

March 21, 2022

Dear City Manager Commisso,

RE: Continued Funding for the Bay Area Climate Change Council (BACCC)

Sustainability Leadership works hard to serve our community at large. Sustainability Leadership is committed to a net zero carbon future because we believe that citizens and future generations should be able to enjoy a clean, healthy environment and thriving economy.

For this reason, I am writing to you today to request continued funding for BACCC, allowing the council to press forward with educating citizens and finding turnkey policy solutions for climate action.

Since its inception, BACCC has emerged as an organisation that punches far above its weight, with meaningful contributions to the community as we transition to net zero emissions.

In the two short years since the Cities of Burlington and Hamilton have provided funding:

- BACCC has supported over \$1 million in local investment requests
- BACCC has led over 15 policy initiatives to help local government tackle climate change in Hamilton and Burlington, including a complete municipal retrofit program design, a green economic development strategy, and an optimised transportation network framework
- BACCC hosts an annual free event for residents to learn about climate action (completely 'sold out' in 2021 with over 600 registrants)
- BACCC works hard to match its stable municipal funding with additional sources to maximise its regional climate impact
- BACCC has employed 9 additional youth, on top of the 2 full-time staff that are municipally funded

Unfortunately, the City of Burlington's funding for BACCC expires this year and continued funding was not included in the approved 2022-2023 Municipal Budget. Without municipal funding, BACCC cannot continue to support our community as we transition to a low carbon future.

Sustainability Leadership commends the City of Burlington for its contributions to BACCC thus far. Now is the time to reaffirm Burlington's commitment to climate action.

Sincerely,



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