

**From:** [Carol Kiparsky](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Subject:** Vote YES on S/CAP  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 27, 2022 2:07:42 PM  
**Attachments:** [Vote for scap.pdf](#)

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Good Evening Mayor and Council Members:

First, on Sept 27 I hope to see ALL of you voting to implement the S/CAP. We have waited far too long. We are supposed to be implementing 2030 goals and it is already 2022!!

It appears that the S/CAP implementation will focus for the first year on the heat pump hot water heater project. Why? It's the low hanging fruit I am told.

Very good. Electrification is a crucial step in reducing GHG emissions. But not good enough!

Climate change is an emergency! We cannot wait another year, or even a few months, to get started on at least some of the higher hanging fruit. For example, transportation accounts for a huge percentage of GHG emissions. So why are we encouraging single occupancy vehicle trips by building parking lots near Cal Ave? Instead we need to be building a genuine, effective public transit system. Free to riders. (And let driving cost what it costs.)

Yes, electric cars are far and away better for the climate than gas ones. But they are still single occupancy for the most part, and they carry serious environmental costs, many in places far from our fair city; for example, lithium mines destroying mountains in Bolivia, and cadmium mines in Congo where children labor underground. Instead of individual E-cars, let's focus on E-buses or better yet E-shuttles.

May I point out that both the heat pump project and many of the EV items emphasized in the S/CAP Key Actions place the burden of climate change on individual citizens, rather than the fossil fuel industry and other **actual** climate change perpetrators! However, many of the Key Actions actually do address this problem. Let's start moving on these before it is too late, alongside the home electrification project.

Thank you,

Carol Kiparsky  
800 Cowper St 94301

**From:** [David Coale](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Cc:** [Abendschein, Jonathan](#); [Hoyt, George](#); [UAC](#); [Shikada, Ed](#)  
**Subject:** SCAP and reach code  
**Date:** Friday, September 30, 2022 4:03:39 PM

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Dear Mayor and City Council,

I would like to thank Staff and the Ad Hoc committee for all their great work on the SCAP update and reach codes.

I fully support the Staff's recommendations for the SCAP and Advanced heat pump water heater proposal. We will need a lot of out-reach to make this happen as it is almost 3 replacement HPWH per day for a year, but this is what we need to do.

I also support the reach code for replacement of water heaters with heat pump water heaters as stated for substantial remodels. This should be expanded to home space heating as originally proposed in the reach code. Since this will only affect about 100 homes as stated in the staff report, this will not be a big impact on the grid as staff has stated. We should not wait until the next code cycle to implement this. Also, replacement of Gas-pack HVAC units with heat-pump based HVAC units should also be in the current reach code for commercial buildings.

The updating of the bike and pedestrian plan is also a must. This has been put off for too long now and is critical to improving our GHG emissions and quality of life in Palo Alto. Currently, alternate transportation makes up about 60% of the mode share in our schools. Most of this is through biking. This needs to be expanded to all Palo Altens and this requires an updated and robust bike/ped plan.

I was glad to see funding for our development center in the SCAP. While there have been many improvements in this area, a lot more needs to be done. The Peninsula Conservation Center has run into a lot of problems while trying to upgrade to heat-pump HVAC units in their building. Even with Phil Bobel's help, this was difficult to navigate. Doing the right thing should not be so hard to do. This needs to change if we are to really move forward with

electrification programs.

Thank you again for all your good work on the SCAP and reach codes.

Sincerely,

David Coale

**From:** [Mark Grossman](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Subject:** SUPPORT Advanced Heat Pump Water Heater (HPWH) Pilot  
**Date:** Friday, September 30, 2022 1:24:18 PM

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Hi, Council -  
I am very much in support of the HPWH pilot. Just a couple years ago I needed a new water heater and looked for someone to install a heat pump type, but it was impossible to find a contractor capable of doing so. Palo Alto needs to show that this is now easy to do, and residents would really benefit from the support for doing so! Most residents are concerned about climate change and getting rid of gas-fired appliances is a great, concrete measure they can take.

Sincerely,  
Mark Grossman  
2063 Byron St.

**From:** [Lawrence Garwin](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Please Support S/CAP & Electric Water Heaters Proposals.  
**Date:** Thursday, September 29, 2022 6:26:34 PM

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Esteemed Mayor and Council Members,

I have some specific suggestions I'd like to have included in the implementation of the two projects referenced:

Concerning S/CAP:

As we electrify our buildings, let's implement ubiquitous daytime electric vehicle charging (preferably under/near solar panels) and bidirectional evening charging at home as a way to shed methane peaker plants from our grid and avoid most utility upgrades otherwise required to support building electrification and EV charging. Please have the utility factor this technological approach into electric infrastructure planning that may occur even before bidirectional chargers and compatible EVs are widely available, which is expected starting next year.

As well, have the city install, incentivize, and perhaps mandate daytime EV charging stations to make use of the existing solar and wind energy on our grid that otherwise would be curtailed and wasted. And immediately incentivize home EV chargers to be bidirectional, and mandate it once the technology is mature.

