



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

| The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item: | | | | |
|--|-----------|----------|----------------|--|
| Agenda # | Relate To | Position | Name | Comments |
| 16. | | Favor | Ann Dorsey | |
| | | | David Eisenman | I am a professor of medicine and public health at UCLA. The LA County Heath Action Plan will be vital to the safety, health and productivity of workers, residents, and communities generally. The plan reflects the planning available to mitigate the harms of heat as it continues to rise in LA. The plan is evidence based and has strong and meaningful goals and metrics. Please vote to support the plan. |
| | | | Enrique Huerta | RE: Motion 16: Adoption and Equitable Implementation of the Los Angeles County Heat Action Plan - SUPPORT Honorable Chair Solis and Members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors: Climate Resolve is overjoyed to submit this letter of support for the Los Angeles County Heat Action Plan (CHAP). As an organization dedicated to climate resilience and community cooling, we commend the Board and the Chief Sustainability Office (CSO) for developing this multisector roadmap. The CHAP is a vital step in protecting our most vulnerable residents from the increasing threat of extreme heat, and it mirrors Climate Resolve's mission to foster a more resilient Los Angeles. We celebrate the CHAP's vision and its alignment with the following core priorities: Neighborhood-Scale Infrastructure: We support the plan's focus on "shade equity," urban greening, depaving asphalt where possible and deploying "cool" smart surfaces where depaving is not possible, in order to alleviate the heat burden in frontline communities. Social Infrastructure & Resilience Centers: The plan rightly prioritizes building the capacity of community-based organizations (CBOs) and improving access to "cool refuges" that provide safety and social cohesion. Tenant Protection & Residential Retrofits: We applaud the strategies aimed at protecting renters and installing energy-efficient cooling in facilities serving vulnerable populations to ensure indoor safety. Integrated Governance: The CHAP's design as a Strategic Coordination Framework is exactly the type of integrated, data-driven approach necessary to unite County departments and regional partners. The CHAP has the potential to serve as the definitive blueprint for government entities across California. By integrating health equity with climate adaptation, LA County is setting the national gold standard. We particularly highlight the following elements that make this plan a global model: A Standardized Cooling Suite: By formalizing the integration of cool roofs, pavements, green schoolyards, and bus shelters, the County provides a replicable template for cities to move from siloed projects to comprehensive neighborhood cooling. Enhanced School Resilience: We support the CHAP's focus on greening |

As of: 2/2/2026 9:00:08 PM



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schoolyards (Action 1.3.d), which provides the physical infrastructure—like cool pavement and shade—necessary to successfully implement state-mandated heat-safety protocols (AB 1653). Institutionalized Governance via a "Heat Hub": The plan paves the way for a Permanent Heat Coordination Hub. This centralized body will ensure academic research is translated into block-by-block policy, providing a "proof of concept" for the entire State of California. Data-Driven Equity and CalHeatScore: We support the use of "Useful and Inclusive Data," such as the CalHeatScore tool, to target investments in the 10% hottest census tracts. This establishes a Racial Justice Metric that ensures the plan closes health disparity gaps. Shared Power & Social Infrastructure: We celebrate the CHAP's alignment with the LA County Public Health Equity Framework through a CBO-Government Partnership Model that empowers local organizations as "partners-in-power." We commend the Board of Supervisors and the Chief Sustainability Office for their leadership. Climate Resolve is eager to partner with the County to implement these cooling strategies and ensure a resilient, equitable future for all Angelenos.

Ivana Munguia Vasquez

T.R.U.S.T. South LA, a community land trust and non-profit organization that works with low-income community residents to transform the built environment and social conditions in South Los Angeles, fully supports the adoption and equitable implementation of the Los Angeles County Heat Action Plan. Our involvement in the 2025 LA's 1st Extreme Heat Tabletop Exercise emphasized how important it is for us to prepare for extreme heat events in Los Angeles, and how local agencies, departments, health care professionals, and community based organization can coordinate together to educate communities, especially the most vulnerable communities, on how to keep cool during extreme heat events. LA County needs a heat action plan; it is long overdue. We must be prepared, as these events will become more frequent in the upcoming years.

