From: Bonnie Shipman
To: City Clerk

Subject: Items from the Audience - Climate Emergency Declaration

**Date:** Monday, October 5, 2020 11:40:49 AM

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Hello, I am unable to "attend" tomorrow night's Redmond City Council meeting. I would like to submit this statement in support of declaring a climate emergency.

Thank you, Bonnie Shipman

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Hello,

My name is Bonnie Shipman. I am a citizen of Redmond and I have lived here for 17 years. Washington state has already had the second worst fire season in state history and this year's fire season has only just *begun*. While fires continue to destroy our forests, a question burns in my mind, "Are the Mayor and City Council members courageous enough to **declare a state of climate emergency** tonight?"

The latest draft of a Climate Emergency Declaration has a 2030 timeline and I would like to emphasize that an aggressive timeline is *crucial*. 2030 may sound too ambitious to some, but the laws of physics are relentless. Mathematical realities are not affected by our opinions or feelings and the laws of physics are not influenced by politics or profits.

Humankind has known for 150 years that carbon dioxide is one of the greenhouse gases that warms our planet's atmosphere. We've known for 120 years that burning fossil fuels adds to the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. We've known with considerable precision for at least 30 years that atmospheric carbon dioxide is increasing rapidly and causing global warming. Climate scientists have been carefully recording observations for decades and the data has been consistent and relentless.

I am extremely concerned for our future and I am afraid because we are running out of time. Unless we take this issue seriously. Now. We are handing our children a future of rising sea levels, hurricanes of greater force, floods, extreme heat causing more forest fires, severe droughts, famine, mass migration and poverty.

At this point, we only have a handful of years to halt this impending train wreck. Our children and grandchildren are too young to vote. They are counting on *us* as caretakers of their future. They are counting on *you*. I would like to thank the Mayor and the members of the Council for their public service and for their thoughtful consideration.

Thank you,

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