

SANTA CLARA COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE
7 PM-9PM, via Zoom Online Conference (details in box below)

(Our meeting is open to the public, but we reserve the right to remove guests who disrupt the meeting. Video and audio recording not permitted without prior approval)

AGENDA FOR Thursday, April 2, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. IDENTIFICATION OF VISITORS

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Thursday, March 5, 2020

6. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Resolution to Transition Away from Burning of Coal and Petroleum-coke
- b. Resolution on the Lehigh Southwest Cement Company Permanente Quarry Reclamation Plan

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Resolution regarding Xenophobic and Racist actions against Asian Americans
- b. First Reading: Proposed Bylaws Change re Endorsing Non-Democrats
- c. [Emergency] Resolution to Expand Covid-19 Eviction Protections

8. REPORTS

- a. Executive Board/Chair: Bill James
- b. Vice Chair: Jean Cohen
- c. Treasurer: Angelica Ramos
- d. Secretary: Helen Chapman
- e. Executive Director: James Kim
- f. Issues: Michael Vargas
- g. Community Services and Voter Registration: Judy Pipkin
- h. Finance: James Kim

- i. Endorsements: Clarence Madrilejos
- j. Communications: John Comiskey
- k. Gender Equity and the Status of Women: Shay Franco-Clausen
- l. Campaign Services: Titus Lin
- m. Clubs: Alex Wara
- n. Regional Director Report(s)
- o. DNC: Otto Lee
- p. DTV Report: Steve Chessin
- q. Pro-Choice Coalition: Claudia Shope

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS

10. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Next meeting April 15, 2020,
6-7:30pm, via Zoom (contact
chair@sccdp.org for link)

11. ADJOURNMENT

*In Memory of former San Jose Mayor
Susan Hammer (1938-2020)*

Zoom Meeting Details

<https://zoom.us/j/421629424?pwd=NWR0TFRGbmVTNlR0WpZcktHdVhRZQT09>

By Phone: (669) 900 6833
Meeting ID: 421 629 424
Password: 499015

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,421629424#

Find alternate phone numbers:
<https://zoom.us/u/abZnQdyW1>

Resolution to Transition Away from Burning of Coal and Petroleum-coke in Santa Clara County

WHEREAS as devastating wildfires sweep across our state, fueled by climate-driven drought, extreme heat and high winds, the need for action on climate change has never been more urgent. To address this urgent issue, Santa Clara County has made a declaration of a climate emergency¹.

WHEREAS; Santa Clara County could greatly cut greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from stationary sources if coal and petroleum-coke burning industries transition by 2030 to technologies that do not emit greenhouse gases^{2,3,4,5}. Under State Law SB32, the state is required to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030⁶.

WHEREAS; the largest single source GHG polluter in Santa Clara County is Lehigh Southwest Cement Plant (Lehigh)⁵, which uses petroleum-coke as a fuel source to manufacture cement⁷, releasing nearly a million metric tons of GHG emissions per year based on its 2016 reported emissions⁸.

WHEREAS; as one example of a promising alternative to the current methods used by Lehigh, it should be noted that "Cementa, part of Heidelberg Cement Group [which Lehigh is also apart of this group], and Vattenfall have conducted a pilot study on electrified cement production aiming to produce cement with zero carbon emissions by 2030"⁹.

WHEREAS; as another example of a promising alternative to the current methods used by Lehigh, companies such as Blue Planet (Los Gatos, California) are developing and have piloted new technologies to capture the carbon dioxide in plants such as the Lehigh Cement Plant and produce commercially useful products¹⁰.

WHEREAS; we believe Lehigh and other companies operating in Santa Clara County should be required to minimize the adverse impact of their operations on our community and environment, and should provide good, union jobs, with pay, benefits, and working conditions that meet our local community's standards and expectations^{11,12,13}, and we believe the Lehigh can transition to cleaner fuels and to advanced production technologies while being held to uphold such standards.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that to lower GHG emissions and reduce toxic air pollutants the Santa Clara County Democratic Party calls upon the County and other government agencies to compel Lehigh and others to transition by 2030 from the burning of coal and petroleum-coke in Santa Clara County by converting to carbon-free energy sources and/or utilizing other technologies that do not emit greenhouse gases.

