

1/16/22

NY's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act **(Climate Act)!**

Dear NYS Climate Action Council,

I am writing to you today in regards to your Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA). I believe that this law has created and will continue to create a significant impact on our economy and society; for this law is the next step into turning our planet; specifically NY, into a healthier and safer place for us and for future generations to live.

For my ancestors and several of my friends being from India, I have a connection to knowing environmental issues happening there, such as air pollution, groundwater depletion, climate change, and insanitation. I would love for this law to create an environmental impact on India, to help prevent these issues from happening to the rest of our planet; and most specifically in NY.

What I most admire about this bill is wanting to make an impact on our society by helping the disadvantaged communities first, since these communities are most prone to air pollution and sanitary issues (smoking and small living spaces). I hope by starting off in this spot, the CLCPA will help to encourage other environmental impacts in other communities; such as encouraging the use of solar power.

In the matter of transportation however, the price of gas has been increasing drastically, for just in 2020 our gas price was about two dollars per gallon, and now it is nearly four dollars per gallon! I know that the CLCPA has been looking into this issue, for it is believed increasing electric vehicle charging stations and making electric cars become cheaper will help solve this problem. However, I believe there should be a wider range created into helping to solve this issue, for just in NY alone there are 1.4 million people who own cars! Since most of these people run on gas to travel from one place to another-this mostly incorporates going to-from work and school almost everyday, we need to find more solutions to reduce gas usage.

However, besides that one concern above, the CLCPA is definitely doing an excellent job in helping our environment become a safer and healthier place, and for that I thank you.



Thank you again,

Arianna S
NEST+m High School
Manhattan

Dear NYS Climate Action Council,

Firstly, a simple thank you. New York State has needed a bill such as the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. For our state, environment, health, and community to set forward on a path to a brighter world.

I'd like to highlight two initiatives that stood out to me for their cleverness and exciting nature. The NY Sun Solar Equity Framework is what I think an absolutely wonderful initiative to help the physical and mental health of underserved communities.

~~The simple~~ I also truly appreciate the aspect of Clean Green Schools that provides career awareness and training related to clean energy jobs. Instilling this knowledge into the youth will most definitely make for the bright future we all strive for.

I have a recommendation/idea to share.

~~I would~~ I think it would be a wonderful idea

Re. Climate Action Draft Schopin Plan: Directing Benefits to Disadvantaged Communities

Dear NYS Climate Action Council,

Thank you so much for passing the Climate Leadership & Community Protection Act (Climate Act) of 2019. The CLCPA is such an essential and meaningful bill that will significantly impact the lives of New Yorkers.

Having seen my family affected by extreme weather and witnessing environmental and climate injustice in my home city of New York, I am very passionate about tackling this existential threat. As I write this, members of my high school's Environmental Justice Club, which I lead, ^{are writing} ~~write~~ our public comments on your Council's Scoping Draft Plan.

In particular, I wanted to comment on the plan's Directing Benefits to Disadvantaged Communities section. I especially appreciate that disadvantaged communities will receive 40% of these clean energy efficiency benefits. Additionally, as a life-long public school student, the Clean Green Schools initiative, which will invest \$59 million to 500 P-12 schools in NYS is close to my heart. Our public education system has an *immense role* in preparing students for green careers and reducing schools' substantial carbon footprint. I appreciate that the most funding will go to schools in historically disadvantaged communities. **However, I believe the Clean Green Schools provisions can be more robust and impactful. In particular, the majority of schools (including the 800 other public schools in NYC alone and 5,000+ in the entire state) should also receive green career preparedness and climate education, as well as the building upgrades crucial for more resilient and healthy learning environments.**

In particular, I would propose adding more robust and expansive climate education initiatives for public schools, as outlined by the Aspen Institute K-12 Climate Action Network and the Climate & Resilience Education Taskforce (CRETf), an organization I work with.

Thank you for your council's vital work to ensure New York leads the fight for sustainability, justice, and resilience in a greener world. I greatly appreciate the opportunity to share my input on our state's vital climate blueprint!

