

**From:** [Bob Whitehair](#)  
**To:** [Anthony Suber](#)  
**Subject:** Reach Code Consideration  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 16, 2022 4:43:56 PM

---

**[The e-mail below is from an external source. Please do not open attachments or click links from an unknown or suspicious origin.]**

Dear Mayor DeGolia and Council Members,

Thank you for considering strong Reach Codes. I am a resident of San Mateo who has been following, and speaking to this very regional issue for about 3 years. I say regional, because of the 50 or so Reach Codes adopted in California, almost half came from City Councils in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties. If you adopt a strong reach tonight, you will be in good company!

I grew up in small house in Southern California with methane (aka natural gas) in use for an unvented stove, a wall furnace and a gas water heater. I, and my 5 siblings all suffer from asthma and bronchitis, most likely as a direct result of living in that home.

I now live in a 70+ year old home that was once all gas, and will soon be all electric. Retrofitting an existing home is expensive and time consuming, but absolutely necessary. We love our induction stove - a GE Cafe model - and our heat pump water heater. The gas furnace is to be replaced with a heat pump next week, followed shortly by an electric fire place insert.

Having this work done at the time of new construction is far less expensive, and far less invasive. Please adopt a Reach Code for new construction. I also recommend the following additions:

- Remove all exceptions for ADUs
- Remove exceptions for fireplaces and cooking.

Thank you for your leadership

Robert Whitehair  
San Mateo