



**COUNCILMEMBER BARBARA BRY
CITY OF SAN DIEGO
DISTRICT 1**

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 7, 2019
TO: Councilmember Jennifer Campbell, Chair, Environment Committee
FROM: Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry, Member, Environment Committee
SUBJECT: Environment Committee 2019 Priorities

Thank you for seeking my input on the 2019 priorities for the Environment Committee. I look forward to working alongside my colleagues to ensure the City pursues its Climate Action Plan goals, while also advancing environmental justice to benefit all communities within our City limits. I've outlined below several priorities for the Committee to consider this year.

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The City's landmark Climate Action Plan (CAP) has propelled San Diego as a leader in environmental policy. To achieve the CAP's goals set out in this legally binding plan it is essential implementation of this plan is reported out to this committee and the community on a regular basis. I would like to see this committee focus on the list of priorities below:

- Support and assist as necessary to the development and implementation of an equitable Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program this year to reach the City's 100% renewable energy CAP target.
- Actively monitor CAP-related investments in frontline communities and ensure the Sustainability Department has adequate capacity to support equitable CAP implementation and inclusive economic growth through immediate and long-term solutions.
- Supervise the development of a Five-Year CAP Forecast to inform development of the City budget. The Forecast should be developed on an annual basis to inform the generation of the City Budget.

- Receive regular updates from the Sustainability Department on CAP Phase 1 and Phase 2 implementation.
- Receive updates on the implementation of the Urban Forestry 5-Year Plan.

CLIMATE IMPACTS

The CAP correctly states that regardless of the City's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, some degree of climate change impacts will inevitably occur. San Diego's CAP effectively outlines how to reduce the *causes* of climate change, but our City also needs to prepare and adapt to the *effects* of climate change.

- Receive regular updates from the Planning Department on the development and timeline for completion of the Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Plan.
- Request informational reports on local vulnerabilities and mitigation efforts related to rising sea levels and wildfire threats.

BICYCLE/ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Transportation remains the single largest contributor of GHG emissions, and according to the CAP's 2018 Annual Report, the City has much ground to cover in reaching its mode share targets. With the introduction of different micro-mobility technologies and more people on bikes and scooters than ever before, adequate infrastructure is necessary in accommodating new preferred ways to travel around the City.

- Focus bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure on where risk of injuries are highest, and in communities most impacted by air pollution.
- Support completion by mid-year 2019 of a Transportation Master Plan that serves as a roadmap to meeting the City's mode share targets.
- Track and receive updates on the implementation of mobility infrastructure projects, especially the highest priority bike projects in the Bike Master Plan and the cycle track network in the Downtown Mobility Plan.
- Support development and implementation of a system to track mode share so that the City can accurately monitor progress toward its mode share targets.

WATER

In February 2018, I requested the Office of the City Auditor investigate the Public Utilities Department (PUD) regarding the sudden increase in residents' water bill complaints. It is essential the City is adequately serving ratepayers and maintaining a sufficient level of trust among customers. I would like for this committee to be kept up to date on the PUD's implementation of the recommendations outlined in the July 2018 Audit Report of the Public Utilities Department's Water Billing Operations. Additional related priorities include:

- Hold meaningful discussions on the City's efforts to diversify the City's sources of water and how we can further minimize reliance on importing water from outside the region.
- Discuss strategies on efforts to incentivize water conservation.
- Receive updates on the rollout of the City's Automated Metering Infrastructure System, including updates on the status of the *MyWaterEasy* mobile application.
- Continue to monitor the implementation of the Pure Water program including review of funding, and consultant, design, and construction contracts as needed.

STORM WATER

Storm water poses issues for Californian cities up and down the coast. As a representative of a coastal district, I am highly concerned regarding the amount of beach closures within the City due to water quality levels following rain storms, and the threat of flooding. I look forward to working alongside this committee on exploring solutions and analyzing ways to improve our storm water infrastructure and management.

- Encourage the Communications Department and Transportation and Storm Water Division develop a communications plan to assist in educating residents on importance of the Storm Water Division's water quality and flood control activities, as well as the effects of the current funding shortage as detailed in the June 2018 City Auditor's Audit Report of the Transportation and Storm Water Division.
- Explore opportunities to expand interdepartmental coordination and integrated water management to ensure storm water is looked at as a potential asset to the City as a water supply.
- Continue to receive updates from the Transportation and Storm Water Division regarding Municipal Storm Water Permit regulations.