

From: [Connie Miller](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 8 Priority Setting - April 12, 2022
Date: Friday, April 8, 2022 1:04:18 PM

Dear Mayor Enander and Members of the Los Altos City Council:

Eight years. That's all the time we have to drastically reduce our CO2 emissions to avert the worst climate-fueled disasters. The updated UN IPCC report, issued this past week, says, *"Humanity must phase out fossil fuel extraction and combustion and immediately cease constructing new fossil fuel infrastructure."* While this Climate disaster trajectory is definitively caused by humanity's fossil fuel use, we possess the technological and economic tools today to avert this crisis. The success of averting it is dependent upon the political will to make the right decisions.

This is not another country's or community's problem; it is everyone's problem, including our city of Los Altos. The impacts of pollution tend to be localized: living near sources of air pollution (like gas stoves, roads and gas leaf blowers) puts our community at risk of health impacts from asthma to respiratory disease. Drought, fire risk and temperature extremes all are felt at the local level. We implore Council to protect Los Altos. We will not be insulated from the Climate change consequences. We ask that every Council Member take this threat seriously and set Council priorities with the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) in mind.

We know from the CAAP that our highest leverage in reducing our CO2 emissions comes from the transportation and building sectors. We urge Council to prioritize the CAAP items that have the biggest impact in these two areas, regardless of the perceived difficulty in completing them. We also urge you to look beyond the CAAP by including a Climate metric in every decision the City makes.

We believe our citizens, who understand the Climate threat, fully support decisions that substantially mitigate our Climate exposure. You are in a great position of leadership to steer our wonderful city to a healthy and safe future.

With full support and confidence,

The Board of GreenTown Los Altos and Executive Director
Suresh Venkatraman, Gary Hedden, Connie Miller, Don Weiden, Jana Schlansker, Glenda Chang, Michelle Gerstel, Kim Jelfs, Kris Jensen