

## Amy Johnson

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**From:** Diane Chavez <dianedalychavez@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 12, 2020 4:40 PM  
**To:** CityRecorder  
**Subject:** Support for Tom Anderson's climate action goals motion

I support the motion that Councilor Tom Andersen will make at the City Council meeting on Monday evening. The recent climate driven fire storms across the west underscore the urgent need to take real climate action now.

The goals to reduce Salem's GHG emissions by 50% by 2035 and for Salem to become carbon neutral by 2050 were recommended by 350 Salem OR. We believe that these goals must become the foundation of the Salem Climate Action Plan, and should be adopted by the City Council in advance of the planning process getting underway next month. With these goals in place, it will become the work of the Climate Action Plan Task Force to develop strategies to achieve the goals. The goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2050 has been adopted by over 60 countries including Germany, France and Great Britain, and several states and many cities have also adopted similar goals. Salem cannot solve this problem alone but Salem must do its part to preserve a livable climate for generations to come.

Sincerely,  
Diane Daly Chavez  
Salem, Oregon resident, ward one

## Amy Johnson

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**From:** Ian Davidson <ian.davidson@cherriots.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 12, 2020 4:46 PM  
**To:** CityRecorder  
**Cc:** citycouncil  
**Subject:** Support Climate Action Goals  
**Attachments:** PDF 10-12-20 LTR CofS Climate Action Plan IDavidson.pdf

Good afternoon Mayor Bennett and Salem City Councilors:

Attached is my written testimony in support of Councilor Anderson's motion for the City Council to adopt specific goals as part of the City's Climate Action Plan. As I explain in the letter, my support for the motion derives from my role as board president of the Salem Area Mass Transit District and as a member of the City's Climate Action Plan Task Force.

I appreciate the efforts you are undertaking to take action on climate change and appreciate your consideration of my testimony.

Thank you,

***Ian Davidson***

Board President

[ian.davidson@cherriots.org](mailto:ian.davidson@cherriots.org)

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October 12, 2020

Mayor Bennett and City Councilors  
City of Salem  
555 Liberty St. SE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Mayor Bennett and Members of the Council:

Please accept this letter as my support for Councilor Anderson's motion for the City Council to adopt specific goals as part of the City's Climate Action Plan. My support for the motion derives from my role as board president of the Salem Area Mass Transit District, and as a member of the City's Climate Action Plan Task Force.

In my capacity as board president, I want to formally express the District's support for the City of Salem's efforts to take action on climate. As a board, we have adopted an Environmental Sustainability Policy Statement in which we express support for community partners such as the City of Salem to enhance their own commitments toward sustainability. We are making concerted efforts to ensure the Salem-area region has affordable, reliable, and clean transportation options. We recognize, too, that we do not operate in a vacuum. Strong collaborative partnerships such as this task force will prove more important as we commit to the hard work of minimizing pollution and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Moreover, as the transit district's designated representative to serve on the Climate Action Plan Task Force, I express my support for clear goals from the City Council to aid in the development of the city's climate action plan. The task before us is arduous, and even with a timeline of more than a year, the work is daunting. Clear direction from the City Council on what we should target will make our work significantly more productive. It is important, that with a task force as inclusive as ours and with work as serious as we have been tasked with, that we have clear direction on the expected deliverables. As the City's elected leaders, your leadership in this matter will prove incredibly valuable as the task force members undertake this meaningful work.

Thank you,



Ian Davidson  
Board President, Cherriots

cc: SAMTD Board of Directors  
Allan Pollock, SAMTD General Manager

**Amy Johnson**

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**From:** Laurie Dougherty <lauriedougherty@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 12, 2020 4:11 PM  
**To:** CityRecorder  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting 10/12/2020 Agenda Item 5.b.  
**Attachments:** Why Does Salem Need a Climate Action Plan.docx

Dear Mayor Bennett and Salem City Councilors,

My name is Laurie Dougherty. I live in Ward 1 and am a member of 350 Salem OR, the local affiliate of international climate justice organization [350.org](http://350.org). I want to begin by acknowledging that today is Indigenous People's Day and that we are on the land of the Santiam Kalapuya people.

