

Public Comments

Study Session – Climate Action Plan

Written Comments Received By 12pm on 04/24/2023



April 24, 2023
City Council Meeting

From: Paul Totah [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, April 23, 2023 3:08 PM
To: Public Comment; Boles, Christine; Bigstycz, Tygarjas; Beckmeyer, Sue; Bier, Mary; Vaterlaus, Sue
Subject: Comment for 4/24/2023 study session City of Pacifica Climate Action Plan update

[CAUTION: External Email]

Why should a tree canopy goal be part of Pacifica's climate action plan?

In July 2014, the Pacifica City Council adopted a Climate Action Plan to help the city face challenges posed by climate change. Back then, the city committed to reducing total community-wide emissions by 35 percent below 2005 levels by 2020, and 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

Tree City Pacifica applauds this effort and these goals. In addition, we are requesting that going forward, the Climate Action Plan includes a tree canopy goal of 30 percent — an international standard — up from our current 20 percent canopy cover.

Here's why: While most of our focus centers on ways to reduce emissions, we believe it is also essential to include nature-based solutions, including growing our urban forest. Trees, as we well know, not only release carbon to the atmosphere when cleared but also remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere as they grow. They also help cities adapt to changing climates by absorbing water from increased rainfall and preserving topsoil, thus preventing mudslides. Trees can also save energy costs by keeping cities cool as temperatures rise.

That is why many cities have incorporated tree canopy goals into their climate action plans.

- San Diego, for example, wants to have a tree canopy of 35 percent by 2035, up from 15 percent in 2020.
- Cleveland, Ohio, is aiming for a 30 percent canopy by 2040.
- Bowie, Maryland, has a target of 45 percent.
- Milwaukie, Oregon, wants to reach 40 percent by 2040, up from 26 percent in 2014.
- Portland, Oregon, wants 33.3 percent of the city covered by trees.
- Tacoma, Washington, is shooting for 30 percent by 2030.
- South San Francisco, which has only an 8.7 percent canopy cover, has set a goal of 22.6 percent. As their Urban Forest Master Plan states, "climate equity can be achieved by prioritizing tree planting in disadvantaged communities with low access to open space, such as Downtown. New trees will capture carbon, help to reduce the urban heat island effect, make walking and biking more pleasant on hot days, and improve local air quality; all of which improve public health and wellbeing."

Barcelona, Bristol, Canberra, and Vancouver are also adopting a 30 percent tree canopy goal, which was recommended by the [International Union for Conservation of Nature](#). That organization also cites the benefits of tree canopies, including “cooling, better microclimates, mental and physical health, and possibly also reducing air pollution and noise. By creating more leafy neighborhoods, we also encourage people to spend more time outdoors and to interact with their neighborhoods (which in turn promotes social health).”

In short, the focus on transportation (vehicle miles traveled, electrification and transportation, VMT reduction and Building electrification are essential in the Climate Action Plan. Adding a canopy goal can only help as we incorporate all solutions in our efforts.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Pacifica. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

From: Frank Vella [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2023 10:11 AM
To: Public Comment
Subject: Pacifica's Climate Action Plan Update - Special Study Session Climate Action Plan

[CAUTION: External Email]

Hello,

I want to state that I would like to see a strong plan to set up a 100 year seawall to protect Pacifica's financial state by protecting the West Sharp Park neighborhood, the infrastructure, the pier and the golf course. This is critical to our entire city's survival. Please work with the Coastal Commission and the other government agencies that deal with this issue and obtain financing for our city's protection. We cannot move forward with developing the Beach Blvd property/ the old wastewater treatment property, and other areas of Sharp Park.

Frank Vella
[REDACTED]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Pacifica. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Public Comments on Items Not on Posted Agenda

Written Comments Received By 12pm on 04/24/2023



April 24, 2023
City Council Meeting

From: Victor Carmichael [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2023 4:46 PM
To: Public Comment
Cc: mark hubbell
Subject: Negotiations with Coastal Commission re: the LCUP

[CAUTION: External Email]

Having lived in the coastal zone in northern most end of town since 1992 across from the Northern Dunes, my neighbors and I have had to turn to the California Coastal Commission several times to resist unwise development and harm of nearby coastal resources .

