

From: [Denise Louie](#)
To: [Comerford, Cyndy \(ENV\)](#); [Brastow, Peter \(ENV\)](#); [Tanenberg, Diedre \(ENV\)](#)
Cc: [Bob Hall](#); [Jean Bogiages](#); [Susan Karasoff](#)
Subject: Re: Healthy ecosystem metrics - Karasoff public comment
Date: Tuesday, February 15, 2022 11:03:56 AM

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Hi Cyndy,
I second Susan Karasoff's comments. Thank you, Susan, for your cogent comments.

In addition, I have the following comments.

At the CAP website*, the description reads, "The [2021 San Francisco Climate Action Plan](#) (the Plan) charts a pathway to achieve net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and works toward addressing racial and social equity, public health, economic recovery, resilience, and providing safe and affordable housing to all." I urge you to include caring for native biodiversity as a goal. Because biodiversity (species, abundance and biomass) is suffering from climate change as well as all human activities (save habitat restoration).

Further, I urge you to expand resources available to implement goals of the Plan, even now, before the Plan is actually approved. Currently, not even one FTE is dedicated to biodiversity.

Moreover, I urge you to engage the public to address the Plan's goals. When DOE tables at community events, there is talk about the three bins, nothing about biodiversity. Engaging the public about biodiversity can and should be measured and included in the Plan.

Thank you,
Denise Louie
Member, Center for Biological Diversity

* [San Francisco Climate Action](#)

On Monday, February 14, 2022, 04:01:41 PM PST, Susan <bozo@saturn5.org> wrote:

Dear Cyndy,
Thank you for addressing potential San Francisco CAP Healthy ecosystem metrics. What is measured can be managed.

Biodiversity is biosecurity. Biodiversity only applies to locally native plants and wildlife. Introduced, invasive and non-local native plants contribute to landscape diversity, not to biodiversity. Our pollinators eat local native plants as caterpillar food. Introduced plant leaves feed few, if any, caterpillar species. Caterpillar species feed the rest of our local food web. Healthy urban ecosystems are measured by the health of contributors to their biodiverse food web and habitat.

Please consider the following healthy ecosystem metrics for San Francisco CAP:

Commit SF agencies to following the biodiversity principles in San Francisco's CAP. SF agencies should only plant locally native plants, with exception for the Arboretum's non-native sections.

SFPW proves that planting only locally native plants can be done in an attractive manner, as demonstrated in the Sunset Boulevard master plan and associated planted blocks.

Measure the amount of locally native versus introduced, invasive and non-local native plants in city green spaces. Include golf course greenery in city measurements. Use this initial measurement as a baseline against which changes can be measured.

Remove invasive plants from natural resource areas, dunes, parks and green spaces.

Remove dead, dying and dangerous trees from natural resource areas, dunes, parks and green spaces. Example: remove the dying, drought stressed eucalyptus on Mt Davidson.

Count the carbon sequestration from long rooted native grasses and in soil, as well as from trees.

Measure the water quality of city lakes and ponds, such as Lake Merced, to make sure that city golf courses and other green spaces are not polluting our city water with pesticides.

Measure and improve soil health every year

Measure and increase resident and migrating birds species, population, bird habitat and health every year. Include Federally endangered and locally rare bird species, including Western snowy plover and California least tern.

Measure and increase pollinators species, including specialist pollinators, population, habitat and health every year at all life cycle stages, including egg and caterpillar. Include Federally endangered and locally rare pollinator species, including Mission Blue, Coastal Green Hairstreak, San Bruno Elfin, Bay Checkerspot, Western Pigmy Blue, Callippe Silverspot, Pipevine Swallowtail and silver digger bee.

Measure and increase amphibians species, population, habitat and health every year. Include Federally endangered amphibian species, including California red-legged frog.

Measure and increase reptile species, population, habitat and health every year. Include Federally endangered reptile, including San Francisco gartersnake, Loggerhead sea turtle, Leatherback sea turtle

Measure and increase crustaceans population, health, habitat and numbers every year.

Measure and increase mollusk population, health, habitat and numbers every year. Include Federally endangered and locally rare mollusk species, including black abalone

Measure and increase mammalian health every year, including people. Measure resident's health using asthma health info from local hospitals as a proxy for mammalian health.

Measure and increase wetlands health, including riparian/creek areas, every year. Daylight and plant San Francisco creeks with local native riparian plants.

Measure and increase every local native plant community health every year, including issues with invasive species.

Measure and increase native wildlife habitat every year.

Measure and increase wildlife corridors and wildlife use as shown as being key to urban biodiversity by the SFEI report Making Nature's city <https://www.sfei.org/projects/making-natures-city>

Enhancements to the urban forest matter in how the urban forest supports biodiversity and urban ecology. As of the most recent San Francisco street tree survey, of 125,000 San Francisco street trees, only 726 were locally native trees. Only local native trees support our local food web and ecosystem. Over 16% of San Francisco's canopy is comprised of invasive, fire prone, shallow

rooted, drought stressed eucalyptus trees which do not feed our ecosystem. Please measure and add locally native trees only. Please add native trees where their plant communities were located.

Native plants planted in plant communities are resilient to climate change. Introduced and non-local native plants and trees are not resilient to climate change. San Francisco benefits from native plants planted in plant communities.

Sincerely,
Susan Karasoff
San Francisco resident

From: [Susan](#)
To: [Comerford, Cyndy \(ENV\)](#); [Brastow, Peter \(ENV\)](#); [Tanenberg, Diedre \(ENV\)](#)
Cc: [Bob Hall](#); [Denise Louie](#); [Jean Bogiages](#)
Subject: Healthy ecosystem metrics - Karasoff public comment
Date: Monday, February 14, 2022 4:01:58 PM

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