Jenna Kay

From: Don Steinke <crvanwash@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2024 1:51 PM

To: Jenna Kay

Subject: For the Climate EJC

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From Don Steinke

To the Climate EJC, c/o Jenna

Re: the high cost of heating and cooling.

Based on the notes that staff took in your October meeting, several people expressed concern about the high cost of heating and cooling.

Fortunately, both our Climate Commitment Act and the Inflation Reduction Act have \$billions for weatherization programs and for energy efficiency upgrades.

Our challenge is to have grant writers to apply for those funds. Otherwise, the money will be left on the table.

Part of the challenge is to navigate between housing that you own and housing that you rent. Such navigation may involve advocating and negotiating with the property owner.

The non-profit *Rewiring America* has received \$2 Billion (yes with a B) from the Inflation Reduction Act. They have used some of those funds to create Navigation Software to help people determine what energy conservation funds they qualify for and will help contractors build capacity to do the work. Here's their link. They even have a tab for renters.

https://homes.rewiringamerica.org/savings-calculatoremail?gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQiA0MG5BhD1ARIsAEcZtwQ_vc7_tW1A_Qu-cv9zcUT9XiciwQ47Z5L25yQWUQcfiuiCRHUQTEaAiM_EALw_wcB

Rewiring America has also set up a 9-hour training program to train local facilitators. Maybe the Climate Commitment Act will have funds to pay local facilitators.

It is also worth noting that we need to build more than 5000 new dwelling units in Clark County every year and builders won't maximize efficiency in them because can't afford to. Therefore, their tenants will forever be saddled with unnecessarily high bills for heating and cooling. Maybe the CCA could subsidize efficiency upgrades in new construction.

Maybe higher efficiency should be in the building code, but those efficiency were repealed by Initiative 2066. Maybe, the CCA will pay for retrofits.