



A project of Generation Green - a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization

September 8, 2021

Re: Contra Costa County Measure X Advisory Committee.

Dear Chair and Measure X Committee Members:

We appreciate the public hearing this evening and all of the work on best uses for our Measure X funds:

"Measure X, Contra Costa's new countywide, half-cent sales tax, is expected to raise \$112 million for the new fiscal year that began July 1. The Measure X Community Advisory Board was formed to identify unmet community needs and recommend spending priorities to the county Board of Supervisors".

We are in a crisis, and we ask that Measure X prioritize funding towards abating that crisis: The Climate Crisis.

The recent international IPCC report has confirmed code red for humanity. If we are to survive, we need to rise up to save ourselves. This is not some superhero comment. We have a real call to action. The United Nations has made a clear announcement that we are in a situation that is no longer livable. Our very survival--- and the survival of our next generations--- is in question.

You have a tough job selecting priorities. But almost every Measure X funding item on your excel spreadsheet falls from the climate crisis we are in. Emergency Planning, Public Health, Asthma, Drought, Fires, Heat Related Deaths, Environmental Injustice, Lack of Clean Water, Insufficient Affordable Housing, Clean Energy, Safe Public Transportation, Clean Healthy food. And the list goes on.

We concur that Public Safety and Protection of Human Health is the highest priority. And to address those, we must address the fact that we are in a clear and imminent danger. The County Board of Supervisors has declared a state of Emergency. The full resolution can be found [Here](#).

The future of our youth and all generations to come—is at stake. Every item on your list of funding priorities are impacted by the Climate Crisis.

Therefore, please ensure a hefty line item is targeted for reducing fossil fuels, adapting to the climate impacts, and ensures emergency planning to make sure our cities are resilient and prepared for the known emergencies to come; and the extreme weather impacts we will continue to experience.

Further, we would like to see that those monies are set up in a way that ensures they trickle down to the cities who are the ones who can write and implement Climate Action Plan(CAPs) and policies at the local level. I am a former Federal Employee and also a Former Mayor; and it is clear that policy works best with a bottom up system. The cities are the ones one the ground doing the work---and they need the funding.

Thank you for your effort and thank you for putting the climate crisis front and center in your recommendations to the board of supervisors.

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