

**Gutierrez, Jeannette**

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**From:** Michael J. Martin  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 1:54 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Cc:** Glaser, Heather  
**Subject:** Comment regarding Sustainability Action Plan 4

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To Whom It May Concern:

I strongly feel that Mountain View should follow through with the 2019 commitment—made as part of the SAP-4 plan—to promote plant-based diets.

I am a Bay Area resident interested in environmental sustainability. If we hope to have a viable future for ourselves, our children, and our grandchildren, we all need to shift to more a sustainable diet.

Sincerely,

*Michael J. Martin*

*Michael J. Martin, MD, MPH, MBA  
Associate Clinical Professor  
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**Gutierrez, Jeannette**

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**From:** Amy Halpern-Laff  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 2:03 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Cc:** Glaser, Heather  
**Subject:** SAP-4

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Dear Council Members,

In 2019, I joined a team of advocates at a Council meeting to ask the Council to educate the public on the environmental benefits of plant-predominant diets. Back then, the Council committed \$30,000 to include diet as in the Sustainability Action Plan. To date, however, I haven't seen any initiatives promoting sustainable diets. I hope the Council will authorize some activities soon.

Respectfully,  
Amy

Amy Halpern-Laff

*"We do not learn from experience. We learn from reflecting on experience." John Dewey*

## Gutierrez, Jeannette

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**From:** Lisa Wade ·  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 2:05 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Cc:** Glaser, Heather  
**Subject:** My Comments for City Council Meeting Tonight 5/11/2021

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My name is Lisa Wade. I am an environmental activist who has lived in Silicon Valley for over 30 years. I have lived in Mountain View and Santa Clara. I currently live in Los Gatos and still have friends in Mountain View. I love to visit the downtown stores and restaurants.

I was so pleased to hear in 2019 that Mountain View had made commitments to promote plant-based eating in the city. We cannot solve the climate crisis without a shift towards plant-based eating.

According to the United Nations, if meat consumption continues on its current trajectory, we cannot limit global warming to 2°C, the level necessary to avoid the potential collapse of human society.

The United Nations released its special climate report in 2019. It found a vegan diet to be by far the most sustainable diet even when compared with diets including mostly white meat and fish or a diet consisting of expensive meat from free-range or grass-fed animals  
<https://time.com/5648082/un-climate-report-less-meat/>

In addition, Researchers in a 2018 Oxford University study published in the journal Science said, "A vegan diet is probably the single biggest way to reduce your impact on planet Earth, not just greenhouse gases, but global acidification, eutrophication, land use, and water use. . . It is far bigger than cutting down on your flights or buying an electric car, as these only cut greenhouse gas emissions."  
<https://science.sciencemag.org/content/360/6392/987>

[https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/may/31/avoiding-meat-and-dairy-is-single-biggest-way-to-reduce-your-impact-on-earth?CMP=share\\_btn\\_fb](https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/may/31/avoiding-meat-and-dairy-is-single-biggest-way-to-reduce-your-impact-on-earth?CMP=share_btn_fb)

According to Project Drawdown, the third- and fourth-best climate change solutions are reducing food waste and eating a plant-rich diet. (The top two solutions aren't things the average person can easily control: refrigerant management and onshore wind turbines.)

If you read the section on plant-based diets in project drawdown it is stated that "...making the transition to a plant-based diet may well be the most effective way an individual can stop climate change."  
page 40 Drawdown The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed TO Reverse Global Warming Edited by Paul Hawken.

Meat and dairy production is very resource-intensive. The 2018 oxford university study found that without meat and dairy consumption global farmland use could be reduced by more than 75% an area as large as the continent of Africa, and still feed the world. We could free up land the size of Africa that we could re-forest and re-wild. Imagine how much carbon those trees could take out of the air. Also, we are facing the sixth mass extinction of species due to habitat loss. We are taking away the habitat of wild animals and plants in order to

grow a few species of farm animals that we eat.

I encourage the city to please start following through on your commitment to promoting plant-based eating in Mountain View.

Additional topics in case I have extra time.

Not only is meat and dairy production extremely resource-intensive but it generates enormous amounts of waste. As featured in Democracy Now with Amy Goodman factory farms are located in low-income communities where they pollute the neighborhoods of people of color such as spraying hog feces into the air as a cheap way to dispose of waste

In 2020 Latino civil rights organization LULAC called for a boycott on meat when the crowded, unsanitary, and unsafe conditions of meatpacking (in other words slaughterhouse workers) became apparent during the pandemic

Thank you!  
Lisa Wade