Sarah Murray

Wendy Miranda

Esperanza Community Housing is in support of the draft County Heat Action Plan (CHAP). As an organization, we are proud to have been a partner in the development of this important roadmap for ensuring that our communities thrive in an ever-changing climate. The CHAP is a step forward that the County is taking to ensure that frontline, BIPOC, low-income, immigrant communities are centered in policies. We are especially supportive of Goal #2: "Promote safe, efficient design and operations for the buildings where County residents live, work, and learn, ensuring equitable access to cooling during extreme heat." This goal is particularly important because of frequent extreme heat events occurring, and rising ICE raids attacking our communities — now more than ever, our communities need safe, healthy, and cooler housing to protect folks from both the heat and from ICE. I would strongly encourage the County to consider existing policies, such as the maximum temperature threshold, as tools for implementation to ensure that our communities have access to cooling during extreme heat events. Lastly, I would strongly

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| | | | encourage the County to find mechanisms to lower utilities and make utility programs more accessible for frontline, BIPOC, low-income, immigrant communities so they do not face energy burden. |
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| | Item Total | 7 | |
| Grand Total | | 7 | |



February 2, 2026

Chair Hilda L. Solis
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
500 W. Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Motion 16: Adoption and Equitable Implementation of the Los Angeles County Heat Action Plan - SUPPORT

Honorable Chair Solis and Members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors:

Climate Resolve is overjoyed to submit this letter of support for the Los Angeles County Heat Action Plan (CHAP). As an organization dedicated to climate resilience and community cooling, we commend the Board and the Chief Sustainability Office (CSO) for developing this multisector roadmap. The CHAP is a vital step in protecting our most vulnerable residents from the increasing threat of extreme heat, and it mirrors Climate Resolve's mission to foster a more resilient Los Angeles.

We celebrate the CHAP's vision and its alignment with the following core priorities:

- **Neighborhood-Scale Infrastructure:** We support the plan's focus on "shade equity," urban greening, depaving asphalt where possible and deploying "cool" smart surfaces where depaving is not possible, in order to alleviate the heat burden in frontline communities.
- **Social Infrastructure & Resilience Centers:** The plan rightly prioritizes building the capacity of community-based organizations (CBOs) and improving access to "cool refuges" that provide safety and social cohesion.
- **Tenant Protection & Residential Retrofits:** We applaud the strategies aimed at protecting renters and installing energy-efficient cooling in facilities serving vulnerable populations to ensure indoor safety.
- **Integrated Governance:** The CHAP's design as a Strategic Coordination Framework is exactly the type of integrated, data-driven approach necessary to unite County departments and regional partners.

The CHAP has the potential to serve as the definitive blueprint for government entities across California. By integrating health equity with climate adaptation, LA County is setting the national gold standard. We particularly highlight the following elements that make this plan a global model:

- **A Standardized Cooling Suite:** By formalizing the integration of cool roofs, pavements, green schoolyards, and bus shelters, the County provides a replicable template for cities to move from siloed projects to comprehensive neighborhood cooling.
- **Enhanced School Resilience:** We support the CHAP's focus on greening schoolyards (Action 1.3.d), which provides the physical infrastructure—like cool pavement and shade—necessary to successfully implement state-mandated heat-safety protocols (AB 1653).

- **Institutionalized Governance via a "Heat Hub":** The plan paves the way for a Permanent Heat Coordination Hub. This centralized body will ensure academic research is translated into block-by-block policy, providing a "proof of concept" for the entire State of California.
- **Data-Driven Equity and CalHeatScore:** We support the use of "Useful and Inclusive Data," such as the CalHeatScore tool, to target investments in the 10% hottest census tracts. This establishes a Racial Justice Metric that ensures the plan closes health disparity gaps.
- **Shared Power & Social Infrastructure:** We celebrate the CHAP's alignment with the LA County Public Health Equity Framework through a CBO-Government Partnership Model that empowers local organizations as "partners-in-power."