References – provided for background and not incorporated into the resolution text

1. The County of Santa Clara California Resolution BOS-2019-111 Accepted as Amended, [Aug 27, 2019 9:30 AM](#) “Adopt Resolution declaring a climate emergency that demands immediate action to halt, reverse, restore and address the consequences and causes of global warming”. (Cortese)
http://sccgov.igam2.com/Citizens/Detail_LegiFile.aspx?Frame=SplitView&MeetingID=11135&MediaPosition=&ID=98193&CssClass=
2. “Why California Should Say ‘No’ to Petroleum Coke.” Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter.https://www.sierraclub.org/sites/www.sierraclub.org/files/sce-authors/u1054/0696%20California%20PetCoke%20Fact_02_x1a.pdf
3. “Why the Bay Area Should Say No to Coal and Petcoke Exports.” Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter.<https://www.sierraclub.org/sites/www.sierraclub.org/files/sce/san-francisco-bay/Bay%20Area%20Coal%20Fact%20Sheet%282%29.pdf>
4. “The Gas Rush Locking America into Another Fossil Fuel for Decades.” Sierra Club National. “According to a study published by the National Academy of Sciences, methane leakage can as much as double the climate effect of gas” page 1, https://www.sierraclub.org/sites/content.sierraclub.org.naturalgas/files/1466-Gas-Rush-Report_04_web.pdf
5. “Bay Area Emissions Inventory Summary Report: Greenhouse Gases, Base Year 2011”, Table S: Annual GHG Emissions: SANTA CLARA Year 2011 (Metric Tons / Year) page 37
https://www.baaqmd.gov/~/media/Files/Planning%20and%20Research/Emission%20Inventory/BY2011_GHGSummary.ashx?la=en&la=en
6. Gonzales, Richard. “California Gov. Jerry Brown Signs New Climate Change Laws.” *NPR*, NPR, 9 Sept. 2016, www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2016/09/08/493191842/california-gov-jerry-brown-signs-new-climate-change-laws.
7. “Answers to Unanswered Questions from 2/28/19 Lehigh Public Meeting .” County of Santa Clara, 2019, page 4 “Although Lehigh is permitted to use coal as fuel, Lehigh uses 100% petroleum coke”.
https://www.sccgov.org/sites/dpd/DocsForms/Documents/Lehigh_20190228_CommunityMeeting_Questions.pdf
8. California’s Cement Industry Failing the Climate Challenge: As a reference for ~1 million metric tons/year or 1,017 kilo tons/ figure for the Lehigh Cement Plant in Silicon Valley, please see page 19 and table 1 on page 20
[https://www.siliconvalleydemclub.org/resources/Documents/CA-Cement-benchmarking-report-Rev-Final\(1\).pdf](https://www.siliconvalleydemclub.org/resources/Documents/CA-Cement-benchmarking-report-Rev-Final(1).pdf)
9. “CemZero - A Collaborative Project with Cementa.” *Vattenfall*, group.<https://group.vattenfall.com/what-we-do/roadmap-to-fossil-freedom/industry-decarbonisation/cementa>
10. Kim, Jed. “Changing Carbon from Waste into Gold.” *Marketplace*, 29 Apr. 2019, www.marketplace.org/2017/02/23/changing-carbon-waste-gold/.
11. “The Gas Rush Locking America into Another Fossil Fuel for Decades.” Sierra Club National, page 7, “According to research Sierra Club commissioned from the University of California, Berkeley Don Vial Center on Employment in the Green Economy, the Sierra Club goal to replace all fossil fuel-based electricity with renewable sources of energy would create 4.3 million direct job years in construction and related services and could indirectly create more than 5 million job years through the construction supply chain by 2030.”
https://www.sierraclub.org/sites/content.sierraclub.org.naturalgas/files/1466-Gas-Rush-Report_04_web.pdf
12. “Health Effects of Petroleum Coke.” *EPA*, Environmental Protection Agency, 27 Jan. 2020, “...Significant quantities of fugitive dust from pet coke storage and handling operations present a health risk. EPA is particularly concerned about particles that are 10 micrometers in diameter or smaller (referred to as PM10) because those are the particles that generally pass through the throat and nose and enter the lungs. Once inhaled, these particles can affect the heart and lungs and cause serious health effects...”
www.epa.gov/petroleum-coke-chicago/health-effects-petroleum-coke.
13. California’s Cement Industry Failing the Climate Challenge: page 28, “Several major decarbonization levers that can help California to reduce energy use and GHG emissions from its cement industry ...Different policy tools can help accelerate a transition and create incentives to clean up cement not just in California, but in other states and regions that supply the California market.”
[https://www.siliconvalleydemclub.org/resources/Documents/CA-Cement-benchmarking-report-Rev-Final\(1\).pdf](https://www.siliconvalleydemclub.org/resources/Documents/CA-Cement-benchmarking-report-Rev-Final(1).pdf)

