DATE: February 9, 2022

TO: Honorable Council President Sean Elo-Rivera
    Honorable Councilmembers

FROM: Mayor Todd Gloria

SUBJECT: Appointments to the Climate Action Plan Review Committee

In accordance with Section 43(b) of the City Charter, I am pleased to announce the creation of the Climate Action Plan Review Committee (CAPRC). This committee is temporary and is established only for the purpose of advising on the specific areas listed below. The Committee will commence its work in February 2022 and dissolve upon the completion of the specified objectives, which is anticipated to occur by August 31, 2022.

Advisory Capacity
This committee is established as a temporary advisory group with two specific functions:

1. Review and provide feedback to the City on the draft Climate Action Plan update – including the proposed strategies and actions, and all other content related to the Climate Action Plan.

2. Develop recommendations on how the City can engage residents, communities, and non-governmental organizations to guide the plan’s implementation. These recommendations may include input on the forthcoming implementation plan, budget priorities, and other community engagement initiatives.

Committee Composition

The Board will be composed of 21 members who shall serve subject to Council confirmation.
I am appointing to the Committee: Jason Anderson, Dike Anyiwo, Cindy Lin, Emilie Colwell, Brigette Browning, Carol Kim, Doug Hicks, Nate Fairman, Val Macedo Jr., Jesse O'Sullivan, Safia Haidari, Andrew Meyer, Dr. Julie Kalansky, Kyle Heiskala, Eddie Price, Cody Hooven, and Bernadette Butkiewicz. Each will serve terms ending upon the dissolution of the Committee. I am also appointing Jason Anderson as Chair of the Climate Action Plan Review Committee. The Vice-Chair of the committee will be selected by the board during its first meeting.

Jason Anderson is President and CEO of Cleantech San Diego, a business organization that positions the greater San Diego region as a global leader in the cleantech economy. Cleantech San Diego’s members include more than 120 businesses, universities, governments, and nonprofits committed to advancing sustainable solutions for the benefit of the economy, the environment, and all members of the community. He also serves on the boards of the San Diego Urban Sustainability Coalition, CONNECT, San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation, San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative and Equality California. Mr. Anderson holds a degree in Corporate Communications from the University of Texas in Austin.

Dike Anyiwo is a Public Policy Advisor for the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce. He specializes in education and workforce issues as well as sustainability and industry. Mr. Anyiwo also serves as the Vice Chair of the Midway-Pacific Highway Community Planning Board. He attended the University of California, Riverside where he studied Business Economics.

Brigette Browning is the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council, which represents over 200,000 working families in the San Diego region. She is also the President of UNITE HERE Local 30, which represents more than 6,000 hotel and hospitality workers. Ms. Browning is a graduate of UC San Diego with degrees in Chemistry and Spanish Literature.

Carol Kim is the Business Manager for the San Diego County Building and Construction Trades Council, which represents over 30,000 workers in the building and construction industry. She previously served as the organization’s Political Director. Ms. Kim earned a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of California, Los Angeles and a Master of Arts in Education from National University.
Doug Hicks is the San Diego representative for the Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters and has spent 24 years in the construction industry – from apprentice through general superintendent. He now represents Carpenters throughout six states.

Nate Fairman is a native of San Diego who has spent a decade of his life developing his skills as a Journeyman Lineman constructing high-voltage power lines. He was elected to the Executive Board of IBEW Local 465 where he founded a young worker group focused on volunteer work and building community-labor partnerships. He also was elected as IBEW Local 465’s Business Manager – the youngest to ever lead the 2,700-member labor union since its inception in 1904. He also sits on the Executive Boards of the San Diego & Imperial Counties Labor Council, the California State Association of Electrical Workers and the California Coalition of Utility Employees where he represents nearly 100,000 IBEW members in the state of California.

Val Macedo, Jr. currently serves as Business Representative for the Laborers International Union of North America (LiUNA!) Local 89, whose mission is to provide stable employment and financial security to its members and their families. During his time with LiUNA! Local 89, Mr. Macedo has managed multiple roles dealing with budgets, contract negotiations, audits, and policy. Mr. Macedo has a technical background as a mechanical engineer and holds a master’s degree in Public Policy from UC San Diego.

