
From: Jordan Moldow [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, April 7, 2024 11:23 PM
To: TEPublicComment; Benabente, Julie; Romanow, Kerrie; Balis, Anne; Ziemba, Kate
Cc: District4; District 6; District5; District9; District8; District3; Smith, Ryan; BPAC
Subject: Public Comment - T&E 4/8 - Item (d)1. "Climate Smart San José Plan Semi-Annual Report"

[External Email]

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Public Comments from Jordan Moldow (speaking on behalf of himself):

The city needs to be stricter about not increasing road capacity and not increasing VMT (via stronger policies that are written into law, and actually followed), and then needs to be more aggressive at decreasing VMT. Part (but not all) of doing that is to prioritize building out the bicycle network, and doing it quicker.

These are the past two semi-annual presentations for Climate Smart San José: [\[April 2023\]](#) [\[October 2023\]](#). And this is the presentation for today: [\[April 2024\]](#). There is very little emphasis on VMT reduction, no reported progress, and no reported present-day VMT level. The only update last April was the passage of the elimination of parking minimums. The only updates in October were about grants. Most of the updates this April are about grants, with one update about kicking off the planning process for Santa Clara St.

Most of the emphasis for Climate Smart has been on electrification. An important topic, but it cannot be the main/only focus of the Climate Smart implementation.

[This \[table of initiatives\]](#) was attached to the April 2023 meeting. There was only one listed initiative for VMT reduction, and it was the removal of parking minimums and the update of the TDM plans. Meanwhile there are pages of initiatives on EV cars and other electrification initiatives. The city needs to be doing more on VMT reduction.

Meanwhile, there are projects like [101/Zanker](#) that the city is actively working on. San José, VTA, and Caltrans believe that this project will somehow decrease VMT, but that is almost certainly false. That project is going to widen multiple local roads, create new local roads, create a new 6-9-lane overcrossing, and create a new interchange that has more car capacity than the old interchange it is replacing.

Projects like that create a VMT deficit that will be difficult to offset, much less actually make a net positive progress on VMT reduction. These car projects will, without a doubt, induce much more VMT, making it even harder for our public/active transit projects to make a positive dent in emissions. See, for example, [this recent article from The Guardian: "US spends billions on roads rather than public transport in 'climate time bomb'" \[1\]](#). Some similar reporting: [\[2\]](#) [\[3\]](#). These articles are about the 2021 bipartisan infrastructure law, but I would not be surprised if the same is true for how 2016 Measure B funds have been allocated, and other local funds in San José and Santa Clara County.

It's not good enough for San José to *say* it is committed to reducing VMT, and that it has a preference for not increasing car capacity. It needs to actually cement the latter as binding policy, and hold itself accountable to following it, and to

providing realistic VMT projections for projects. And the Climate Smart program needs to start prioritizing more VMT reduction projects.

And to that end, the All Ages and Abilities bicycle network needs to be implemented faster. And Vision Zero needs to be achieved ASAP. These are not the only things that need to be done to decrease VMT, but they are important and necessary steps.

[1] ["US spends billions on roads rather than public transport in 'climate time bomb'"](https://www.theguardian.com/business/2024/feb/29/biden-spending-highways-public-transport-climate-crisis)
["New analysis finds money from Biden's \\$1.2tn infrastructure bill has overwhelmingly been spent on widening highways for cars"](https://www.theguardian.com/business/2024/feb/29/biden-spending-highways-public-transport-climate-crisis)
<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2024/feb/29/biden-spending-highways-public-transport-climate-crisis>

[2] ["How Biden's Infrastructure Plan Created a 'Climate Time Bomb' in Black Neighborhoods" - Capital B News](https://capitalbnews.org/biden-infrastructure-plan-highway-expansion/)
["Half of the projects funded through the law have been allocated to expanding highways."](https://capitalbnews.org/biden-infrastructure-plan-highway-expansion/)
<https://capitalbnews.org/biden-infrastructure-plan-highway-expansion/>