Resolution on the Lehigh Southwest Cement Company Permanente Quarry Reclamation Plan

WHEREAS, the Permanente Quarry is within five miles from over 200,000 residents of Santa Clara County¹.

WHEREAS; Lehigh Southwest Cement Plant and Permanente Quarry have a history of alleged local and federal violations; potentially exposing residents to air, water, and noise pollution; contaminating Permanente Creek, which leads to the San Francisco Bay Estuary; and threatening the environment.^{1,2,3,4,5,6,7}

WHEREAS; the 2019 Lehigh Reclamation Plan Amendment proposes a drastic deviation from the existing County-approved 2012 Reclamation Plan Amendment⁸. For example, instead of using available onsite materials to backfill the main quarry as described in the 2012 plan, the 2019 plan could add about “666 truck trips per weekday⁹ for 30 years. This increase of truck traffic and the resulting impacts to greenhouse gas emissions, public safety and congestion, likely constitute significant impacts under CEQA”, as stated in a Santa Clara County letter to Lehigh regarding the application for 2019 Reclamation Plan Amendment¹⁰.

WHEREAS; the letters from the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District¹¹, the cities of Cupertino¹¹, Los Altos¹¹, and Los Altos Hills¹¹, and the Sierra Club¹² demonstrate that the existing County-approved 2012 Permanente Quarry Reclamation Plan is the superior to the 2019 Reclamation Plan Amendment. These letters indicate that the 2012 plan protects the ridgeline between the quarry and Rancho San Antonio Park, as dictated in the 1972 Ridgeline Protection Easement Deed¹³, preserves the surrounding community’s scenic views¹⁴, removes current and future waste-material visual impacts¹⁵, minimizes traffic, and restores Permanente Creek in a timely manner¹⁶.

WHEREAS; we believe Lehigh should be required to minimize the adverse impact of their operations on our community and provide good, union jobs, with wages, benefits, and working conditions that meet our local community's standards and expectations, and we believe that Lehigh can continue to operate under the 2012 reclamation plan while being held to uphold such standards.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party asks the Santa Clara County Government to assure that Lehigh Southwest Cement Plant and Quarry comes into full compliance with its outstanding noticed violations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party urges the Santa Clara County Government to deny the 2019 Permanente Quarry Reclamation Plan Amendment, uphold 1972 Ridgeline Protection Easement Deed, and retain the existing approved 2012 Lehigh Permanente Quarry Reclamation Plan which minimizes traffic, preserves scenic vistas, and restores Permanente Creek in a timely manner.