I want to thank Councilor Andersen for Motion #20-383. (Agenda Item 5.b.) which sets goals for a Climate Action Plan that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Salem, and to thank the City Council and staff for moving the Climate Action Plan forward.

We are facing a climate emergency and its effects are coming close to home. Many factors contributed to the recent devastating wildfires, but they were made worse by years of drought. With increased warming we can expect more fires and longer fire seasons. We can expect toxic algae blooms putting stress on our water supply. We can expect more heat waves and more instances of extreme precipitation. As compassionate people we are saddened by the devastation that the increasingly chaotic climate brings to other parts of our country and our planet.

Although we at 350 Salem OR are activists and advocates focusing on policy and a just transition away from fossil fuels to a clean energy economy, our organizational name is grounded in climate science. 350 refers to the concentration of 350 parts per million (ppm) of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) in the atmosphere which is the upper limit that scientists consider compatible with a stable climate. We are now at [411 ppm](#). This

compares to about 280 ppm at the beginning of the fossil-fuel-based industrial era. CO<sub>2</sub> persists for hundreds of years and accumulates as we continue to burn fossil fuels. Trees and other vegetation and well-managed soils can draw CO<sub>2</sub> down and sequester it. There are other ways to do this, but they have potentially hazardous side effects.

The best way we as a city, as a concerned community, can do our part is to stop emitting greenhouse gases. We can do this by how, what and where we build and by how we get around. Development patterns and transportation interact. Compact, mixed use development reduces automobile travel and encourages healthier active mobility. We can do this by fostering improvements in energy efficiency. We can do this by reducing waste and practicing better waste management. We can do this by taking advantage of resources from the state and federal government (when we get a federal government that cares about climate change), and non-governmental organizations with grant-making opportunities and technical assistance. We can do this by calling on the creativity and resourcefulness of Salem residents and businesses. We can do this with your leadership and resolve.

The 350 organizational network, from global to local scales, is committed to climate justice. Impacts from climate change fall hardest on low income people and communities of color who are least able to escape from or recover from excessive heat, fires, floods and other harmful events. Climate justice means that the concerns of low income people and communities of color must be heard and addressed. They must share fully in the benefits of the emerging climate-friendly society. The necessary transition must be a Just Transition.

Nearly four years ago, in late December 2016, I made a presentation to our 350 Salem OR group "Why does Salem need a Climate Action Plan?" I found an outline of that presentation on my laptop and attached it here. We agreed to explore a CAP and began researching what other cities have done, focusing first on Eugene and Corvallis and previous activity in

Salem (see Salem Sustainable Cities Initiative 2010-2011 <https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/sustainable-cities-initiative.aspx> ) We formed a committee to analyze and discuss how to proceed. We read documents and talked with people involved in developing or advocating for CAPS in other cities.

When we realized that the City of Salem was working on a five-year Strategic Plan, we engaged with that process, attending workshops, Council meetings and Work Sessions, and communicating with City Councilors and staff. We continue to do the same in regard to Our Salem and other contexts that could involve climate action (e.g. budget and policy-setting activity). We held a well-attended public forum and continue to encourage our members and supporters to be informed and involved.

The climate emergency calls for bold, creative and equitable action. It calls for committed leadership. Thank you again for moving forward on a Climate Action Plan for Salem. And thank you for this opportunity to comment.

## Why Does Salem Need a Climate Action Plan?

- Climate change is an urgent problem
- Given current federal politics, subnational actions are critical (regional, state, local)
- Align with State of Oregon GHG reduction targets - As of 2007 (HB 3543:
  - By 2010, arrest the growth of Oregon's greenhouse gas emissions and begin to reduce them;
  - By 2020, achieve GHG levels that are 10% below 1990 levels; and
  - By 2050, achieve GHG levels that are at least 75% below 1990 levels\
- Prioritize goals for energy, land use, waste management, water use, etc.
- Apply systems approach to targets
- Achieve greater sustainability & liveability through focused & integrated targets

**What has Salem Done?** Sustainable Salem – burst of activity 2008-2011. Since then?  
<http://www.cityofsalem.net/Residents/Sustainable-Salem/Pages/default.aspx>

**Energy Strategy:** In August 2009, the City of Salem received notice of a \$1.5M award from the U.S. Department of Energy's (US DOE) Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program. The EECBG Program aimed to reduce fossil fuel emissions, reduce total energy consumption, and create jobs. It also required communities to develop an Energy Strategy to meet these objectives.

