

# Meeting Summary



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<b>Date:</b>	February 6 and 9, 2017	<b>Time:</b>	6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
<b>Location:</b>	891 Watt Ave., Sacramento, CA and 14273 River Rd., Walnut Grove, CA		
<b>Subject:</b>	Summary of Comments from Public Workshops, Round #2		
<b>Project:</b>	Sacramento County Climate Action Plan: Communitywide Greenhouse Gas Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation (Communitywide CAP)		

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Sacramento County held two public workshops on the County's climate action plan. Count staff and consultants provided an overview of the results of the climate change vulnerability assessment, as well as draft climate adaptation strategies. The attendees were invited to ask questions and provide feedback on these topics. The two workshops were held at the following venues:

February 6, 2017

6-8 p.m.

Arden-Dimick Library

891 Watt Avenue, Sacramento, CA

February 9, 2017

6-8 p.m.

Jean Harvie Community Center

14273 River Road, Walnut Grove, CA

The following is a summary of the comments provided by attendees at both the February 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> public workshops, organized by topics discussed in the presentation. This includes verbal comments provided during the large group discussion as recorded by the facilitation team, as well as individual comment cards submitted during and after the workshops. Photos of the verbal comments recording during the meeting are included in the appendix.

## TEMPERATURE

- ▲ Increase the use of green roofs.
- ▲ Increase the use of energy efficiency of solar energy.
- ▲ Provide incentives for cool/green roof solutions.
- ▲ Work with utilities to encourage them to develop solar energy solutions with homeowners.
- ▲ Require trees to be planted in same area removed (also in the Delta).
- ▲ Create a job program for the youth, paying individuals to plant trees.
- ▲ Protect trees as sacred.
- ▲ Promote trees that are good for the climate and soil while using the least amount of water.
- ▲ We need green (plants) for cooler temperatures.
- ▲ Work with the Fulton El Camino Park District on landscaping and trees.
- ▲ Increase canopies in parking lots (especially solar).

- ▲ Increase incentives for planting trees.
- ▲ Work with community planning advisory councils to increase action on trees.
- ▲ Send out tree preservation messages to neighborhoods.
- ▲ Change how the health system operates.
  - Create better ways to inform vulnerable populations.
- ▲ Emphasize passive and natural cooling methods (cleaner and doesn't rely on electricity).
  - Example: better insulation, more trees surrounding residential areas.
- ▲ Connect to vector control districts on these topics as mosquitos are likely to be an issue.
- ▲ Consider how other areas design their places. For instance, New Hampshire seems to use less pavement in their public spaces. Is there a place in the County for a change of mindset?
  - It's healthier for humans to walk on various surfaces.
- ▲ Use permeable pavement.
- ▲ Link reducing traffic congestion to climate change so people will be more interested in addressing the issue of climate change.
- ▲ There should be a pilot program on low and/or permeable pavement done at a County facility.
- ▲ Make prevention of tree topping a priority and enforce laws against it. Sacramento County should do more about tree topping. The Sacramento Tree Foundation only cares about putting saplings into the ground and does not care about preventing tree topping.
- ▲ Install roof overhangs because it is cheap, permanent, and very effective in keeping buildings cool.
- ▲ Provide incentives and money for landlords to weatherize homes.
- ▲ Do not allow tree removal without replacement.
- ▲ Update recommended list of species to be those suitable for post 2050 temperatures.
- ▲ Offer residents the opportunity to host mitigation trees from commercial projects.
- ▲ Address the tension between solar and trees.
- ▲ Sacramento should rent roof tops and install green roofs. If it increases real estate value, then the companies who own it will want to join.
- ▲ Enforce landscaping requirements when a business seeks a permit. For instance, the Fulton Avenue Plan requires all new construction to plant trees and shrubbery. However, several new businesses with new construction have skipped the landscaping. Fulton is a "dead" area and trees and/or shrubs would make it more welcoming.