References – provided for background and not incorporated into the resolution text

1. “Detailed Facility Report | ECHO | US EPA.” EPA, Environmental Protection Agency, 18 Mar. 2020, <https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110000484039>.
2. “Lehigh Cement Settlement to Reduce Air Emissions in Cupertino.” Bay Area Air Quality Management District A Healthy Breathing Environment For Every Bay Area Resident, 3 Dec. 2019, <http://www.baaqmd.gov/news-and-events/page-resources/2019-news/120319-settle-lehigh>.
3. “Civil Enforcement Case Report | ECHO | US EPA.” EPA, Environmental Protection Agency, 16 Dec. 2019, <https://echo.epa.gov/enforcement-case-report?id=09-2010-0503>.
4. Harrison, Laird. “KQED News: KQED Public Media for Northern CA.” KQED, 19 Sept. 2012. <https://www.kqed.org/news/76301/rules-tightened-on-cupertino-cement-plant-a-big-source-of-bay-area-Mercury-pollution>
5. “Attorney General Kamala D. Harris Announces \$7.5 Million Settlement With Lehigh Cement For Environmental Violations.” State of California - Department of Justice - Office of the Attorney General, 25 July 2016, <https://oag.ca.gov/news/press-releases/attorney-general-kamala-d-harris-announces-75-million-settlement-lehigh-cement>.
6. Huennekens, Rachele. “Steelhead in Santa Clara: Loma Prieta Chapter Wins Legal Clean-Water Victory - The Planet.” Sierra Club, Loma Prieta Chapter, 2 May 2013, <https://blogs.sierraclub.org/planet/2013/05/steelhead-in-santa-clara-loma-prieta-chapter-wins-legal-clean-Water-victory.html>.
7. “Lehigh Southwest Cement Company Faces Legal Challenge to Environmental Impact Report .” Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, 29 Nov. 2012. https://www.openspace.org/CGI-BIN/press_releases/121129_LehighPR.pdf
8. Barton, Bruce. “Los Altos Declares Opposition to Latest Lehigh Quarry Plan.” Los Altos Town Crier, www.losaltosonline.com/news/sections/news/297-news-features/60611-los-altos-declares-opposition-to-latest-lehigh-quarry-plan.
9. “Environmental Information Form submitted to Santa Clara County by Lehigh .” County of Santa Clara, 2019. Page 8 “666 one-way trips (333 loads) for soil import and outbound empty trucks”
https://www.sccgov.org/sites/dpd/DocsForms/Documents/2250_2019RPA_Application.pdf
10. July 22, 2019 Santa Clara County letter to Lehigh regarding incomplete application for Reclamation Plan Amendment – see page 5 “666 truck trips per weekday for 30 years. This increase of truck traffic and the resulting impacts to greenhouse gas emissions, public safety and congestion, likely constitute significant impacts under CEQA.”
https://www.sccgov.org/sites/dpd/DocsForms/Documents/2250_2019RPA_Incompleteletter_20190722.pdf
11. “ Letters from the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District and the Cities of Cupertino, Los Altos, and Los Altos Hills.” Silicon Valley Democratic Club, 2020.
<https://www.siliconvalleydemclub.org/resources/Documents/Group%20of%20Letters%20from%20Agencies%20about%20Lehigh%202019%20Reclamation%20Plan%20o.pdf>
12. Ferreira , Mike. “Lehigh Southwest Cement Company’s Application for Permanente Quarry Reclamation Plan Amendment, May 2019 .” Silicon Valley Democratic Club, 2020.
<https://www.siliconvalleydemclub.org/resources/Documents/Letter%20to%20SC%20County%202019%20Lehigh%20Amendment.pdf>
13. July 22, 2019 Santa Clara County letter to Lehigh regarding incomplete application for Reclamation Plan Amendment – see page 3 “The Application proposes to lower the height of the ridgeline protected by the 1972 Easement”
https://www.sccgov.org/sites/dpd/DocsForms/Documents/2250_2019RPA_Incompleteletter_20190722.pdf
14. Kaiser Cement and Gypsum Corporation, “Ridgeline Protection Easement Deed.” County of Santa Clara, 1972.
<http://www.southbayquarrylibrary.org/Catalog/Kaiser%20Cement%20&%20Gypsum%20Corp%201972%2008%2018%20Ridgeline%20Protection%20Easement%20Deed.pdf>
15. “Lehigh Permanente Quarry Reclamation Plan Amendment 4.7-1 ESA / 211742 Draft Environmental Impact Report December 2011 .” County of Santa Clara. Page 29 “...Approximately 60 million short tons of overburden obtained from a combination of continued mining in the Quarry pit and the excavation of the WMSA would be backfilled into the Quarry pit, thereby buttressing existing areas of instability, establishing positive drainage into Permanente Creek, and lowering slope heights and ultimate gradients within the WMSA...” https://www.sccgov.org/sites/dpd/DocsForms/Documents/Lehigh_DEIR_201112_Ch4_07_Geology.pdf
16. July 22, 2019 Santa Clara County letter to Lehigh regarding incomplete application for Reclamation Plan Amendment – see page 3, “potential extends this timeframe to approximately 2040, creating an unexplained delay of 10 years”
https://www.sccgov.org/sites/dpd/DocsForms/Documents/2250_2019RPA_Incompleteletter_20190722.pdf

