

From: [Floy Andrews](#)
To: [Comment](#)
Subject: Comments for City Council Agenda Item 12A
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 9:35:29 AM

*** EXTERNAL MESSAGE ***

Good Morning Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers,

As our changing climate continues to wreak greater and greater havoc in our cities, across our state and country, and around the globe, we must all move, as quickly as possible, away from green house gas producing energy structures. In this intergenerational battle for a life-sustaining earth, our local governments can and must play an oversized role in seeding needed change because it seems our national governments are caught in a multinational stalemate.

I congratulate the City of Pinole for considering taking the important step of saying no to new gas stations in Pinole. Clean energy is the future. We are at the tipping point for mass electric vehicle uptake. Now is the time for a just transition! I don't advocate for closing already-existing gas stations. In fact, we must ensure that legacy fossil fuel continues to invest in all necessary maintenance of these facilities. But now, when the great energy transition is palpable, why would we permit outdated dirty energy to expand in our cities and region?

Please vote "yes" to say "no" to fossil fuel energy and new gas stations in Pinole.

Best regards,

Floy Elizabeth Andrews
Controller, Democratic Party of Contra Costa County
floyandrews@gmail.com
District 1 Candidate, Democratic Party of Contra Costa Central Committee

From: [Marti Roach](#)
To: [Comment](#)
Subject: Comment Item 12A
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 2:32:48 PM

***** EXTERNAL MESSAGE *****



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To: Pinole City Council

Re: Agenda item 12A – Receive information regarding options to prohibit the creation of new gas stations and the expansion, reconstruction, and relocation of existing gas station in Pinole

Dear Mayor Toms, Vice Mayor Sasai, and Council Members Murphy, Tave and Martinez-Rubin,

Thank you for placing this item on your agenda. 350 Contra Costa is strongly in favor and enthusiastic about the Pinole City Council's consideration of prohibiting new gas station infrastructure in Pinole.

350 Contra Costa, founded in 2018, is a grassroots non-profit that focuses on education and advocacy for local climate policy solutions that support equity and enable local communities to thrive as we transition to a clean energy economy. We work in alignment with our regional nonprofit, 350 Bay Area and have supported from afar city actions in Sonoma and Napa that have taken the step you are considering. The cities and counties that have adopted these policies since 2021 have reported no unintended consequences. We are hopeful that Pinole will be the first Contra Costa County municipality to prohibit new gas stations and expansion, reconstruction, or relocation of existing gas stations.

In October of 2021, your Pinole Council adopted Resolution 2021-93, declaring a climate emergency, and directing Staff to take action in line with this declaration. You followed through on your GHG Emissions Inventory and Climate Action and Adaptation planning and will soon have a roadmap for further action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and create plans for a resilient Pinole.

A Municipal Code that permits the construction of new gas stations is inconsistent with the intent of your Climate Emergency Resolution and your Climate Action Plan.

Moving toward a Pinole prohibition, as noted in your Staff report, aligns with the statewide policy trajectory toward decarbonization. In August 2022, the California Air Resources Board formalized the Governor's Executive Order of 2020 ceasing registrations of new gas cars by

2035.3 All of the major auto makers are committed to increasing production of electric vehicles to meet this goal.

Your recent GHG emissions inventory pinpoints truck and car emissions as 41% of your total greenhouse gas emissions. As you work to reduce vehicle miles traveled in your Climate Action Plan, you would be working against this goal to permit new gas stations.

There are multiple other reasons to support a prohibition on new gas stations in Pinole:

- Every new gas station creates a new toxic site. Inevitable leaks and spills pollute surface and groundwater, and soils, impacting human health and wildlife habitats. Gas fumes also pollute the air with toxic chemicals, most harmful the closer to the source that you are.
- The health impacts on humans are a longstanding and ongoing environmental justice issue. Harms to indigenous, low income and communities of color occur all along the supply chain from extraction to transport, to refineries. Locations of gas stations, as well, affect these same populations disproportionately. Disallowing new gas stations is a step aligned with environmental justice.
- There is the possibility of a proposal for a new gas station in Pinole. New gas stations are designed to last at least forty years. Long before that time elapses, we will need to have weaned ourselves from gasoline to have a livable planet.
- The approximately 20 current operating gas stations that serve the Pinole area community should be more than adequate as we transition to zero emission vehicles over the coming decade.