## PRECIPITATION AND WATER

- ▲ Allow more time for groundwater recharge.
- ▲ Why not more reservoirs?
  - It is a state issue.
- ▲ Increase use of rain barrels for residential use.
- ▲ Provide more information and resources for grass removal.
- ▲ Consider the precipitation decrease effects on Delta (and think about the salt water intrusion).
- ▲ Create effective low cost capture of greywater.
- ▲ Consider the use of ozone in washing machines rather than detergent for residential use. This provides for cleaner greywater that can be used directly on landscaping and other uses. PG&E has provided rebates for industrial use. Consider residential use.
- ▲ De-silt existing reservoirs to provide more water storage space.
- ▲ Work with Sacramento Tree Foundation. Provide a forum for various parties such as Green Acres, Master Gardeners, etc. to inform on best landscaping for low water use, climate adaptation.
- ▲ Find a way to fill reservoirs with the high water in rivers.
  - The water is overflowing the rivers and going to the bay instead of being captured in reservoirs.
- ▲ Encourage more planting and community gardens.
- ▲ Reduce water use in community.
- ▲ Distribute more compost bins.
- ▲ Consider equity in water metering costs between residential and commercial.
- ▲ Use advice from communities in high heat areas (Arizona for example) to understand how to plan for increased heat.
- ▲ Address the growing concerns about water supply and the diversity of crop types.
- ▲ The County has adopted an urban agriculture ordinance.
- ▲ Diverse crops mean more habitats.
- ▲ Eating meat increases water consumption.
- ▲ Increasing river water capacity through dredging?
- ▲ Address the movement of where agricultural crops can be grown due to climate change.
- ▲ Water restrictions should continue even though the drought is easing.

- ▲ Think about population growth in terms of water use. The impact of the current drought on the 1960 population would not be nearly as significant.
- ▲ Incentivize residential greywater and educate to prevent unintended consequences (soil damage from soaps).

## **WILDFIRE**

- ▲ Wildfire leads to erosion and water quality issues.

## **SEA LEVEL RISE/FLOODING**

- ▲ Address the concerns about the increasing amount of melting ice and its effects on sea level.
- ▲ Use bioswales to ameliorate flooding of streets.
- ▲ More methods to capture excess flood water using pumps.
- ▲ Walnut Grove has an existing issue of their ground water and sewage mixing, causing sewer system backups. Climate change will further perpetuate this issue.
- ▲ Create emergency evacuation plans by coordinating with other jurisdictions.
- ▲ Strategically plan and upgrade infrastructure by efficiently using funds.
- ▲ Prepare for refugees from the Bay Area and the Delta.

## **GENERAL/OTHER**

- ▲ Study which adaptation measures provide the greatest impact with the least participation.
- ▲ Encourage people to take personal responsibility.
- ▲ Emergency evacuation plans, coordinate with other jurisdictions
- ▲ Think through infrastructure planning and spending. Upgrade infrastructure strategically.
- ▲ Aging rental properties should be required to upgrade and renovate to reduce energy requirements—renters and climate benefit.
- ▲ Divest money from fossil fuel companies.
- ▲ Encourage the Board of Supervisors to do a resolution to Congress to ask for carbon fee dividend. This may be something to add to the County's legislative agenda.
- ▲ Create incentives to stabilize vehicle emissions.
- ▲ Tell SMUD to get rid of minimum monthly charge which de-incentivizes conservation and renewables and is unfair to poorer customers.
- ▲ Reduce sprawl.

- ▲ Seek California cap and trade money for adaptation.
- ▲ Incentivize conversion of vacant lots to gardens.
- ▲ Push for electric vehicles.
- ▲ Property tax incentives for climate change mitigation.
- ▲ Integrate GHG reduction strategies with adaptation.
- ▲ Solar is important but currently the companies selling them are putting their long-term contracts as a lien on the property—first position—it is causing problems when the owner wants to sell. It should be assumed the cost is with the purchaser. Putting the solar in first position is unattractive when there is a need to finance it.
- ▲ Retrofit existing commercial buildings and landscaping.
  - Incentivize businesses and property owners
  - Upgrade county-owned facilities
- ▲ Consider solar water heaters.
- ▲ More infill development. Less expansion.
- ▲ Dense housing saves precious farmland and preserves natural habitats. It also reduces GHGs due to long commutes.
- ▲ Require that developments include facilities that offer alternative mode choices and develop near transit so that we begin to reduce our dependence on automobiles.
- ▲ Develop land near transit first.
- ▲ Strong land use policies.
- ▲ Strong transit options.
- ▲ Do not widen roadways.
- ▲ Require through governmental legislation that all commercial and residential buildings switch from gas to electric water heaters. Provide government funds for low-income families because it is cheaper than gas.
- ▲ Laws must be made to change the devastating effects of our current property rights laws that give almost unlimited freedom to land owners to the detrimental effects this can have on the rest of society and the environment/world.
- ▲ Send the message to supervisors that increasing population means that there will be an increase in greenhouse gases.
- ▲ Rebrand Sacramento as a “green” community

## OUTREACH/EDUCATION

- ▲ Creative education through outreach and school is important.
  - Increase the education of energy use during hot weather and water conservation
  - Education will increase the awareness of person responsibility of the general population.
- ▲ Create more ways to advertise these types of meetings. Market the meeting more and let more people know that this meeting is going on.