[3] ["The IJJA is a climate time bomb. Will states defuse it?" - Transportation For America](https://t4america.org/2024/02/28/the-iija-is-a-climate-time-bomb-will-states-defuse-it/)
["Despite the transportation sector being the biggest emitter of U.S. greenhouse gasses, our AI-powered analysis of over 57,000 infrastructure law-funded state projects shows that over a quarter of the law's formula dollars are funding highway expansion projects that will drastically increase emissions. Will states reverse course with the last two fiscal years of funding?"](https://t4america.org/2024/02/28/the-iija-is-a-climate-time-bomb-will-states-defuse-it/)
<https://t4america.org/2024/02/28/the-iija-is-a-climate-time-bomb-will-states-defuse-it/>

[April 2023] <https://sanjose.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=11807824&GUID=98D68F85-3F8E-4FD7-A917-12B533CB8F7C>

[October 2023] <https://sanjose.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=12327245&GUID=71EC736F-902F-4648-956F-B7FCF3731847>

[April 2024] <https://sanjose.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=12828164&GUID=11729F52-FCB2-4FCB-8A99-D93DED599352>

[table of initiatives] <https://sanjose.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=11788391&GUID=A17708AB-DAAE-45C2-AF3C-AB0938BD149E>

[101/Zanker] <https://www.vta.org/projects/us-101zanker-roadskyport-drivefourth-street-improvement-project>

Jordan Moldow (speaking on behalf of himself)
District 3
San José, CA 95112

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FW: Item 6.1: Request a more in-depth study and recommendations of strategies for EV charging equity

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 4/30/2024 8:21 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Hoai-An Truong [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2024 8:00 AM

To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; momsoutfrontsv [REDACTED]

Subject: Item 6.1: Request a more in-depth study and recommendations of strategies for EV charging equity

[External Email]

Dear Mayor Mahan, Vicemayor Kamei, and City Councilmembers:

As a San José resident and Mothers Out Front Silicon Valley member, I urge you to do all that you can to ensure affordable EV charging for residents of multi-family housing (MFH). This is important not only as a **climate action** (supporting more people to transition to cleaner forms of transportation) but also as a matter of **racial and economic equity**, since apartment residents are more likely to be people of color and often lower income than single-family home owners.

Without direct wiring from a charger to their electricity meter, multi-family residents cannot access regulated rates for charging (including CARE and FARA rates) and instead must pay third-party fees. As a result, it can cost between **two to five times as much** to charge at a multi-family complex than at a single family home, as shown in this eye-opening two-minute video: <https://bit.ly/EVvideoSJ>.

This is highly inequitable. Apartment and condo residents deserve access to the same least-expensive, regulated rates for charging that single-family residents enjoy. San José can and must do more to support multi-family residents to have EV charging equity. Staff's report "Summary of Multifamily Electric Vehicle Rate Management Options" describes on a very high level three strategies for providing the lowest electricity rates for EV charging in multifamily complexes, but does not provide details nor contain recommended actions.

At your April 30th meeting, I urge you to direct staff to do an in-depth study of these and other strategies and return no later than the next Semi-Annual Climate Smart Update with recommended policy options to ensure EV charging equity for multi-family residents. Since staff indicated that such a study depends on "available staff capacity and funding" **please ensure that the budget you approve in June earmarks funding for this study.**

We are counting on you to support equity for San Jose's apartment and condo residents and continued progress towards San Jose's commitment to carbon neutrality by 2030.

Hoai-An Truong



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Sent by carrier pigeon

*** 350ppm *** 350ppm *** 350ppm *** 350ppm *** 350ppm ***

ALL HANDS ON DECK!
Climate Action: Do it for everyone you LOVE!

Food as Climate Action: Changing how we eat, how we farm, and reducing food waste are some of the FASTEST and easiest ways to REVERSE climate change.

#WeCanSolveThis (playlist - fun & interesting videos!):
[The diet that helps fight climate change](#)
and more

Now on Netflix! [KISS THE GROUND](#) - movie based on the bestseller.
A climate solution full of hope!

Support [statewide and local/regional public banks](#) that reinvest profits in the public interest. This can include pandemic relief & recovery, AND climate solutions. And it's a way to divest our public institutions!