Note: Smart Meters are not necessary for any of the above, so please start on these projects right away.

Concerning electric heat pump water heaters:

Please add 120 Volt HPWHs that don't require a dedicated outlet to the approved-for-rebates list as soon as they are available, as they don't require the additional expense of running a new electrical circuit.

Thank you for your kind consideration of my requests.

Lawrence Garwin  
Community Center  
Palo Alto

On Sep 29, 2022, at 4:17 PM, Lawrence Garwin <lawrencegarwin@yahoo.com> wrote:

Esteemed Mayor and Council Members,

I understand that Monday's meeting will include the review and potential approval of the very important S/CAP and Electric Water Heaters project proposals:  
Updated goals and key actions for the Palo Alto Sustainability and Climate Action Plan.  
A turnkey program to replace gas water heaters with cleaner, smarter, electric heat pump water heaters. City-selected contractors will install a heat pump water heater for a single flat price, sparing residents from contractor selection and permitting hassles. Residents can choose to pay half the cost of the installed water heater on their monthly utility bill over five years — or pay for it in full when it's installed.

To that end:

I urge you to approve the Sustainability and Climate Action Plan now so we can begin implementing the key actions outlined in the plan as soon as possible..

For cleaner air and a better future for the globe, please approve the contract for the heat pump water heater turnkey installation program. Electrifying water heaters has a high climate impact and is a great place to start.

New electric heat pump water heaters are smarter, safer, and typically have lower operating costs than the gas water heaters they replace.

The new turnkey water heater replacement program will jumpstart contractor engagement in climate-friendly home appliances, which will help accelerate the switch away from fossil fuels during the next decade.

Beginning in 2030, homeowners in California will only be able to purchase zero emission home appliances, so educating people and contractors on the switch to electric needs to start now.

Most electric heat pump water heaters are low to moderately low wattage -- they do not cause high enough load demands to trigger grid upgrades. They do, however, help get residents more comfortable with non-gas appliances while also giving the state time to continue grid modernization efforts.

Using lower wattage appliances and avoiding oversized EV chargers (40-80 amps) will enable Palo Alto residents to electrify their homes without expensive electric service upgrades or unnecessary upgrades to the electric grid.

Residents who have switched out all their gas appliances describe their homes as more comfortable, safer, cleaner and convenient than they were before. Recent studies show that children in homes with gas stoves have a 42% increased risk of asthma symptoms within the past year than children in homes without gas stoves.

Thank you very much for your support of and attention to these projects, as they will help us Palo Altans to do our part in reducing the worst effects of climate change and model a path for others to follow.

Lawrence Garwin  
Community Center

Palo Alto

**From:** [Lawrence Garwin](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Subject:** Please Support S/CAP & Electric Water Heaters Proposals.  
**Date:** Thursday, September 29, 2022 5:49:54 PM

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Esteemed Mayor and Council Members,

I understand that Monday's meeting will include the review and potential approval of the very important S/CAP and Electric Water Heaters project proposals:

1. Updated goals and key actions for the Palo Alto Sustainability and Climate Action Plan.
2. A turnkey program to replace gas water heaters with cleaner, smarter, electric heat pump water heaters. City-selected contractors will install a heat pump water heater for a single flat price, sparing residents from contractor selection and permitting hassles. Residents can choose to pay half the cost of the installed water heater on their monthly utility bill over five years — or pay for it in full when it's installed.

To that end:

- I urge you to approve the Sustainability and Climate Action Plan now so we can begin implementing the key actions outlined in the plan as soon as possible..
- For cleaner air and a better future for the globe, please approve the contract for the heat pump water heater turnkey installation program. Electrifying water heaters has a high climate impact and is a great place to start.
- New electric heat pump water heaters are smarter, safer, and typically have lower operating costs than the gas water heaters they replace.
- The new turnkey water heater replacement program will jumpstart contractor engagement in climate-friendly home appliances, which will help accelerate the switch away from fossil fuels during the next decade.
- Beginning in 2030, homeowners in California will only be able to purchase zero emission home appliances, so educating people and contractors on the switch to electric needs to start now.
- Most electric heat pump water heaters are low to moderately low wattage -- they do not cause high enough load demands to trigger grid upgrades. They do, however, help get residents more comfortable with non-gas appliances while also giving the state time to continue grid modernization efforts.
- Using lower wattage appliances and avoiding oversized EV chargers (40-80 amps) will enable Palo Alto residents to electrify their homes without expensive electric service upgrades or unnecessary upgrades to the electric grid.

Residents who have switched out all their gas appliances describe their homes as more comfortable, safer, cleaner and convenient than they were before. Recent studies show that children in homes with gas stoves have a 42% increased risk of asthma symptoms within the past year than children in homes without gas stoves.

Thank you very much for your support of and attention to these projects, as they will help us Palo Altans to do our part in reducing the worst effects of climate change and model a path for others to follow.

Lawrence Garwin  
Community Center  
Palo Alto

**From:** [Jeralyn Moran](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Subject:** Please support the S/CAP's goals & key actions  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 28, 2022 8:05:09 AM

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Dear Council,

As a Palo Alto resident, I greatly appreciate your ongoing openness when hearing from your constituents.

