



## Summary

### Safety Element Update Listening Session #2: Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action **January 3, 2023 12:00 – 1:00 PM**

Facilitator: Esther Duong, Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action

Presenters: Aaron Pfannenstiel, Atlas Planning Solutions; Dennis Larson, Nexus Planning & Research

Approximately 25 attendees for a virtual meeting facilitated by Esther Duong from Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action (SVYCA). Project team provided a slide show overview of the Safety Element Update. The purpose of the discussions pertained to the following questions:

- What are data gaps? Are there additional strategies to consider?
- How would SVYCA like to be involved in the implementation?
- What is the best way to keep SVYCA informed?

Questions and comments:

- SVYCA members want to know how they can become involved in addressing climate change. They would like to have opportunities to gain experience in the green jobs sector. Participants felt that paid internships or work experience in related country programs would be a great way to get high school students engaged. In general, high school students are looking for ways to get career exploration and to be part of the solution. Hoi mentioned that around 3000+ high school students in the Fremont school district mentioned that they want to learn more about green jobs and solutions in the comments of the climate advisory SVYCA put together. In addition, the participants asked the County to consider having paid internships for natural areas like ULISTAC natural preserve to maintain them while educating students and the public.
- The County might want to consider email/mail direct communication to residents about updates to the plan. Especially to communities which lack access to the Internet.
- One of the most important ways to educate the community and spread information is through education, which could look like partnerships with school districts in the

county. SVYCA has had a lot of success and experience working with Santa Clara County school districts on climate education. As demonstrated by the poll at the beginning of the meeting, a majority of our age group probably isn't very acutely aware of what the County is doing as far as hazard response, but is eager to learn and even participate. By educating youth, that knowledge can spread to their households and other members of the community

- Keeping County websites up to date and easy to access is a good way to stay in communication with SVYCA members. Right now, the website is hard to navigate which makes it hard for participants to understand recent updates. Generally, the County should "clean up" their website. Although, it was noted that the Santa Clara County website is a lot better than the Santa Clara City website.