We commend the Board of Supervisors and the Chief Sustainability Office for their leadership. Climate Resolve is eager to partner with the County to implement these cooling strategies and ensure a resilient, equitable future for all Angelenos.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Parfrey
Executive Director

RE: Item 16 — Written Comment on the Los Angeles County Heat Action Plan (February 3, 2026)

Dear Chair and Members of the Board,

SGV Casita appreciates the opportunity to submit written public comment on the Los Angeles County Heat Action Plan ahead of your February 3, 2026 vote. SGV Casita is a community-based initiative rooted in the San Gabriel Valley that focuses on heat equity, housing conditions, and tenant stability. Our work centers residents who experience extreme heat most directly in their homes, neighborhoods, and daily routines.

We support the adoption of a countywide Heat Action Plan. It is, in fact, our goal to see every city in the San Gabriel Valley has tailored heat governance goals that meet their specific needs. We welcome the day when our cities have their own heat preparedness infrastructure. We see the County's HAP as a necessary step towards enabling the capacities of our cities.

At the same time, we submit this letter to strengthen implementation, equity, and clarity. Our comments focus on four areas:

1. Additional research the Board may find useful as it oversees implementation.
2. Missing voices and perspectives in the engagement process.
3. Gaps, discrepancies, and unclear guidance in the publicly available draft as of February 2, 2026.
4. Requests for clearer support and direction for smaller cities, including those in the San Gabriel Valley.

CLARIFICATION REQUESTED REGARDING THE VERSION UNDER CONSIDERATION

Before addressing the substance of the plan, we respectfully request clarification on which version of the Heat Action Plan the Board is voting on.

The publicly available County Heat Action Plan webpage states that a final version will be available in February 2026. However, the downloadable PDF as of Monday, February 2, 2026 on the County website is dated September 2025. At the time of writing, it is not clear to us whether:

- the Board is voting on the September 2025 public draft, or
- the Board is voting on a final version that has not yet been released to the public.

We ask the Board and County staff to clarify for the record which version is being adopted and, if a revised final version exists, to make it publicly available.

Link referenced:

<https://cso.lacounty.gov/ourcounty-plan/cso-current-initiatives/county-heat-action-plan/>

WHAT THE COUNTY HEAT ACTION PLAN DOES WELL

Based on the publicly available September 2025 draft, the Heat Action Plan includes several important strengths:

1. The plan correctly identifies extreme heat as a public health risk that is unevenly distributed across communities. The plan recognizes that heat exposure happens indoors as well as outdoors, and that renters face elevated risk due to older housing stock, limited ability to make upgrades, and higher energy burdens. This framing is essential and reflects current research.
2. The plan operates at the appropriate regional scale. Heat does not stop at city boundaries. Smaller cities often lack the staff and funding to plan and respond independently. A countywide framework that coordinates departments, cities, and regional agencies is a necessary foundation.
3. The plan includes concrete policy action in unincorporated areas, including the indoor temperature requirement for rental housing beginning in September 2025. This provision demonstrates that indoor heat can be treated as a safety issue and enforced through existing County systems.
4. The plan acknowledges barriers to cooling access and proposes to improve cooling sites, outreach, and coordination with trusted community spaces. Naming these barriers is an important first step.

SGV Casita supports all of these efforts.

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH THE BOARD SHOULD CONSIDER

Appendix C of the Heat Action Plan includes an extensive bibliography; upon review, the draft recognizes indoor heat risk but does not cite implementation research on tenant protections and enforcement. The following bodies of research are not included in Appendix C and may be useful to the Board as it oversees implementation, accountability, and equity outcomes.

