

From: Stephen Colby Brown <browns6887@att.net>
Sent: Monday, December 05, 2022 9:34 AM
To: Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>
Cc: Mitchell, Rita (GMail) <ritamitchell@gmail.com>
Subject: Amendments to Chapter 55-ban natural gas hookups in new construction

Ann Arbor Planning Commissioners:

Please accept these personal comments regarding the [proposed UDC ordinance changes](#) to ban future natural gas hookups, which is on the Planning Commission's agenda for tonight:

Distribution of natural gas, which is mostly methane-a powerful greenhouse gas-also introduces risks via leakage in the distribution networks and to the quality of indoor air. Indeed, residences that use natural gas [often do not meet the air quality standards](#) established for outdoor air. Banning the combustion of natural gas in buildings will discernibly improve public health. Leakage through the distribution system is poorly controlled as well. For over 2 decades, the smell of natural gas permeated the corner of Lincoln and Shadford Roads, emitted from the storm sewer drain. This situation was not corrected until 2020 or so, when work crews finally replaced the leaking pipes. Banning new natural gas hookups is a modest first step to transitioning the community away from the fossil fuel economy, and [has already been done](#) by many communities across the United States. These ordinances have also survived the inevitable court challenges by owners of fossil fuel assets.

Please vote to approve this change to the City's UDC, and forward to City Council ASAP.

Best Regards,

Stephen C Brown
1507 Shadford Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-4462

browns6887@att.net

"Stop dithering around. In every confrontation, render what is just; from every impression, extract what is true." *Marcus Aurelius*