

Mayor Edwin M. Lee  
City and County of San Francisco  
San Francisco City Hall, Room 200  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

May 25, 2011

Dear Mayor Lee:

The City and County of San Francisco recognizes that poorer neighborhoods have been disproportionately burdened by the pollution generated by a fossil-fuel dependent economy and continue to suffer from high unemployment rates. As such, the San Francisco Department of the Environment (SFE) Climate program recently convened two meetings of the Economic Prosperity, Jobs, & Environmental Justice (EJ) Advisory Panel in order to inform the climate action planning process and create policy structures and directives that support the growth of the new, local green economy. Members of this panel represented EJ community activists, non-profit organizations and job training programs dedicated to addressing the economic and environmental concerns of low-income residents from underserved, marginalized communities.

The Economic Prosperity, Jobs & Environmental Justice Advisory Panel supports the City's Climate Action Planning efforts and recommends that the City formally link climate planning to social equity and Green job opportunities in the following ways:

- integrate social equity goals and environmental justice into the City's sustainability and Climate Action planning efforts;
- include a public participation process, aimed to reach the communities most impacted by pollution and climate change, for any planning and decision-making during implementation of the City's Climate Action Strategy
- build partnerships between public and private stakeholders to promote Green Jobs and the Green Economy in San Francisco;
- collect, analyze and disseminate regional and local workforce data, for purposes of identifying current and emerging Green job opportunities and labor market trends in the Green Economy, and help workforce development projects provide relevant skills training for jobs seekers in the Green Economy;
- leverage the City's commitment and public and private funds dedicated for GHGs reduction measures, linking them with workforce development goals and identifying strategies and actions to promote Green job opportunities, prioritizing low-income residents in underserved communities;
- coordinate and link workforce development providers with employers in Clean Tech industries and with Green businesses in San Francisco;
- leverage the City's climate planning actions to achieve health benefits in communities disproportionately impacted by toxic pollution;
- continuing supporting and incentivizing businesses to go green, with a focus on San Francisco's small local businesses, with an eye toward their expansion and the resulting local job creation.

Given the long term and complex nature of climate planning policy and economic and environmental justice issues in the City, we recommend the City create a independent panel to maintain accountability as City departments and other actors put the above principles into practice. This group would meet regularly over a multi-year timescale; their role would be to observe and report back on the City's progress integrating climate planning and environmental justice.

We, the undersigned members of the Advisory Panel, look forward to working with the City and private sector employers in identifying further specific actions and policies to promote Green Jobs in San Francisco.

Sincerely,

The Economic Prosperity, Jobs, & Environmental Justice Advisory Panel to the San Francisco Climate Action Strategy

**Kevin Danaher** - Global Exchange  
**Laurie Bernstein** - Goodwill Industries  
**Ingrid Brostrom** - Center on Race, Poverty, & The Environment

**Rachel Medema** - California Interfaith Power & Light  
**Teresa Almaguer** - PODER  
**Elliot Hoffman** - True Market Solutions, Inc