An annotated bibliography of additional studies is included below. These studies focus on:

- heat governance and implementation quality
- evaluation of heat action plans and accountability mechanisms
- housing enforcement and tenant protections related to indoor heat
- capacity constraints faced by smaller cities
- Indigenous land stewardship and climate resilience

I. Implementation and Governance of Heat Action Plans

Kotharkar, R., & Ghosh, A. (2021). Progress in extreme heat management and warning systems: A systematic review of heat-health action plans (1995–2020). *Sustainable Cities and Society*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scs.2021.103487>

Relevance to CHAP: Demonstrates that many heat action plans fail without integration into governance structures, budgets, timelines, and reporting systems.

Pascal, M., et al. (2021). Evolving heat waves characteristics challenge heat warning systems and prevention plans. *International Journal of Biometeorology*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00484-021-02123-y>

Relevance to CHAP: Demonstrates the need for adaptive management, periodic revision, and outcome-based learning within heat plans.

Singh, C., Vyas, D., Patil, S., Ranjit, N., Poonacha, P., & Surampally, S. (2024). How are Indian cities adapting to extreme heat? Insights on heat risk governance and incremental adaptation from ten urban Heat Action Plans. *PLOS Climate*. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pclm.0000484>

Relevance to CHAP: Demonstrates risks of relying on voluntary or relief-based actions without enforceable regulatory and housing standards.

II. Tenant Protections, Housing, and Thermal Insecurity

Ashbaugh, M., & Kittner, N. (2024). Addressing extreme urban heat and energy vulnerability of renters in Portland, Oregon with resilient household energy policies. *Energy Policy*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enpol.2024.114143>

Relevance to CHAP: Demonstrates that renters face higher heat risk, lower access to cooling, and greater energy burdens, supporting indoor heat standards and tenant protections.

Hamstead, Z. (2023). Thermal insecurity: Violence of heat and cold in the urban climate refuge. *Urban Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00420980231184466>

Relevance to CHAP: Demonstrates that heat vulnerability is shaped by housing systems and landlord-tenant dynamics, requiring enforceable standards rather than education alone.

III. Enforcement, Legal Mandates, and Accountability

Mahlkow, N., & Donner, J. (2017). From planning to implementation? The role of climate change adaptation plans to tackle heat stress: A case study of Berlin. *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, 37(4), 385–396. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0739456X16664787>

Relevance to CHAP: Demonstrates that adaptation plans without legal authority, budget alignment, or mandates often fail to produce action.

Schmeltz, M., Smith, J., Olmos, I., & Quintero, E. (2023). Extreme heat governance: A critical analysis of Heat Action Plans in California. *American Journal of Public Health*, 113(1), 15–19. <https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2022.307117>

Relevance to CHAP: Demonstrates gaps in authority, enforcement, and role clarity in California heat plans, reinforcing the need for defined accountability pathways.

IV. Smaller Cities and Capacity Constraints

Pierce, G., Gabbe, C., Dunlap, L., Detwiler, B., Garcia, P., Hagen, H., & Schmidt, K. (2025). Planning for heat beyond the big city: Comparing smaller cities' heat activities, opportunities, and constraints in California. *Local Environment*, 30(10), 1403–1419. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13549839.2025.2477015>

Relevance to CHAP: Demonstrates that smaller cities lack staff and enforcement capacity, supporting County-provided technical assistance, model policies, and shared metrics.

V. Evaluation and Plan Quality

Errett, N., et al. (2023). Survey of extreme heat public health preparedness plans and response activities in the most populous U.S. jurisdictions. *BMC Public Health*, 23. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-023-15757-x>

Relevance to CHAP: Demonstrates inconsistent surveillance, evaluation, and community engagement across jurisdictions, supporting clear reporting and evaluation requirements.

Rose, C. J., & Göçmen, Z. A. (2024). Evaluating urban climate plans for heat preparedness. *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management*, 68, 2599–2620. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09640568.2024.2319696>

Relevance to CHAP: Demonstrates that equity language often lacks operational metrics, enforcement, and accountability.

VI. Community Engagement and Participation

Johar, H., et al. (2025). Community-based heat adaptation interventions for improving heat literacy, behaviours, and health outcomes: A systematic review. *The Lancet Planetary Health*. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2542-5196\(25\)00007-5](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2542-5196(25)00007-5)

Relevance to CHAP: Demonstrates the importance of sustained, community-led engagement, supporting deeper inclusion of tenant unions, Indigenous groups, and local organizations.