350 Contra Costa has supported other actions you have taken toward a clean energy economy and equitable sustainable future for Pinole and we appreciate your leadership on these issues in our County. We stand ready to work with you on this issue, if helpful, and thank you for taking leadership to pursue steps to prohibit new gas stations in Pinole. A first for our County.

Sincerely,

Marti Roach and Lisa Jackson, Co-Chairs, 350 Contra Costa Local Policy Action Team

-Marti (she/her)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [Heather Bell](#)
To: [Roxane Stone](#)
Subject: Fwd: City council meeting of 2/6/24 Item #12 A Discussion of Prohibition of New & Expanded or Reconstructed Service Stations in Pinole
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 3:00:25 PM

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 7:15:41 AM
To: Maureen Toms <MToms@ci.pinoles.ca.us>; Cameron Sasai <csasai@ci.pinoles.ca.us>; Devin Murphy <DMurphy@ci.pinoles.ca.us>; Anthony Tave <atave@ci.pinoles.ca.us>; Norma Martinez-Rubin <NMartinez-Rubin@ci.pinoles.ca.us>; Heather Bell <hbell@ci.pinoles.ca.us>; Neil Gang <ngang@ci.pinoles.ca.us>; Lilly Whalen <lwhalen@ci.pinoles.ca.us>; Eric Casher <ecasher@meyersnave.com>
Subject: City council meeting of 2/6/24 Item #12 A Discussion of Prohibition of New & Expanded or Reconstructed Service Stations in Pinole

***** EXTERNAL MESSAGE *****

Dear city council, interim city manager and city staff:

Our nation has an over 200 year love affair with what is commonly called "fossil fuels". These energy compounds allowed for the expansion of our the industrialization of our country and benefited our nation. They provided us with a robust economy and a lifestyle which did not exist for the average citizen in prior times.

At the same time, "fossil fuels" such as coal and petroleum based products have a serious negative effect upon the global eco-system which outweigh many of reasons why we continue their usage. City council member Cameron Sasai has proposed that the city of Pinole (see staff report item #12 A) take a fresh new look at one of factors why the public use of "fossil fuels" should be curtailed in our city. His proposed legislation is founded in existing state and federal legislation. He seeks reduce the health and safety dangers that the usage of "fossil fuels" present to our environment and our citizens.

As known by most of you, our country is transitioning from a "fossil fuel" based economy to one that uses solar power and other eco-friendly sources of energy. This transition will take time and money. It will take a number of years but is necessary for our country and planet. Council member Sasai's proposal has a potential effect upon our city tax revenues. However our city's revenues will be increased by the adoption of new technologies which have proven themselves as a new source of income for our city. Failure to adopt these new energy sources only hurts our city's future.

My wife and I grew up in an environment that heavily relied upon coal and petroleum based products. However their usage has become antiquated and a danger to public health and safety. The existing Pinole services stations have been in usage for a number of years. They continue to pollute our environment and affect the health of everyone. We should stop embracing past practices and adopt new technologies which protect our planet.

Please adopt this resolution.

David & Irma Ruport Jr.



From: [Shoshana Wechsler](#)
To: [Comment](#)
Subject: Agenda Item #12A, Report on Gas Stations
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 2:04:31 PM

***** EXTERNAL MESSAGE *****

Dear Members of the Pinole City Council,

As a longtime environmental and climate justice advocate in West County, I want to express my support for the Gas Station proposal you're discussing tonight (Agenda Item #12A), along with my thanks to your colleague, Cameron Sasai, for his hard work to bring it before you. This body has taken proactive and trailblazing steps in the recent past—passing a Climate Emergency declaration, a resolution to end oil and gas drilling in the county, a nearly completed Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, and doubtless other measures of which I'm not yet aware. I trust that you will also support an ordinance to prohibit new gas stations in Pinole, which already has a sufficiency. An ordinance like this would be the first in Contra Costa County, and will inevitably influence other cities to follow. Go Pinole!

One possible amendment could be to allow, and maybe even encourage, reconstruction that would add EV charging stations only—and not expand fossil fuel delivery.

Thank you for your principled stands on behalf of environmental justice and climate protection.

Sincerely yours,

Shoshana Wechsler

350 Contra Costa Leadership Team
Co-Coordinator, [Sunflower Alliance](#)