Resolution regarding Xenophobic and Racist actions against Asian Americans

Whereas, as the spread COVID-19 has taken hold of the world, has threatened the lives of many, and push health care systems to the breaking point, there has been a rise of xenophobic hysteria and racist actions upon individuals of Asian-Pacific Islander heritage. From January 28 to February 24 there have been more than 1,000 reported cases of xenophobia actions against Asians in America (a rate of 37 cases per day) and throughout the world according to faculty from San Francisco State University.

Whereas, these fears and actions have been fueled by misinformation and misplaced conspiracy theories of COVID-19 spreads and of its origins through social media, right-wing media, conservative personalities, and particular leaders. The President of the United States and his administration has purposefully used the terms like “Chinese Virus” and “Kung Flu” in order to create an “us vs them” political atmosphere and stoke fear and anger against Asian American Americans.

Whereas, statements that shift people’s attention away from focusing on addressing the public health crisis created by the spread of COVID-19 towards putting blame upon ethnic communities. The shift of focus only spreads stigma, fear and increase xenophobic attacks on the Asian American Community.

Whereas, California and America as a whole are strong because of the contributions of its immigrant community. Asian Americans have been on the frontlines to combat the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Asian Americans in the health care sector are there treating and nursing individuals who have succumbed to the disease. Asian Americans are in the labs developing the treatments, cures, and vaccines.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party denounces the spread of further fears and stigma that put that blame upon the Asian Pacific Islander community or any other minority communities.

Be it further resolved, the Santa Clara County Democratic Party demand President Donald Trump demonstrate moral leadership, exemplified by Governor Newsom, by condemning any and all attacks on the API community and apologize to the American People for inciting such behavior.

Be it further resolved, the Santa Clara County Democratic Party advocates that the California Democratic Party adopt this resolution or resolution of similar content.

[Draft] Bylaws Change regarding endorsement of non-Democrats

The below proposal will be considered by the Executive Board on April 15, 2020 and will be considered by the full Central Committee for possible adoption at our May 7, 2020 meeting.

Proposal: make Section VIII.D of the SCCDCC Bylaws more consistent with Section II.B.3 with respect to endorsing non-Democrats in races in which no Democrat is running.

The current language of the two sections reads as follows:

VIII.D: Any member who endorses a candidate for office who is not a registered Democrat shall, in addition to any other sanctions the SCCDCC may deem appropriate, automatically and without any further consideration or action of the SCCDCC lose their voting privileges in all endorsement decisions through the end of the next general election.