Sincerely,

Ellery


Student at NEST+m High School



Dear New York State Climate Action Council,

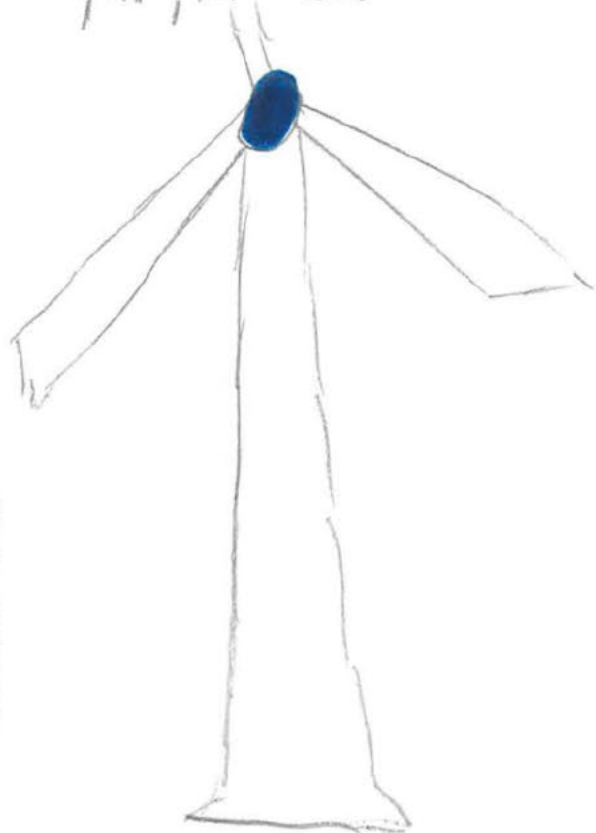
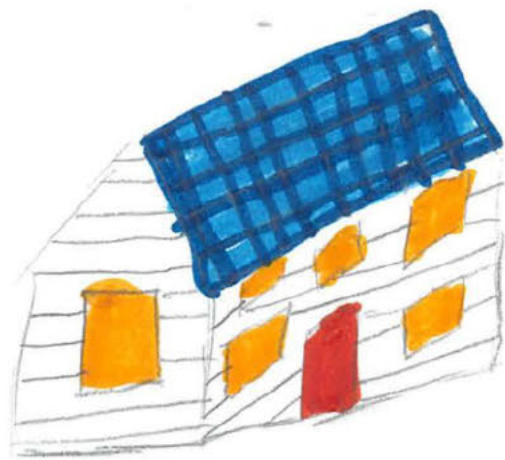
The climate is important for many reasons. We need a good climate so we don't get too hot or too cold, and we have had too extreme natural disasters. I have lived through many blizzards and heat waves. I have seen first-hand on what the effects of a bad climate could bring, and I don't want that to be our future. I like the part of the bill about creating solar panels and wind turbines. That is important, and I would like to get solar panels on my building's roof. I think incentivising electric cars is less important than making the public transport system better. If we had an effective, good, public transport system, we wouldn't be so dependent on cars, which is good for pollution, since manufacturing cars causes pollution, too. That should be changed to invest in renewable-powered public transport, not cars.

Sincerely,

Solomon

NEST + M High School,

Manhattan



Dear NYS Climate Action Council,

I am writing in firm support of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), as it provides security for our planet, ensuring its maintenance and assisting disadvantaged communities. It originates from India, where the climate is constantly (and abnormally) changing due to negligence and continued practice of the wrong things (i.e. eating too much meat, burning fuel, smoking). Part of the reason I took so much care of the environment in my local neighborhood was to mitigate effects of it everywhere. That, compounded by re-inforcement from my peers, family, teachers, and neighbors, led me to understand how invaluable the planet was, and the steps that individuals could take to reduce negative impact. The CLCPA, which targets these issues, will have immense influence over the environment, and will ensure better protection of the planet. While this may be costly, it is worth generations of a better planet. However, some of the targets listed are too outstretched, as it lists more general needs rather than action steps. One of the easiest ways to improve the situation is through the creation of smart cities: using smart technology, connected devices, and renewable energy. Cities can run more efficiently, without overconsumption of resources. Furthermore, with benefits going to serve marginalized communities, those who are vulnerable will be able to receive the help they need. Inequities will be fewer. In a way, this is a chain reaction, and every small step towards protecting the planet is a step in the right direction. I urge you to take this seriously, and work actively to enforce policies which will benefit the people, and, most importantly, the planet.



Sincerely,
Ananya,
NEST m High School
Manhattan