

CITY OF KINGSTON

Office of the Mayor

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Steven T. Noble
Mayor

May 2, 2022

Dear New York State- Climate Action Council,

Climate Change is causing dangerous and widespread disruption in nature and will inevitably affect the lives of billions of people around the world. Rapid, deep, and sustained reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions are necessary in this critical decade.

A Scoping Plan is necessary to meet New York's climate goals. Such a plan would call for shifting to energy-efficient electrification in buildings and transportation as the primary solution to replace fossil-fuel combustion. We must phase-down emissions from fossil fuel-fired electricity generation, while ensuring support and protections for impacted workers as they transition to clean energy jobs.

The 2021 Jobs Study by the Just Transition Working Group for the NYS Climate Action Council estimates that meeting New York's climate goals will result in a net gain of 189,000 jobs across the state by 2030, alone, with a ratio of jobs gained to jobs displaced of 10 to 1.

According to NYSERDA, over half of what New Yorkers currently spend on energy leaves New York, mostly for fossil fuels. Our communities would be better served by keeping energy spending primarily within the local economy.

The City of Kingston, New York, has been one of the early champions of this work, and I feel our work will be even more productive if the State can more strongly support our efforts.

I call on the Climate Action Council to support a Scoping Plan that includes the necessary policies and support to help owners of existing buildings improve energy efficiency and transition to zero-emissions equipment that advances building codes to improve the energy efficiency of new buildings while reducing monthly energy costs, and which makes electric vehicles more affordable relative to gas-powered vehicles, while also focusing on expanding fast-charging infrastructure.

I further declare my support for the State's transition to efficient electricity-based solutions for buildings and transportation, as in order to mitigate the impacts of climate change we have a critical need to divest from fossil fuels.

Thank you,



Steven T. Noble
Mayor