



City of  
**Santa Monica®**

**Mayor Tony Vazquez**  
**Mayor Pro Tempore Ted Winterer**

*Councilmembers*

**Gleam Davis**  
**Sue Himmelrich**  
**Kevin McKeown**  
**Pam O'Connor**  
**Terry O'Day**

October 27, 2016

Mark Reynolds  
Executive Director  
Citizens' Climate Lobby  
1330 Orange Ave #309  
Coronado, CA 92118

Dear Mr. Reynolds,

The world's leading scientists agree that human activity has already affected the Earth's climate by emitting harmful greenhouse gases that are responsible for global warming. Evidence of this has manifested itself in extreme weather events occurring in greater frequency around the world. For Santa Monica, a changing climate could affect temperature, precipitation patterns, and sea level rise. Addressing climate change and mitigating the impacts of global warming activity is the defining challenge of the 21st century and beyond.

In 1994, the City of Santa Monica created a Sustainable City Plan to protect natural resources, prevent harm to the natural environment, enhance human health, and improve the social and economic well-being of the community for current and future generations. In 2006, an updated Sustainable City Plan established a goal for reducing community greenhouse gas emissions 15 percent below 1990 levels by the year 2015. I'm proud to say that we have exceeded our 2015 goals. Currently, we're developing the City's next Climate Action & Adaptation Plan. This action plan will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, helping us become a resilient, carbon neutral community and prepare for climate change impacts.

However, powerful new policies are needed if we are to meet the greenhouse gas emission reduction goals established in the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement: A national carbon tax on fossil fuels, based on the amount of carbon dioxide the fuel will emit when burned, and corresponding dividends to households will account for the true cost of fossil fuel emissions and help people make choices about energy usage.

The Santa Monica City Council, in keeping with the City's long commitment to the environment and sustainability, joins the California Legislature and our Congressman Ted Lieu in supporting the concept of a Carbon Fee and Dividend to tax the CO2 equivalent of fossil fuels at the source and refund the proceeds to resident households. Please add the City of Santa Monica to the list of local and national supporters.

Regards,

  
Tony Vazquez

Mayor

CC: Josh Shaw

Charmayne Anderson

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