WHO IS MISSING AT THE TABLE

We appreciate the breadth of agencies, academic institutions, and nonprofit organizations involved in developing the Heat Action Plan. At the same time, several perspectives appear underrepresented or absent, particularly given the plan's equity goals.

San Gabriel Valley representation

The San Gabriel Valley is named in the revised Board motion as one of the hottest regions in Los Angeles County. Engagement includes institutional representation such as councils of governments and selected municipalities. However, there is limited participation from SGV-based resident-led organizations, tenant groups, or smaller cities with minimal planning capacity. In the HAP provided on the Chief Sustainability Office website, only the SGV COG, Active SGV, and City of Pomona are named. **SGV Casita asks the Board to engage smaller cities with minimal planning staff and other SGV community-based organizations.**

Tenant and housing-unstable voices

While housing-focused nonprofits participated, there is no clear participation from tenant unions, mobilehome resident organizations, eviction defense groups, community land trusts, mutual aid groups, or unhoused-led organizations. Renters and housing-unstable residents experience heat impacts first and often face retaliation or displacement risks when seeking cooling or housing improvements. **SGV Casita asks the Board to scale implementation and HAP enforcement to include groups such as the San Gabriel Valley Tenants' Alliance, Altadena Tenants Union, Alhambra Tenants Union, Claremont Tenants Union, Pasadena Tenants Union, South Pasadena Tenants Union, Rosemead Tenants Union, Pomona United for Stable Housing, Rosmead Tenants Union, West Covina Tenants Union, Healing and Justice Center, San Gabriel Valley Community Land Trust, Altadena Earthseed Community Land Trust, and the San Gabriel Valley Consortium On Homelessness.**

Indigenous perspectives

We did not identify Tribal governments or Indigenous-led organizations among the steering committee or workgroups listed in Appendix C. Indigenous land stewardship and traditional ecological knowledge offer critical insights into land, shade, and long-term cooling strategies. Their absence represents both an equity gap and a missed opportunity for more durable solutions. **SGV Casita asks the Board to extend partnership with the Tongva Taraxat Pixaavxa Conservancy, the San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians, and other Indigenous, regenerative land stewards.**

GAPS AND DISCREPANCIES IN THE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE DRAFT

Geographic limits of renter protections

The indoor temperature requirement applies only in unincorporated areas. The draft does not clearly explain how the County will support or encourage cities to adopt similar protections, despite acknowledging that most renters live in incorporated jurisdictions. SGV Casita asks the County to clarify how city adoption will be supported, tracked, and reported.

Enforcement timelines and metrics

The draft references phased enforcement and education-first approaches but does not specify timelines, benchmarks, or reporting requirements. SGV Casita requests clearer guidance on enforcement timelines and public reporting of complaints, resolutions, and outcomes.

Cooling site usability standards

The plan identifies barriers to cooling site use, including limited hours and transportation challenges. However, it does not define minimum standards for usability such as hours of operation, accessibility, safety, or accommodation of belongings. SGV Casita asks for clearer standards and metrics related to cooling site access and use.

REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT FOR SMALLER CITIES

Many cities in the San Gabriel Valley do not have the staff or resources to develop their own heat action plans. We respectfully request that the County provide:

- model policies and ordinances related to indoor heat and tenant protections
- technical assistance for smaller cities
- shared metrics and data tools
- guidance on funding pathways and grant opportunities
- clear expectations for city participation and reporting
- solutions for staffing challenges when it comes to adopting, implementing, and enforcing climate plans at the local level

CONCLUSION

SGV Casita is pleased that the County is taking measures to protect its residents from the deadliest climate disaster that we are facing. We look forward to the upcoming progress.

Respectfully submitted,

SGV Casita
Amanda Grant
Kiana Martinez
Sarah Murray