Regrettably, I was not able to attend the public meeting last evening, but want to convey my enthusiasm for the S/CAP, it's necessity (now more than ever), and my hope that you will carry this effort forward. As a retired Wildlife Biologist and life-long Environmental advocate, I promise to continue fighting beside you.

Sincerely,

Jeralyn Moran

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*Jeralyn Moran*  
[jerilyn.moran@gmail.com](mailto:jerilyn.moran@gmail.com)

..... the Time for Climate Action Is **Now**.

**From:** [Kim Harvey](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Subject:** S/CAP  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 27, 2022 6:46:36 PM

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Dear Council Members,

I have been a resident of Palo Alto for over 60 years. In the past I have been very proud of how our city took the lead in many things related to the environment. Now I would love to see our city moving FAST on climate change. Our goals set for 2030 are great but time is going by and it doesn't seem that we are making enough progress so that we will be able to meet those goals. And as you know, there is a point of no return (2°C temperature rise) so time is of the essence. Please support the S/CAP goals and their recommended actions. Palo Alto can again be an example for other cities.

Thank you,  
Kim Harvey

**From:** [Virginia VanKuran](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Subject:** In Support of S/CAP Ad Hoc Committees Recommendations  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 27, 2022 4:37:01 PM

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Dear City Council Members,

My name is Virginia Van Kuran. I grew up in Los Altos and Palo Alto and raised my children here in Palo Alto. Actively pursuing solutions to climate change impacts is my top priority as a retired resident.

I appreciate the work of the S/CAP Ad Hoc Committee, City Staff, S/CAP Ad Hoc Committee Working Group and the S/CAP Ad Hoc Committee working group teams. Thanks to the City Council members for their support of all this work.

I am in strong support of all of the recommendations the S/CAP Ad Hoc Committee and urge the council to accept them and proceed to implement them.

Regards,

Virginia Tincher Van Kuran  
879 Garland Drive

**From:** [Jeffrey Hook](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Subject:** S/CAP opinion: Eliminate SORES in addition to converting water heaters to heat pump  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 27, 2022 12:34:55 PM

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Dear Palo Alto Councilmembers,

I applaud the City's commitment to reduce GHG emissions to 80% of 1990 levels by 2030. I understand the reasons for prioritizing heat pumps and support your focus on this program.

Simultaneously, I strongly urge the council to consider the sustainability benefit of **eliminating Small Off-Road Engines (SORES)** from landscape maintenance in Palo Alto. While not a major contributor to CO2 emissions, they are a major source of air pollution and stress-producing noise; and they are used to maintain landscapes and hardscapes in ways that are increasingly incompatible with our mandate for climate change mitigation.

SORES collectively pollute California more than all passenger cars, according to a study by Assemblymember Mark Berman. (<https://a24.asmdc.org/press-releases/20210909-bill-phase-out-gas-powered-landscaping-equipment-passes-legislature>)

- Enforce the gas blower ban. Publicize the 311 reporting app, and followup on all complaints
- Reduce lawn. Subsidize replacement with drought tolerant native plants. This will eliminate the need for gas powered mowers.
- Extend the gas blower ban to ALL city property, not just residential areas
- Embrace leaves. Advocate for leaves left under shrubs, and for only partial removal from hardscapes, the kind that can be done easily with a rake and/or broom. We pay too high a cost in terms of noise and pollution when we require every last leaf to be removed, weekly.
- Prohibit blowing onto streets and sidewalks, and prohibit blowing on streets. We have street sweepers for that task.
- Empower citizen volunteers to issue citations. Give them a few hours of training, a vest and a badge. I will happily participate. Every week I stop on my bike to talk to gardeners who are operating in violation of the law. There is too long a delay, even with 311 reporting, to provide fast enough feedback. An immediate citation, issued to both gardener and sent to homeowner, will be an effective means to change the culture.

Quiet streets and sustainable landscapes will add significant symbolic and real momentum to the City's sustainability goals.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Hook  
381 Oxford Ave.  
Palo Alto

**From:** [julianneasla@sonic.net](mailto:julianneasla@sonic.net)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Subject:** S/CAP agenda item 10 09-27-2022  
**Date:** Monday, September 26, 2022 3:33:51 PM

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*To the City of Palo Alto City Council*

*I have read the outline of the S/CAP proposals and I am in support of the actions required and goals. It is important that the CPA reach it's sustainability goals, including its goal of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 (the "80 x 30" goal).*

*I therefore urge the council to support the following key actions as noted in the agenda:*

- Accept Council S/CAP Goals and Key Actions which will initiate CEQA review
- Review Energy Reach Code and Green Building Ordinance proposed changes in preparation for the October 17 City Council consideration and action
- Support the recommendation to launch an Advanced Heat Pump Water Heater Pilot Program and related necessary budget actions.

*Thank you for your consideration  
Julianne Frizzell*

Julianne Adams Frizzell / ASLA  
650-325-0905  
[julianneasla@sonic.net](mailto:julianneasla@sonic.net)  
1175 Channing Ave.



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