

Dear County Board Members:

We are facing a climate crisis and decisive action to quickly reduce carbon emissions is required at all levels of government. With buildings accounting for 58 percent of carbon emissions, all buildings, new and existing, must become highly energy efficient, all electric, and powered by renewable energy to meet the County's goal of carbon neutrality by 2050. The Green Buildings Incentive Policy update offers an excellent opportunity to ensure that large development projects are built to the necessary zero carbon standards. While the draft makes impressive strides in this direction it does not provide a clear pathway to meeting this goal.

I urge the County Board to:

- Make clear that you expect developers to support the County's carbon emission goals. The program currently allows developers to opt out of the program while still seeking zoning changes and desired increases in density. Our climate goals should not have to compete with other important community benefits.
- Require all electric HVAC equipment in the baseline (or no later than July 2023 when automatic updates for energy efficiency go into effect) and hot water systems no later than 2025. In the interim, all buildings should be required to design in the electric infrastructure to meet the increased demand that will result in future transition to electric systems. The recent study done by Steven Winters Associates for the County on building electrification demonstrates that with early design consideration such a shift is feasible for all these systems within the next few years.

The future of our community and our families is at stake, and the County Board should step up and do its part.

Sincerely,

FULL NAME

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