resiliency Element Public Participation Plan because it is required by State law. Clark County has failed in the past to conform to state law with regard to its planning procedures and those failures have resulted in significant problems and expense to the County (and its taxpayers). A vote to adopt a Plan is to conform to Washington law, as explained in the staff report.

However, the proposed Plan, (Exhibit 1 to the draft resolution) at #5, calls for the Community Advisory Group (CAG) to "form consensus-based recommendations on Climate Change and Resiliency Element goals and policies." This may be impossible or counter-productive to development of a good plan.

Your consultants advised the CAG be composed of a long list of various "stakeholders" and interested parties. It is likely that some of these parties may disagree as their interests naturally diverge. For example, environmentalists are likely to disagree with some business representatives, and vice-versa. Because of this, it may be impossible to reach consensus, or consensus may only be possible with a very vague plan.

The County should adopt the plan which best coincides with the Legislature's mandates. Some commenters have already demonstrated they do not want the County to do that. Some of the parties recommended to be on the CAG have historically opposed actions to reduce global warming because doing so will reduce their profits.

For these reasons, I suggest you modify the Plan at Section 5 to read "***The CAG will make recommendations agreed to by a majority of its members on Climate Change and Resiliency Element goals and policies.***"

Thank you for your consideration.

  
Peter Fels