II.B.3: [Allows Sanctions if a member is] Publicly advocating that voters support a candidate who is registered as a Republican, or any candidate who is not registered as a Democrat *and is running against an endorsed Democratic candidate.*

The italicized language shows that II.B.3 sanctions only apply when someone endorses a non-Democrat (other than a Republican) who is running against an endorsed Democrat. On the other hand, VIII.D applies to any endorsement of a non-Democrat regardless of whether they are running against an endorsed Democrat (or any Democrat).

Proposed NEW Section VIII.D would read as follows (changes underlined):

VIII.D: Any member who endorses a candidate for office who is not a registered Democrat and is running against a registered Democrat shall, in addition to any other sanctions the SCCDCC may deem appropriate, automatically and without any further consideration or action of the SCCDCC lose their voting privileges in all endorsement decisions through the end of the next general election.

**EMERGENCY RESOLUTION FOR THE EXPANSION OF COVID-19 EVICTION
PROTECTIONS FOR RESIDENTS OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA**

WHEREAS, all residents of the County of Santa Clara ("the County") are experiencing a declared state of emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic posing immediate and widespread risk of harm to human health and life, and, with exceptions for the provision or receipt of essential goods and services, are under official directives from the State of California ("the State") and the County to shelter in place within their current residences; and

WHEREAS, adherence to shelter in place orders has recessed and broadly scaled back commercial activities in the County, resulting in sudden and significant economic harm to many individuals such as the loss of income, employment, and productivity; of whom many of these individuals lease their homes as renters in the County and are now at greater personal risk of becoming homeless, thereby heightening the County's risk of increased transmission rates of COVID-19 should they become homeless; and

WHEREAS, in order to reduce this risk, on March 24th, 2020, the County Board of Supervisors ("the Supervisors") enacted a moratorium ordinance currently lasting through May 31st, 2020 against the termination of lawful tenancies by County residents able to demonstrate through pay stubs, medical bills, employer attestations, bank statements, and similar documentation that their inability to pay rents is a result of "substantial loss" caused by the COVID-19 crisis; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance does not prevent the serving of eviction notices to tenants during the COVID-19 state of emergency; additionally requires tenants to fully repay past-due rents within 120 days of the expiration of the ordinance, without factoring for compounding losses that may accrue from shelter in place orders extending beyond May 31st, 2020; and, does not make considerations on behalf of the ability to pay for the County's rent-burdened and severely rent-burdened households respectively paying greater than 30% and 50% of their total incomes towards their current rents or establish rent relief funding for the neediest of these such households;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT; the Santa Clara County Democratic Party calls upon the Supervisors and the legislative bodies of every City and Town within the County to build upon the County's current eviction moratorium to deliver to County residents the strongest such protections in the State; that such protections be achieved through emergency actions during their next scheduled legislative sessions or the emergency convening of such a session; and that these actions result in the adoption of:

- (a) an additional allowance of 60 days to the repayment period for past-due rents for every period of 1 month for which shelter in place orders extend beyond May 31st, 2020; these allowance extensions added to the 120 day period already established in the current ordinance; and
- (b) the right for rent-burdened and severely rent-burdened households to enter into negotiated payment plans for the repayment of past-due rents, providing that such households may not be involuntarily compelled to respectively pay greater than 40% or 55% of their total monthly incomes in the process of becoming whole with past-due rents; and
- (c) the suspension of the serving of eviction notices to all County tenants for failure to pay rent during the COVID-19 state of emergency, with tenants failing to pay being noticed instead with documentation of their rights under the adopted eviction protections; and
- (d) official appeals to the regional private sector for partnership and funding opportunities into County and municipal rent relief funds established for the express purpose of relieving the most stricken households in the County able to demonstrate the greatest need of assistance

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Santa Clara County Democratic Party Central Committee stands with all of the County's tenants during the COVID-19 crisis, strongly rejects any actions such as evictions which increase the risk of harm caused by COVID-19, and that copies of this resolution be sent to the Supervisors, the duly elected legislative bodies of every City and Town within the County, as well as the leadership boards of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group and Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Submitted by: Alex Nunez, Mountain View