Originally Pacifica served as a moderate income coastal community. But as 'coastal living' become fashionable Pacific along with many California beach towns became a magnet for high-end residential development. This has resulted in constant conflict between those who wish to retain our beach town's ambiance and environmental integrity versus those who wanted to capitalize on it. To further complicate matters one of Pacifica's original neighborhoods, Sharp Park, grew in importance due to the popular draw of a pier put in as part of a wastewater treatment plant (since relocated). The treatment plant's location required that a large section of the city's sewerage infrastructure had to be routed westward toward the pier (but now must be pumped back to the newer facility). A seawall was constructed to protect the sewer line under Beach Blvd and it protects the ocean facing structures as well.

Fast forward to the present with coastlines globally facing sea level rise (SLR) and further armoring of coastlines (i.e seawalls) having fallen out of favor due to their deleterious affects on beaches. At the same time coastal homeowners now fear forced relocation due to SLR and you have the present conflict. The California Coastal Commission, charged with coastal protection stands, in the middle.

Add to the mix the fact that Pacifica' Local Coastal Plan (LCUP) circa 1980 is badly outdated. It predates SLR and also does not reflect current thinking on coastal protection. In 2018 the Coastal Commission funded a vulnerability study and a draft updated LCUP by Environmental Science Associates (ESA). However following a series of contentious public meetings in which that draft came under attack, the ESA version was modified substantially to satisfy a minority of irate homeowners (having been subjected to intense indoctrination by real estate interests). Homeowners had been led to believe their home values were would plummet if the term 'managed retreat', even as a long term possibility, was mentioned in the LCUP. Once the dust cleared, the document finally approved by the City Council was altered to the degree that the Coastal Commission found it

unacceptable. In fact it actually increased the leniency of what could be built in the coastal zone.

The above mentioned Sharp Park seawall and the City Council approved ambitious (many say overly so) plan to upgrade it no doubt pays into the City's position on the LCUP.

I fully support the Coastal Commission's recommended revision of the LCUP as presented in Exhibit B of LCP-2-PAC-20-0036-1. I also want to commend the CC staff for the effort that went into this very complete staff report. I also regret that our own (under staffed) Pacifica Planning Department was drawn into this squabble and had devote so much time and attention in reworking the ESA version of the LCUP plan, one that probably would have satisfied the Coastal Commission.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Pacifica. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Public Comments
Agenda Item 5 – Pacifica School District
Workforce Housing Project
Written Comments Received By 12pm on 04/24/2023



April 24, 2023
City Council Meeting

From: Chris Baldwin @ Conveyance Media [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 5:14 PM
To: _City Council; Public Comment
Cc: info@pacificaf4teacherhousing.com; Murdock, Christian
Subject: April 24 City Council Meeting - Please approve housing for Pacifica teachers and District staff

[CAUTION: External Email]

Dear City Council Members,

I support housing for Pacifica teachers and District staff.

I agree with the values and the fiscal logic of this plan to support the quality and consistency of our community's education system.

I also hope that the increase in residents in the Back of Valley could help spur some MUCH needed renovation and revitalization of the dining options and community resources in the Sun Valley shopping square.

Thank you for your work to get this project completed.

Sincerely,

Chris Baldwin

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Pacifica. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

From: David Nebenzahl [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 8:41 PM
To: _City Council; Public Comment
Cc: info@pacificaf4teacherhousing.com; Murdock, Christian
Subject: April 24 City Council Meeting - housing for Pacifica teachers and District staff

[CAUTION: External Email]

Dear City Council Members,

Your current plan to consider utilizing the area around Oceana Highschool is ludicrous and poorly conceived.

- Has a study been done during the time when traffic is at its highest at the beginning of school and end of the school day? As it is, we see spill over traffic from Paloma on Carmel Ave. There are limited ways to access Oceana High School and Paloma.
- Have you examined the issues for parking in the surrounding area? Even with plans to build an above or below ground parking structure, you should realize that most families with at least two adults living under one roof have more than just one vehicle.
- You mention the beautiful ocean views from Oceana High School in your report, yet fail to mention what this type of construction may do to the surrounding areas including wildlife areas such as Milagra Ridge.

I do support housing for Pacifica teachers and District staff. Yet, I strongly oppose any endeavor that will increase the population and traffic density near the Ocean High School. There have been no solutions proposed that could possibly ease the congestion that this would create. It is not only irresponsible but may also become dangerous.

