

Equitably electrifying all buildings and vehicles in California

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party strongly supports the Paris Climate Agreement goal of keeping the rise in earth's temperatures below 2°C, and if possible, below 1.5°C, and California has set a goal of carbon neutrality by 2045 in support of that Agreement; and

WHEREAS, not achieving this goal will result in increasingly severe impacts such as extreme heat, water shortages, and sea-level rise which fall disproportionately on the less affluent and exacerbate existing social inequities, and also threaten our basic infrastructure and economy, thus making not electrifying buildings and cars more expensive than electrifying them; and

WHEREAS, scientists have determined that it will be impossible to meet the Paris Climate Agreement goal of keeping earth's temperature rise below 2.0°C if we continue to allow the commissioning of new fossil fuel equipment, including gas furnaces, water heaters, and vehicles; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Mateo Democratic Central Committee supports urgent action in San Mateo County, its cities, and the State of California to electrify all buildings and vehicles, and to provide financial mechanisms in support of that goal which are designed to insure that low and moderate income households are not disproportionately burdened; and

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee supports an immediate prohibition on installing new fossil fuel equipment in all buildings and also supports retiring existing gas appliances in all buildings as soon as possible, and that the SMCDCC Recording Secretary shall send a copy of the resolution, if approved, to every city council in San Mateo County, as well as to the County Board of Supervisors.

Sponsored by the SMC DCC Climate Committee