APPENDIX

# TEMPERATURE

- GREEN ROOFS
- SOLAR
- INCENTIVES FOR ROOF SOLUTIONS
- UTILITIES HLP W/ SOLAR
- REQ TREES TO BE PLANTED IN SAME AREA REMOVED (ALSO DELTA)
- PROT. TREES AS SACRED
- FULTON EL CAMINO PK DIST FOR PRK DIST.
- CANOPIES IN PKG LOTS (ESP SOLAR)
  - INC INCENTIVES
- WK W/ COM ADV. COUNCILS RE: TREES  
TREE PRES MSG TO NBHDS

▷ MORE INC. FOR DEU TO INSTALL  
COOL ROOFS

▷ ADDRESS TNSN BTWN SQUARES  
TREES

▷ WK W/ TREE FOUNDATION - FORUM  
GREEN ACRES, MAST. GDNRS, ETC.  
TO INFORM ON BEST LANDSCAPING  
TO ADAPT

▷ NEED GRN FOR COOL

▷ ENC MORE COMM GDNS,

PLANTING, RED WATER USE IN  
COMMUNITY  
▷ COMPOST BINS



## PRECIPITATION / WATER

- ▷ GROUNDWATER RECHARGE
- ▷ WHY NOT MORE RESERVOIRS?
  - STATE ISSUE
- ▷ RAIN BARRELS FOR RES. USE
- ▷ RESOURCES FOR RMVG GRASS - CTY PROVIDE
- ▷ PREC. DCRSE EFFECTS ON DELTA (SALT WATER INTRUS.)
- ▷ EFFECT. LOW COST CAPTURE OF GREY WATER (OZONE USE - DGE REBA)  
INC FOR RES USE
- ▷ DESILT EXIST RESERVOIRS

STUDY

- GREATEST IMPACT W/ 1ST PART. ?
- EQUITY IN COSTS BTWN RES & COMM.
- USE ADVICE FROM AGENCIES IN HIGH HT AREAS (AZ, FOR EXAMPLE)

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□ INCENTIVES TOWARDS RETROFIT  
- ROOFS, WATER

□ BOS - RES TO CONGRESS TO ASK FOR CARBON FEE DIVIDEND - ADD TO CNTS LEG AGENDA

## WILDFIRE

- MSG TO SUPS - INC. POP = INC GHG  
REBRAND SAC AS "GRN" COMMUNITY

## SEA LEVEL RISE / FLOODING

- ▷ CONCERN ABOUT MELTING ICE =  
RISING SEA LEVEL
- ▷ INC<sup>ENTIVES</sup> TO STABILIZE VEHICLE EMISSIONS?
- ▷ CAPTURE EXCESS <sup>FLOOD</sup> WATER  
(USING PUMPS)

## TEMPERATURE / HEAT

- LINKING RESERVOIRS TO FILL
  - HI WATER IN RVR GOING TO BAT RATHER THAN TO RES.
- CHANGE HOW HLTH SYST. OPERATE
  - > BTR WAYS TO IMP. VULN. POPS.
- EMPHASIZE PASSIVE COOLING (CLNRS NO ND FOR ADD. ELEC.)
- CONNECT TO VECTOR - CONTROL DIST.
- DIFF BTWN CA & NH > LESS PAVING, CHANG MINDSET
- PERM. PVMNT
- LINK RED TRFC CONG. TO CLIMATE CHANGE
- COUNTY FACILITY - PILOT PROG. ON LOW PAVEMENT / BERM PVMNT
- HEALTHY = WALK ON VARIOUS SURF.

## PRECIPITATION / WATER

- ▷ CONCERNS ABOUT WATER SUPPLY & DIVERSITY OF CROP TYPES
- ▷ URBAN AG ORDINANCE - ADOPTED
- ▷ DIVERSE CROPS = HABITAT
- ▷ EATING MEAT > WATER CONSUM.
- ▷ INCREASING CAPACITY THRU DREDGING?

LEE HANNAH - UCSB  
□ MOVEMENT OF AG DUE TO CC

WILDFIRE

▷ LEADING TO EROSION, WATER  
QUALITY ISSUES

SEA LEVEL RISE/FLOODING

▷ WAL GROVE - SEWER / GRND WTR  
MIX, SEWAGE EXPOSURE