Jesse O’Sullivan is policy counsel at Circulate San Diego, where he researches and advocates for land use and transit policy solutions for a more affordable and sustainable San Diego. Prior to working at Circulate, Jesse practiced law for over a year as a litigator on a variety of matters. He graduated from the University of San Diego with a Bachelor’s Degree in Sociology and earned his Juris Doctor from the University of San Diego School of Law.

Safia Haidari is the lead organizer with Youth Will. In this role, she works to engage youth across the region and facilitates campaigns and programs that allow youth to advocate for widespread social change. Ms. Haidari is passionate about providing young people the tools needed to create the communities they wish to see.

Emilie Colwell is a Project Manager who manages land use, entitlements, and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) projects at T&B Planning, Inc. As a Project Manager, she prepares and oversees the preparation of CEQA
documents for complex residential, industrial, commercial, and institutional projects throughout Southern California. She also is an experienced development services manager, assisting clients with entitlements and post-entitlement approvals. Ms. Colwell holds a B.A. Degree in Environmental Studies from the University of California- Santa Barbara and a Master’s Degree in Urban Planning from the University of Southern California.

Dr. Julie Kalansky is a Program Manager for the Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes and the California-Nevada Applications Program. Her research efforts include using historical observations to understand weather variability in the Western US -- and the impacts associated with this variability -- as well as future projections to help build resilience. Dr. Kalansky earned her Master’s Degree in Oceanography from the University of Rhode Island and her Ph.D. in Oceanography from Rutgers University.

Kyle Heiskala is a Climate Justice Policy Advocate at Environmental Health Coalition and brings years of experience as a political and media strategist. He began his career working as a community representative and policy advisor for the San Diego City Council’s District One office. His background also includes local non-profit management and community activism around social justice, affordable housing, equitable transportation and climate action. He grew up in Chula Vista, attended Hilltop High School, and earned a B.A. in Environmental Systems with a focus on Environmental Policy from UC San Diego.

Eddie Price is a California native who has been at the forefront of economic equity for more than 25 years. Mr. Price spent his early years in Oakland, CA, and eventually moved to San Diego. In order to address the lack of economic activity involving African Americans, he started the San Diego Urban Economic Corporation. He currently serves as the Community Development Officer for GRID Alternatives, an international non-profit Solar installation company and perfect fit for Mr. Price with their triple bottom line of "People, Planet, Employment."

Cody Hooven is the Chief Operating Officer for San Diego Community Power, the second largest community choice agency in California. She was a driving force in seeing San Diego Community Power come to fruition and launch. The push towards 100% renewable energy for families and businesses while responding to community demands for equity and innovation is her daily goal.
Bernadette Butkiewicz is a native San Diegan and proud resident of City Heights. Bernadette is passionate about making her community better by volunteering on the boards of local organizations and advocating for working families and climate equity. She has overseen $4.9 billion worth of projects in her role on the San Diego Unified Bond Oversight Committee, advocating for equitable and just development throughout the City of San Diego.

Andrew Meyer is the Director of Conservation for San Diego Audubon and the ReWild Mission Bay program manager. He has worked for the Hudson River Estuary Program for several years on scenery preservation and reconnecting aquatic habitat through culvert mitigation and dam removal projects. He holds a Master’s Degree in Geography from the University of Colorado, Boulder.

Dr. Cindy Lin is the CEO & co-founder of Hey Social Good, a social impact tech company working to revolutionize social good data for people, planet, and profit. She is an environmental and data scientist, ecologist, and national expert on pollution’s negative impacts on water, habitat and human health. She previously worked at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency where she designed national standards, conducted cutting edge research, and implemented protection and sustainability policies to meet global and national environmental standards. She received her Doctorate in Environmental Science & Engineering, MS in Environmental Chemistry, and BS in Biology, all from UCLA.

I want to thank each of the aforementioned individuals for their willingness to serve in this capacity.

MTG:mg

cc: Honorable Mara Elliott, City Attorney
    Elizabeth Maland, City Clerk
    Charles Modica, Office of the Interim Independent Budget Analyst