

May 12, 2026

To: San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria, City Council Members

Subject: FY27 Budget - **Protect and Implement the Climate Equity Fund**

On behalf of the Climate Advisory Board, we are writing to urge you to **restore the allocation of \$7,000,000 to the Climate Equity Fund** and to prioritize the timely expenditure of previously allocated funds for their intended purposes.

We appreciate your efforts in creating this budget with difficult circumstances.

As the Climate Action Plan (CAP) continues to face additional decreases to the funding, the City of San Diego is falling behind on meeting greenhouse gas emission reduction goals. We recognize the efforts on prioritizing funding on programs related to climate such as the “Tree Planting and Maintenance” and “Ready, Set, Grow San Diego” to increase the urban tree canopy. These efforts are important to address and mitigate the impacts of climate change. However, **the cuts to the CAP threatens the City’s progress towards the overall climate goals** and being a leader in sustainability.

The Climate Equity Fund was created to strengthen disadvantaged neighborhoods to adapt and be resilient to the effects of climate change, and is **primarily funded through SDG&E franchise fee revenues**. As the effects of climate change continue to worsen, these neighborhoods are at a disproportionate risk of experiencing poor air quality and extreme heat. **Equity needs to remain as the focus of the budget**. We understand that the \$7 million would go back to the City’s general fund to support existing city services. However, it should not be at the expense of putting disadvantaged San Diegans further at risk of climate-related illnesses and deaths.

Sincerely,

Tanisha-Jean Martin
Chair, Climate Advisory Board