Sincerely,

David Nebenzahl

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Pacifica. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

From: Dan Beatty [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 9:02 PM
To: _City Council; Public Comment
Cc: info@pacificaf4teacherhousing.com; Murdock, Christian
Subject: April 24 City Council Meeting - Please approve housing for Pacifica teachers and District staff

[CAUTION: External Email]

Dear City Council Members,

I whole-heartily support affordable housing for Pacifica teachers and District staff. Collectively these devoted professionals are a huge asset to this community!

Sincerely,
Dan Beatty
[REDACTED]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Pacifica. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

From: crissie mcbride [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 9:14 PM
To: _City Council; Public Comment; info@pacificaf4teacherhousing.com; Murdock, Christian
Subject: April 24 City Council Meeting - Please approve housing for Pacifica teachers and District staff

[CAUTION: External Email]

citycouncil@pacificaf.gov
publiccomment@pacificaf.gov
info@pacificaf4teacherhousing.com
cmurdock@pacificaf.gov

Dear City Council Members,

I fully support housing for Pacifica teachers and District staff.

what a great plan and project to assist such an integral part of our community, our teachers. we moved to pacifica in 2013 when i was still pregnant with our oldest son. we had our daughter in 2017 and now have two elementary students in the pacifica school district.

we love our town, we love our community, we love our school. we hope you'll move forward with the housing plan for our teachers and staff. they are part of why we love where we are.

thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
crissie mcbride
[REDACTED]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Pacifica. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 11:57 PM
To: _City Council; Public Comment
Subject: April 24 City Council Meeting - Please approve housing for Pacifica teachers and District staff

[CAUTION: External Email]

Dear City Council Members,

I support housing for Pacifica teachers and District staff.

Thank you,

Jesse Patterson

Sincerely,

[Name]

Jesse

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Pacifica. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

From: Stephen Jonas [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 10:53 AM
To: _City Council; Public Comment
Cc: info@pacificaf4teacherhousing.com; Murdock, Christian
Subject: April 24 City Council Meeting - Please approve housing for Pacifica teachers and District staff

[CAUTION: External Email]

Dear City Council Members,

I support housing for Pacifica teachers and District staff.

I hope there is enough parking and a plan for charging electric vehicles. We do not have a robust public transit system in Pacifica and those living at this location will want / need to drive.

Sincerely,

Dana Jonas

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Pacifica. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

From: Eriko Morales [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 9:01 PM
To: _City Council; Public Comment
Cc: info@pacificaf4teacherhousing.com; Murdock, Christian
Subject: April 24 City Council Meeting - Please approve housing for Pacifica teachers and District staff

[CAUTION: External Email]

Dear City Council Members,

I support housing for Pacifica teachers and District staff.

I strongly request to add a playground in the plan. Pacifica does not have enough playgrounds. Frontier land park is beautiful but we have to drive up there and it's not easy for small children to get there. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Eriko Morales

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Pacifica. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

From: Christy N [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2023 8:41 AM
To: _City Council; Public Comment
Cc: info@pacificaf4teacherhousing.com; Murdock, Christian
Subject: April 24 City Council Meeting - Please approve housing for Pacifica teachers and District staff

[CAUTION: External Email]

Dear City Council Members,

I support housing for Pacifica teachers and District staff. It is extremely challenging for folks to rent, let alone buy a home, in San Mateo county. If we wish to have sustainable, quality educators and employees, this will be a significant step in doing so. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christy P. Novack
Pacifica School District employee

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Pacifica. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

From: Matthew Levie [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2023 12:58 PM
To: _City Council; Public Comment
Cc: info@pacificaf4teacherhousing.com; Murdock, Christian
Subject: April 24 City Council Meeting - Please approve housing for Pacifica teachers and District staff

[CAUTION: External Email]

Dear City Council Members,

Some of you know personally how hard I have worked for and how enthusiastically I have supported the Pacifica School District's workforce housing plan. For those who do not, the District has created a very solid plan, with deep community input, which will dramatically improve life in our city.

We are in dire need of every kind of affordable housing we can build, and this project meets an urgent need for the District, for its employees, and for our schoolchildren.

The Planning Commission has supported it unanimously, and I hope you will too.

Sincerely,

Matthew Levie
Park Pacifica

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Pacifica. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

From: Andy Lie [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, April 22, 2023 8:23 AM
To: _City Council; Public Comment
Cc: info@pacifica4teacherhousing.com; Murdock, Christian
Subject: April 24 City Council Meeting - Please approve housing for Pacifica teachers and District staff

[CAUTION: External Email]

Dear City Council Members,

As both a resident of Pacifica and as a Board Member of the school board of Jefferson Union High School District, I personally support this project which will house faculty and staff of the Pacifica School District.