*** 350ppm *** 350ppm *** 350ppm *** 350ppm *** 350ppm ***

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Re: Item 6.1: Direct & fund a more in-depth study of strategies for EV charging equity

MOFSV <[REDACTED]>

Tue 4/30/2024 10:06 AM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachments (129 KB)

Letter to SJ Council re. Equitable EV Charging 2024.04.30.pdf;

[External Email]

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Please consider this comment and request on behalf of Mothers Out Front Silicon Valley and Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action.

Thank you,
Linda Hutchins-Knowles, Co-Founder & Team Coordinator
Mothers Out Front Silicon Valley

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SILICON VALLEY
YOUTH CLIMATE ACTION

January 30, 2024

Re: Request and fund in-depth study of strategies to ensure equitable EV charging rates (6.1)

Dear Mayor Mahan, Vice Mayor Kamei, and San José City Councilmembers:

On behalf of our thousands of local supporters, and the 150 people who signed our petition for EV charging equity, we urge you to do all that you can to ensure affordable EV charging for residents of multi-family housing (MFH). This is important not only as a climate action (supporting more people to transition to cleaner forms of transportation) but also as a matter of racial and economic equity, since apartment residents are more likely to be people of color and often lower income than single-family home owners.

After hearing the Climate Smart update today, we urge you to **direct Staff to conduct an in-depth study of strategies to ensure equitable and affording EV charging rates for multi-family residents, and to return no later than the next Semi-Annual Climate Smart Update with recommended policy options.** Since Staff indicated in their report that such a study depends on “available staff capacity and funding” **please ensure that the budget you approve in June earmarks funding for this study.**

Background: By approving last January a new reach code for EV charging in new multifamily housing, you took a giant step toward providing **access** to EV charging for residents of new apartments and condos. The next step is to ensure **equitable and affordable charging rates** for these and other multifamily housing residents. Without direct wiring from a charger to their electricity meter, multi-family residents cannot access regulated rates for charging (including CARE and FARA rates) and instead must pay third-party fees. As a result, it can cost between **two to five times as much** to charge at a multi-family complex than at a single family home, as shown in this eye-opening two-minute video: <https://bit.ly/EVvideoSJ>.

It's time to end this inequity. Apartment and condo residents deserve access to the same least-expensive, regulated rates for charging that single-family residents enjoy. As the Capital of Silicon Valley and the epicenter of innovation, San José can and must do more to support multi-family residents to achieve EV charging equity.

Today, the final day of Earth Month, we mothers, youth, and allies ask you to **demonstrate your commitment to equity and climate stability** by directing and funding a through study of strategies to ensure EV charging equity. We are counting on you to support equity for San

Jose's apartment and condo residents and continued progress towards San Jose's commitment to carbon neutrality by 2030.

Sincerely,
Linda Hutchins-Knowles, Co-Founder & Team Leader
Mothers Out Front Silicon Valley

Rohan Pandit, Executive Director
Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action

A similar letter urging you to "**prioritize charging equity for apartment and condo residents**" was signed by the following 150 people and submitted to you on January 30, 2024.

1. Luz Ma Abonc 95131
2. Alisha Ahuja 95120
3. Florence Anderson 95119
4. Roberto Arriaga 95128
5. Najma Bachelani 95125
6. Diane Bailey 94002
7. Barbara Ballenger 91361
8. Amanda Bancroft 95118
9. Laurie-Ann Barbour 94931
10. Berenice Barragan 95116
11. Kathy Battat 94010
12. Claudia Beavo 95127
13. Mani Bekele 95112
14. Mila Bekele 95112
15. Stacy Braslau-Schneck 95125
16. Janet Burchinal 95125
17. Susan Butler-Graham 95125
18. Sophia Cabrales 95116
19. Casey Cameron 95125
20. Shannon Campano 95111
21. Allan Campbell 95132
22. Peg Carlson-Bowe 95124
23. Mayra Catalán-Orozco 90713 (formerly 95128)
24. Isabelle Chappuis 95131
25. Lisa Charpontier 95112
26. Patty Chau 95136
27. Karina Cheav 95135
28. Wendy Chou 94403
29. Donna Davies 94040
30. Bill DeVincenzi 95135
31. Ann Dorsey 91325

