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# SD wrestles with climate-change plan

## Mayor Kevin Faulconer moving forward with ambitious plan many of his allies oppose.

By David Garrick (/staff/david-garrick/) 1 P.M. JULY 3, 2014 PRINT

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Mayor Kevin Faulconer and City Council President Todd Gloria.

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31 COMMENTS

They also criticized the proposal for considering greenhouse gas emissions levels in 2035, contending 2020 is far enough into the future, and for going beyond state and federal requirements on emissions reductions.

The kind of climate action plan they seek would be similar to one proposed in 2011 by former Mayor Jerry Sanders and then abandoned when former Mayor Bob Filner was elected in 2012.



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Supporters of Gloria’s plan say Sanders’ approach, which focused almost entirely on voluntary efforts, would make the city vulnerable to litigation.

In the bigger picture, critics have questioned whether costly local, state and even national plans to address climate change will have the necessary global impact.

Meanwhile, San Diego County and the San Diego Association of Governments have been criticized by Superior Court Judge Timothy Taylor for adopting climate plans that lack regulation, accountability and enforceability.

Kayla Race, a policy analyst for the Environmental Health Coalition in National City, said threats of litigation and the need to act quickly to combat climate change means the city should move forward with Gloria’s plan as soon as possible.

“It’s definitely an ambitious plan and we like that,” she said, adding that Gloria amalgamated pieces of aggressive climate change legislation from all over the country. “It’s really picking from the best and combining all of those.”

Race said if the mandate for building retrofits is removed, the city should look to add other elements to the plan that would achieve the same overall reduction in carbon emissions. But she said Gloria’s plan should go forward without change, suggesting compromises should come when the city is drafting ordinances to specifically carry out the framework of policies envisioned in the plan.

“The plan is ready to go and we’re just waiting on Mayor Faulconer,” she said.

While Faulconer declined requests for an interview, his staff said this week that an update on the plan will be presented to the city’s environment committee on July 23. They didn’t say whether that presentation would include any possible revisions to the plan.

The mayor’s staff also said that each city department recently completed an analysis of how the plan would affect them, and that Faulconer expects to hire a sustainability program manager in mid-July to help implement the plan. The annual salary for that job will be more than \$100,000.

In addition, the mayor’s staff said they expect to start accepting comments from the public about the plan this fall. An analysis of the plan’s potential environmental impacts should also start soon, with public comments on that document expected late this year or early next year.


Gloria said he expects the city to end up with a quality climate action plan.

“I think the new mayor has taken his time to put his own imprint on the plan, and ultimately a dialogue between the council and the mayor will produce something that appropriately addresses one of the most significant challenges facing not just our city, but the world,” Gloria said.

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31 comments



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**Jenny Zavala**

We most definitely need to move forward to better the environment. There's really no question about it. Only an idiot wouldn't want clean air, clean water, renewable energy sources, better waste management, and reduce our carbon footprint. It's 2014 not 1950. We do not have a disposable planet.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [Follow Post](#) · July 5 at 3:15pm



**William Leslie** · Top Commenter · California State University, Long Beach

<http://riskybusiness.org/blog/risky-business-report-press-release>

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [Follow Post](#) · July 5 at 11:16am



**William Leslie** · Top Commenter · California State University, Long Beach

The recent risk assessment report by two former Secretaries of Treasury, one Repub. one Dem. make the case that it will be far more expensive to ignore climate change than address it. A growing problem is always easier to solve earlier rather than later.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [3](#) · July 5 at 11:18am



**Angela Deegan** · Top Commenter · San Diego, California

Do we really want to see an increase in wild-fires, worsening water shortages (leading to higher water rates) and beach loss (affecting our tourism industry) in San Diego? I support this Climate Action Plan as it currently is because we need to keep these negative effects on San Diego to a minimum.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [6](#) · [Follow Post](#) · July 5 at 2:01am