I have personally seen the positive impact of educator housing - JUHSD began the 2022-2023 school year with no vacancies, and over 110 of our staff of nearly 500 employees live in 705 Serramonte, where our staff housing is located. Commutes have decreased significantly for many staff as their commutes to school now are 6 to 15 minutes in length depending on the school site - and that has the added benefit of reduced carbon emissions for our community. Our educators now live in a brand new facility, with modern amenities, at significantly reduced rent. Housing has been eliminated as a barrier to employment in our district which is in an expensive community. Recruiting for staff is easier as affordable housing becomes a draw for potential new hires. Most importantly, our educators can be more present for our students, who now will have a greater opportunity to develop relationships with them over the course of a high school career.

I know PSD will have similar success when this Oddstad housing project opens. Please approve this project on April 24. I look forward to celebrating both the groundbreaking and the eventual ribbon cutting with our Pacifica community!

Very Truly Yours,

Andy Lie
Board President, Jefferson Union HSD
(for identification purposes)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Pacifica. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

From: Gail Benton Shoemaker [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, April 23, 2023 5:17 PM
To: Public Comment
Subject: City Council Meeting 4/24/23 Agenda Item #5

[CAUTION: External Email]

Dear City Council,

My name is Gail Benton Shoemaker and I have lived in Pacifica for 34 years. Both my children attended school at the Pacifica School District. I am a strong supporter of the teacher workforce housing on Oddstad Blvd.

In the past I was Executive Director of Pacifica School Volunteers for over a decade. During that time I saw significant turnover of first year teachers. Some of this was due to living expenses, particularly the difficulty of finding affordable housing in Pacifica. This turnover was hard on the schools, the children, and the volunteers. I support affordable teacher housing to keep teachers in Pacifica.

I also support the teacher housing on Oddstad Blvd as a member of Tree City Pacifica. The landscaping plans show an addition of 50 trees to the site. Trees combat climate change and increase property values. The addition of trees will beautify the neighborhood, and add shade to help reduce energy costs.

The School District also commits to tree protection plans for 20 of the existing trees. Although the Arborist report was written in 2020 and does not reflect the Protected Tree Ordinance adopted last year, the School District's plans will effectively comply with the new ordinance and all the current requirements for existing trees including the two-to-one replacement ratio for any trees removed.

Please support this workforce teacher housing on Oddstad Blvd. Thank you.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Pacifica. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

From: Coffey, Sarah
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2023 9:09 AM
To: Public Comment
Cc: Murdock, Christian
Subject: FW: Townhomes at the Oddstad School

From: macparfet@gmail.com [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2023 6:25 AM
To: _City Council <citycouncil@ci.pacifica.ca.us>; Coffey, Sarah <scoffey@pacifica.gov>; Woodhouse, Kevin <kwoodhouse@pacifica.gov>
Subject: Townhomes at the Oddstad School

[CAUTION: External Email]

I wanted to point out several items from the EIR

1. Parking and allotment of parking spaces. It seems that 2 cars are allowed per house. Is this really enough? What about visitors? Young adult children who may have a car.
 - a. Traffic study does not take into account the Terra Nova High School traffic in the morning and afternoon.
 - i. It simply refers to the maximum capacity of the streets.
 - b. The question is are these the right number of units to build??
2. Hazardous materials in the existing facility.
 - a. I am sure that existing facility has asbestos and the precautions to remove without making it air borne for the community.
 - b. This is a huge concern about public safety.

Regards,

Mac

Mac Parfet
[REDACTED]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Pacifica. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

From: Michael [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2023 1:09 PM
To: _City Council; Public Comment
Cc: info@pacifica4teacherhousing.com; Murdock, Christian
Subject: April 24 City Council Meeting - Please approve housing for Pacifica teachers and District staff

[CAUTION: External Email]

Dear City Council Members,

I support housing for Pacifica teachers and District staff.

I live 3 blocks away from the Oddstad parcel & fully support this project. Pacifica must assist teachers & all District staff in order to retain & attract good employees.

Please vote yes on this important measure.

Sincerely,

Michael Haase

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Pacifica. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.