32. Craig Drizin	95060
33. Rebecca Eliscu	94025
34. Jeannie Entin	95136
35. Maple Fan	95014
36. Lisa Feldberg	95112
37. Rita Foster	95125
38. Kathryn Funk	95112
39. Glen Garfunkel	95125
40. Lawrence Garwin	94301
41. Carole Gonsalves	95120
42. Haley Govorko	95136
43. Kelly Graham	95125
44. Jenny Green	95124
45. Heather Guillen	95112
46. Brian Haberly	95112
47. Abigail Hindson	95116
48. Sarah Hubbard	94403
49. Tiffany Hudson	95126
50. Michelle Hudson	94402
51. Linda Hutchins-Knowles	95118
52. Shannon Jibaja	95128
53. Martina Keim	95120
54. Anna Koster	95112
55. Shreya Krishnan	95111
56. Michael Kutilek	95112
57. Timothy Lee	94014
58. Anna Lee	95129
59. Dash Leeds	95128
60. Axel Lehtinen	95125
61. Steve Lemke	94087
62. Carrie Levin	94087
63. Stacy Levy	95117
64. Mary Lindemuth	95118
65. Chris Loo	95037
66. Eliza Low	94028
67. Ken MacKay	95116
68. Gerard Manning	94010
69. Lily Martinez	95135
70. Olivia Mathai	95014
71. Felix Mbuga	95035
72. ashley mejia	95116
73. Jesus Melchor	95227
74. Sean Mendelson	95008
75. Sandra Mendoza	95134

76. Ruth Merino	95128
77. Moria Merriweather	95111
78. Evan Merz	95125
79. Taylor Mogavero	94066
80. Dolores Montano	95128
81. Stephanie Morris	95008
82. Diana Moss	95125
83. Briana Moss	95125
84. Anette Munoz	95116
85. Bruce Naegel	04040
86. Mina Nakamura	95030
87. Karen Nelson	95125
88. Susan Nelson	95124
89. Bryce Nesbitt	94702
90. alice nguyen	95136
91. Ashley Nguyen	95135
92. alice nguyen	95136
93. Kathy Nguyen	95121
94. Dylan Nguyen	95035
95. Kathleen Nunes	95112
96. Peadar O'Railly	95113
97. Emily Pachoud	95131
98. Diana Parham	95125
99. Janet Parks	94707
100. Ada Penaloza	95116
101. Mary Perry	95125
102. David Poeschel	95120
103. Jerry Pohorsky	95050
104. Farah Raja	95127
105. Vaishali Ravikumar	95129
106. Kanika Rawat	95131
107. Hannah Razban	95008
108. Rachel Regan	94703
109. christian riblet	94061
110. Emily Rinn	94133
111. Irvin Rivero	95123
112. Laura Robichek	94089
113. Paula Rochelle	95070
114. Liz Romero	95124
115. Audrey Rust	95112
116. Leila Salam	94087
117. Jeanmarie Sandborn	95128
118. Erhard Schreck	95136
119. Marilyn Smith	95127

120.	Deborah St Julien	95136
121.	Jeff Sutton	95117
122.	Adam Sweeney	95129
123.	Mike Swire	94010
124.	singgih tan	95123
125.	Joanna Tang	94306
126.	fran taro	95135
127.	sven thesen	94306
128.	Gary Trott	94402
129.	Hoai-An Truong	95126
130.	Jennifer Valentine	11762
131.	Meghna Varma	95008
132.	Sujatha Venkataraman	95124
133.	Jacquelyne Vera	94801
134.	Clarabelle Wang	95014
135.	Vanessa Warheit	94530
136.	Todd Weber	95125
137.	Luna Wei	94087
138.	Cheryl Weiden	94022
139.	Benjamin White	95128
140.	Kristel Wickham	94086
141.	Mike Wittig	95124
142.	Jeff Wolfeld	94306
143.	Frances Wren	94305
144.	Jinyong Xie	95050
145.	Chelsea Xie	95032
146.	Grace Xu	94306
147.	Marian Yin	95050
148.	Jimmie Yonemoto	95126
149.	Eric Zhang	95014
150.	Daphne Zhu	95129