

**From:** [Meier, Antoinette](#)  
**To:** [Lero, Tessa](#); [Huntington, Susan](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: SANDAG Transportation Committee Public Comment on San Diego Forward - Regional Transportation Plan  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 7, 2019 3:53:46 PM

---

Not sure how this got sent to me but forwarding to you.

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

----- Original message -----

From: "carl.luster carl.luster" <carl.luster@cox.net>  
Date: 8/7/19 3:51 PM (GMT-08:00)  
To: Nathan.Fletcher@sdcounty.ca.gov  
Cc: "Meier, Antoinette" <Antoinette.Meier@sandag.org>  
Subject: SANDAG Transportation Committee Public Comment on San Diego Forward -  
Regional Transportation Plan

Mr. Fletcher,

I am a resident of San Diego County District 4, and I am writing to you as a member of the SANDAG Transportation Committee. I've submitted a written comment for the September 6 meeting of the Transportation Committee on the topic of the San Diego Forward - Regional Transportation Plan.

I hope you and your fellow committee members will make sure the regional transportation plan gives sufficient emphasis to proven technologies like electric trolley buses as ways to meet transportation and climate goals. With in-motion charging, trolley buses are ready to significantly reduce vehicle emissions and improve air quality today. As I learn more about this topic, I'm concerned that California Air Resources Board regulations might lead transportation agencies to favor less effective and more expensive new technologies like battery electric buses.

News about climate change is increasingly urgent, and it seems we don't have time to wait for science to save us from ourselves in the future. We need to use existing technology to save ourselves here and now.

**From:** [carl.luster@carl.luster](mailto:carl.luster@carl.luster)  
**To:** [Clerk of the Board](#)  
**Cc:** [Huntington, Susan](#)  
**Subject:** SANDAG Transportation Committee Public Comment on San Diego Forward - Regional Transportation Plan  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 7, 2019 2:50:14 PM

---

Ladies and Gentlemen:

My name is Carl Luster, and I am a resident of San Diego living in the El Cerrito neighborhood.

I am writing to submit a public comment for the September 6 (or next) meeting of the SANDAG Transportation Committee.

This comment is on the topic of the San Diego Forward - Regional Transportation Plan.

News about climate change is increasingly urgent, and it seems we don't have time to wait for science to save us from ourselves in the future. We need to use existing technology to save ourselves here and now. After reading the online summary of the San Diego regional transportation plan, I wonder why it doesn't include electric trolley buses, trolley trucks, or solar panels on the roadways? These proven technologies would be direct and immediate ways to support local Climate Action Plan goals and meet state greenhouse gas reduction targets.

Deploying solar panels and overhead trolley lines for buses and trucks would expand the use of electricity in support of clean fuel and greenhouse gas emission reduction policies.

Roadway electrification could at least partially pay for itself with a tax or surcharge on electric power used to charge or operate electric vehicles. This is similar to existing gasoline taxes and would make up for at least some reductions in state and federal funds.

Overhead trolley lines are a proven technology for electric buses and trucks. With in-motion charging and solar power generation on the roadways, they can significantly reduce vehicle emissions and improve air quality. These existing technologies deal with the lack of charging infrastructure and range limitations for electric vehicles such as battery electric buses. In the future, inductive or wireless charging technology might be embedded in roads to charge EVs while they drive, but trolley lines and solar panels can be implemented successfully today.

Shouldn't the regional transportation plan look beyond giving people compelling alternatives to driving alone, and help to meet environmental goals by converting buses to an electric trolley system, which might be shared by commercial trucks and could be partially powered by solar panels along major roadways?

Please visit these web pages for explanations of the trolley and solar power systems I'm referring to.

The Verdict's Still Out on Battery-Electric Buses

<https://www.citylab.com/transportation/2019/01/electric-bus-battery-recharge-new-flyer-byd-proterra-beb/577954/>

There's Now An Electric Highway In California - Forbes

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/sebastianblanco/2017/11/08/electric-highway-california-siemens/>

eHighway | Electromobility | Siemens

<https://new.siemens.com/global/en/products/mobility/road-solutions/electromobility/ehighway.html>

Solar Highway Facts And Fallacies

<https://www.edn.com/design/power-management/4432228/Solar-highway-facts-and-fallacies>