

From: David Gurk <dgurk@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 04, 2022 10:58 PM
To: Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>
Subject: Proposed ordinance

Dear Planning Commissioners,

I understand the Planning Commission is considering a proposal which would make changes to the city's development code to prohibit natural gas connections for new buildings starting next year, and that this proposal will be discussed at the upcoming meeting this Tuesday evening. As the chair of Washtenaw Climate Reality and as a concerned citizen of Ann Arbor, I would like give my wholehearted support to this proposed ordinance.

Most everyone now understands the need to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, preferably to zero, preferably soon. But it is one thing to understand the need to change our way of doing things; it is quite another to actually make these changes. The default way of operating will always be going with the familiar. If we are going to make any headway in solving the climate crisis, it will only come through legislation. That is why a proposal such as this one must be passed.

I assume that this proposal will get a lot of push-back from developers. That is understandable. Businesses don't like being told what to do. But it would be astonishingly short-sighted to allow new buildings to burn natural gas at this point in the climate crisis. Without well-crafted legislation, that is exactly what will happen. This transition to a green economy must not be a hypothetical one. It must take concrete form, and passing legislation such as this proposal is exactly how it will happen. If not now, then when?

Please pass this proposal and recommend that it be passed by the City Council. It will be a big step forward in our fight to stem the climate crisis.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours,
David c
Chair, Washtenaw Climate Reality