Salem's Strategy was developed with feedback received from residents and businesses at a December 2009 forum, work groups, and a Task Force of representatives from community organizations. The Strategy was presented to City Council for their acceptance on September 13, 2010. [couldn't find it]

**Sustainable Cities Initiative:** The UO Sustainable Cities Initiative (SCI) was a unique partnership between the University of Oregon and the City of Salem focused on enhanced student learning through an examination of real world issues facing local government.

**Environmental Plan** On September 12, 2008, the City Manager signed into effect an Environmental Action Plan Charter that provides background on the Action Plan, establishes and outlines an Environmental Action Team, provides a framework to accomplish the Action Plan items, as well as outlining the Plan's format, purpose, and process. The Action Plan includes goals related to energy, fuel, water, and waste reduction in City facilities.

### Reports

[2010 Environmental Action Plan](#)

[2010-11 Environmental Action Plan Annual Report](#)

## How to start

### Review experience of other cities, e.g.

- Eugene – Climate Action Plan developed by city Office of Sustainability; written into Ordinance 2014.
  - Internal City Operations
  - Community Plan – in sync with 350 ppm CO<sub>2</sub> by 2100

- Corvallis – Climate Action Plan developed by community based Task Force (including 350 Corvallis) and presented to City Council
  - City Council set up Climate Action Task Force
  - Climate Action Plan developed by Task Force adopted by City Council December 2016
  - Six areas for both city operations and community mitigation & adaptation
- Other Cities as examples?

**Identify Tasks – e.g. Greenhouse Gas Inventory**

**Identify scope of plan**

**Identify resources for technical assistance, e.g.**

- NASA carbon budget for 350 ppm + methodology to downscale (cf. Eugene)
- World Resources Institute for community scale GHG inventory methodology <http://www.wri.org/events/2014/12/launch-global-protocol-community-scale-greenhouse-gas>
- ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability for technical assistance to municipalities <http://www.iclei.org/>

**Identify local resources for research, input and feedback**



## Amy Johnson

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**From:** Kopcho <Team.Kopcho@pm.me>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 12, 2020 3:39 PM  
**To:** CityRecorder; citycouncil  
**Subject:** Public Testimony for City Council October 12, 2020 - Agenda Item 5b - Motion from Councilor Andersen  
**Attachments:** testimony in support of 5b.doc

Please find the attached letter in support of agenda item 5b.



Monday, October 12, 2020


Mayor Bennett, President Hoy, and Councilors:

“We protect nature and it protects us.” These words were spoken to me by an elder from one of our neighboring tribal nations and they echo with me every day, and even more so today on Indigenous People's Day.

