

June 17th, 2019

Dear Mayor and Council,

I'm writing to you today as a resident and university student living in Burnaby to express my concern for the disastrous effects of climate change locally and worldwide, and to encourage the adoption of more ambitious climate targets. In order to mitigate the worst climate impacts, the IPCC has urged policy-makers to take bold action. Therefore, I am asking City Council to pass a formal resolution to adopt the latest IPCC recommended GHG reduction targets: 45% below 2010 levels by 2030, 65% by 2040, and 100% by 2050 for all community-wide emissions. To achieve this, the City must establish interim targets and incorporate these into all future municipal planning documents. In addition, the City of Burnaby must transparently measure and report on its community emissions on an annual basis, starting no later than 2020. City staff must be directed to draft a plan to set this in motion, including a proposal for how these activities will be funded.

As a young person living in the Lower Mainland, I am worried about what the future holds if bold action is not taken immediately, and thus climate impacts we are already seeing are exacerbated. At the same time, I am optimistic when I hear about the actions being taken by municipalities around the world to combat climate change - showing the world that Cities are at the forefront of climate change mitigation and adaptation. I hope that the City of Burnaby will join these climate leaders in the fight for a sustainable future for us all.

Sincerely,

Brennan Strandberg-Salmon

Referred to:
Environment and Social Planning
Committee (2019.09.03)

Copied to:
City Manager
Dir. Corporate Services
Dir. Engineering