**Masada Disenhouse** · Top Commenter

Mayor Faulconer has been a champion of renewable energy in San Diego. A strong climate action plan will enable us to go from #2 in solar installations to #1 and bring much needed jobs to the city, as well as doing our part to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to protect our region from worsening wildfires, sea level rise and water shortages.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [6](#) · [Follow Post](#) · July 4 at 5:52pm



**Mike Seneca** · Top Commenter

How to redistribute the citizenry's wealth and grow government.... Take fictional science, add fear mongering with a dash of tyranny, and wallah.... Wealth taken from home owners, home buyers, and all renters, along with a side of bigger government intrusion.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [4](#) · [Follow Post](#) · July 4 at 11:44am



**Mike Seneca** · Top Commenter

Perfect example of the idiocy -

"Kayla Race... Environmental Health Coalition... need to act quickly to combat climate change.... move forward with Gloria's plan as soon as possible."

Don't look at what's behind the curtain..... JUST DO IT!

Will the progressive socialism sheeple come to realize what they're doing before it's too late?

Reply · Like · 1 · July 4 at 11:48am



**John Oliver** · Top Commenter · Palomar College

Mike Seneca - They (or at least their leadership) know EXACTLY what they're doing.

Reply · Like · 2 · July 4 at 1:29pm



**Sean Casey** · Top Commenter · Escondido, California

Sadly the general population won't wake up until they are HAARPed out of their homes & herded into internment camps where the Global Elite decide who lives & who dies to bring the world population down to a more "manageable" 500 million per their Agenda 21 depopulation plan

Reply · Like · Edited · July 4 at 5:20pm

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**Gary Mac**

Hey I got a idea you jerks let's fix pot holes and are aging sewers.

Reply · Like · 3 · Follow Post · July 4 at 11:39am



**Sean Casey** · Top Commenter · Escondido, California

Al Gore is an actor just like the rest of them & global warming is a lie. If you would do a little research on HAARP & Geoengineering you would understand what is causing the drought & the extreme weather around the world. HAARP was originally developed around 1995 by a scientist who's intent was to bring rain to drought stricken areas. HAARP was then purchased soon thereafter & has been used for sinister purposes. (I understand to the closed mind this sounds like science fiction) If you do research this you will come across those who's intent is to "debunk" the truth ie metabunk, snopes & youtube shills. The term "conspiracy theory" was coined over 100 yrs ago & is a "debunking" tool for the liars who are perpetrating the global warming lie. here is a 10 minute video on HAARP & it is not fiction. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KjkT9wy4AZ0>

Reply · Like · 1 · Follow Post · July 4 at 11:36am



**Blaine Wriston** · Top Commenter

I recall chatting with Todd Gloria at a farmers market one time and suggesting that he might buy some of the products from the booths around him.

He smiled, and proudly said that he didn't know how to cook. Furthermore I've read in past articles in this newspaper that he proudly goes on about keeping the fast food places in business because of lacking those basics skills.

Sooooooooo, here is a person who apparently so clueless that he doesn't even know how to boil water to make a cup of tea -- who now wants to dictate that we must all do things that are very expensive economically because of some cockamamie theories of the environmental whackos.

At the moment I'm trying to get some remodel work done on my home. I've been looking over a preliminary copy of the plans in progress prepared by my architect.

I am appalled by the ... [See More](#)

Reply · Like · 3 · Follow Post · July 4 at 9:40am



**Joshua Sibelman** · Top Commenter

The one thing I definitely don't miss about living in San Diego is the proximity to fools like you.

Reply · Like · 2 · July 5 at 1:07pm



**Scott Jackson** · Top Commenter · San Diego, California

This is not the cities job. These thing belong at the state and federal level. Please concentrate on potholes and garbage pick up.

Reply · Like · 4 · Follow Post · July 4 at 8:47am



**Tom Christensen** · Works at Father

Gorebull warming is the greatest farce ever told.

Reply · Like · 5 · Follow Post · July 4 at 6:47am

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