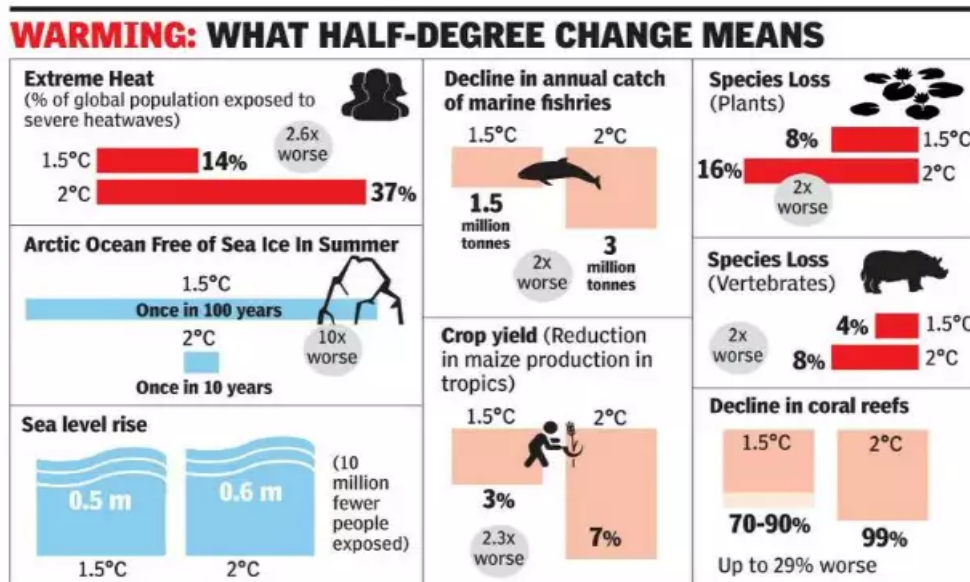
Make no mistake, the recent historic wildfires knocking at our door were no aberration. Cities are already facing the impacts of climate change and are highly vulnerable to a range of climate hazards, including wildfires, sea level rise, street flooding, landslides, droughts, epidemics and severe heat waves, which threaten the health, well-being and livelihood of citizens. Cities are integral to fighting climate change; while they are responsible for 37-49% of global Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, and urban infrastructure accounts for over 70% of global energy use, research shows that urban policy decisions made by 2020 could determine up to a third of the remaining global carbon budget that is not already 'locked-in' by past decisions. That is to say, what we do now has lasting implications for the likelihood of future success in mitigating the worst effects of climate change: cities, and local policy actions, are critical.

The historic Paris Agreement recognized the vital role of Non-Party stakeholders, including cities, in the global response to climate change. Cities are already using the Compact of Mayors as a common global platform to measure their contributions to Nationally Determined Contributions in terms of GHG reduction goals and climate mitigation and adaptation action plans. Cities are also engaged in the Covenant of Mayors initiative, in which they commit to a common greenhouse gas emissions reduction target through the implementation of sustainable energy and climate action plans.

I have no doubt others will provide testimony supplying Council with ample examples of other cities who adopted emissions reductions targets in-line with the recommendations from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The list is long. However, these targets: 50% emissions reduction by 2035 and net-zero by 2050 need to be understood as well-established through extensive scientific analysis. Other reduction targets exist, but the goals are even more aggressive: for example, 80% by 2035 and net-zero by 2040.



If we achieve these targets, as put forward by Councilor Andersen, globally, it gives us a reasonable chance (not a guarantee) to limit the global average of climate change to 1.5 °C. If we fail, even if we limit the change to just half-a-degree more, the global implications are vast (see the figure below).



To spend time deliberating or money on consulting fees to establish their worthiness would be a wasteful proposition. The only lingering question that remains is, “how do we reach this target?” It is the answer to this question that should be the goal of the Climate Action Task force and the driving force behind the Climate Action Plan.

In order for Salem to have the clearest path forward, I strongly urge the council to adopt the motion put forward by Councilor Andersen so that work can begin immediately on determining and implementing the policy pathways we take to achieve these goals.

Sincerely,

Casey Kopcho

**Amy Johnson**

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**From:** Sarah Rohrs <sarahjrohrs@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 12, 2020 4:52 PM  
**To:** CityRecorder  
**Subject:** City's Climate Action Plan comment

Monday, Oct. 12, 2020

Salem City Council members - I am writing to express my appreciation to Councilmember Tom Andersen for his plan to introduce a motion to move the city's Climate Action Plan forward.

It is critical the city do its part to limit greenhouse gas emissions. I join Salem 350 in supporting the goals to reduce emissions by 50 percent by 2035,. and to require Salem to become carbon neutral by 2050.

We are in a climate emergency which was evident by the recent wildfires that decimated parts of Marion County and Oregon. Throughout the planet, we are witnessing the effects of climate change, including flooding, severe wildfires, devastating storms, hotter temperatures, loss of fisheries and increased migrations of displaced people, among other problems.

Climate change is also directly linked to social justice as communities of color are impacted far more than others. I ask you to pass the motion and that Salem do its part to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Sarah Rohrs  
260 23rd St. NE  
Salem, OR. 97301

