



January 22, 2022

Subject: Planning Commission January 25 Agenda Item 7A – Gas Station Ban Ordinance PC 1-25-22

Dear Chair Fritz and Sebastopol Planning Commission:

We are writing to express our full support for the measure before you on January 25 to enact a prohibition of the construction of new gasoline stations within Sebastopol city limits. This measure has been reviewed by Sebastopol's Climate Action Committee and its Transportation Subcommittee several times and has been referred with their support to your Commission and the City Council.

Above all else, in adopting a resolution declaring a Climate Emergency Resolution on December 3, 2019 (Resolution 6274), the City of Sebastopol formally recognized the urgent nature of the crisis that is before us. This measure is not symbolic and is a logical action pursuant to that resolution. It is an important part of revising obsolete 20th century local government codes that are still on the books throughout the U.S and that continue to allow fossil fuel infrastructure, in this case gas stations, to be built.

Our only caution is to urge you to avoid any impulse to complexify the measure by imposing new restrictions or requirements on *existing* gas stations, the only exception being to prohibit the expansion of fossil fueling infrastructure at existing gas stations. Trying to link the prohibition to other proactive measures such as electric vehicle charging, public transit improvements, or active mobility amenities is not necessary and risks delaying action. Those measures are important and necessary, but can and should occur independently of this measure to cease the permitting process for a land use deemed obsolete.

Again, we encourage your "yes" vote on this matter. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Woody Hastings & Jenny Blaker

Co-coordinators, Coalition Opposing New Gas Stations (CONGAS)

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Kari Svanstrom

From: The Lochners <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 10:19 PM
To: Kari Svanstrom
Subject: NO new gas stations

I support the Congas position of no new gas stations in Sebastopol agenda item 7A.

Jan Lochner

[REDACTED]
Sebastopol, CA [REDACTED]