

Resolution for Climate-Resilient Infrastructure

WHEREAS climate change is increasing the frequency, duration, and intensity of extreme heat events in California, with average maximum daily temperatures projected to rise 5.6°F to 8.8°F by the end of the century, posing serious effects toward public health and community wellbeing; and

WHEREAS extreme heat is the deadliest weather-related hazard in the U.S., and schools and neighborhoods with limited heat-durable infrastructure experience significantly higher temperatures exposing residents especially in underserved communities to greater risks of heat-related issues and poor air quality; and

WHEREAS expanding urban tree canopy, creating shaded outdoor spaces, and investing in climate-resilient school infrastructure (e.g. cooling systems, air filtration, and heat mitigation measures) to improve student learning and promote a sustainable and safe environment;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party supports increased investment in climate-resilient urban development, including funding for tree planting and maintenance, shade infrastructure, cooling and air filtration upgrades, and other heat and weather resilience projects, with priority given to schools and neighborhoods facing the greatest vulnerability toward extreme weather; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, Santa Clara County Office of Education, and local school districts.

Submitted by Ahaana Goel