

Jenna Kay

From: Jenna Kay
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 8:13 AM
To: Celeste Sarvata
Cc: Sonja Wiser; Cnty 2025 Comp Plan
Subject: RE: thoughts on the climate initiative

Hi Celeste,

Thank you for your comment and interest in this project.

We have a representative in the Community Advisory Group and Environmental Justice Coalition whose focus is on developmental disabilities. (Gabriela Ewing is the Executive Director of Hispanic Disability Support Southwest Washington, Pasitos Gigantes). We are also in conversation with some groups like the School for the Blind, School for the Deaf, local school districts, the Area Agency on Aging & Disabilities, and county Public Health and Community Services departments about engagement in the project in various ways.

I also want to recognize there are a much wider range of disabilities, mental health concerns, etc. that would not necessarily be represented by those groups. We welcome everyone's participation and if you have suggestions of specific individuals or organizations that we should reach out to, please let us know.

Thanks again,
Jenna



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From: Sonja Wiser <Sonja.Wiser@clark.wa.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 6:26 AM
To: Celeste Sarvata <celeste@sarvata.net>; Cnty 2025 Comp Plan <comp.plan@clark.wa.gov>
Cc: Jenna Kay <Jenna.Kay@clark.wa.gov>
Subject: RE: thoughts on the climate initiative

Good morning Celeste: I will forward your comments to Jenna Kay and add them to the Comp Plan Index of Record. Thank you

From: Celeste Sarvata <celeste@sarvata.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 12:49 PM
To: Cnty 2025 Comp Plan <comp.plan@clark.wa.gov>
Subject: thoughts on the climate initiative

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Hello! I attended the first hour of the zoom meeting on climate planning - thank you all for your vision, concern, and service!

I wasn't able to attend the whole meeting, so perhaps this came up, and perhaps I'm jumping the gun, so please excuse me if that's the case. My concern is this: I didn't notice, during the discussion of the many groups disproportionately impacted by the climate emergency, any mention of the disability community or the neuro-diverse, who are often infantilized and dismissed. I also wanted to suggest that as the knowledge of the climate crisis becomes more widespread and dire, the mental health of our children, and the public in general, will become more fragile. Not only will we all experience the suffering of the chaos brought by those changes physically, but we will all need to rely on our civic and other organizations and professionals to help us emotionally, spiritually, and even cognitively.

I dearly hope that our community will be transformed by creativity, hope, and imagination in addressing the urgent needs of the day. I saw yesterday in the meeting that the climate plan will be informed by the inclusion of the shining, collaborative minds of our vulnerable communities, which fills me with hope. Finally, I fiercely wish that we will be able to quickly protect our children's mental health by empowering them to hope, to love this beautiful natural world of which we are part, and invigorate them to take their first independent steps into the wider world with confidence in their ability to make a contribution to the vital and quick actions we must take.

As I said at the top, perhaps my comments are redundant, or directed to the wrong group. If that's the case, then oops! I just feel compelled to speak my truth.

Thank you again,
Celeste Sarvata
Vancouver, WA