



# San Francisco Departmental Climate Liaison Profiles

## Foreword

In 2008 the City and County of San Francisco Board of Supervisors, lead by sponsoring Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi, passed resolution number 81-08 mandating all City Departments work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Included in this law was the following guidance, “all City Departments shall assess greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with their activities and submit, in a format specified by the Department of the Environment, a written action plan that identifies and makes recommendations on GHG emission reduction measures applicable to [their carbon footprint]”. Winter 2011 marks the 4th year of the resulting Department Climate Action Plan program (DepCAPs for short). Over the course of its development this program evolved to encompass all the environmental regulatory and incentive programs that the City follows including Zero Waste, Green Purchasing, Commuter Benefits, Fleets & Alternative Fuels, Energy Efficiency & Water Conservation, Urban Forestry and Gardens, and Public Outreach and Education; thereby expanding the umbrella of climate change to cover the wider field of sustainability.

The program works by combining previously siloed data sets and information to assess each Department’s building and fleet performance and corresponding carbon footprint. The program serves an outreach vehicle for the education and behavior change programs and incentives promoted for City employees and seeks to integrate environmental considerations into day-to-day City operations in order to increase our governments functionality, make smart use of our natural resources, and minimize pollution production.

Though it is run by the Department of Environment, the DepCAP program is made possible by the department Climate Liaisons, people who volunteered or were designated the task of producing the annually required climate strategy for each City Department. They come from all walks of life and only a handful were previously engaged in environmental work. The Climate Liaisons are the key to this program- they are the city staff who know the ins and outs of their office and organization. They provide the leadership on a daily basis, explaining over and over again that greasy paper should go in the compost and that yes, you should recycle that. They are fleet managers, building engineers, office personnel, and program managers and directors. They are the ones who take ideas and make them into real change on the ground.

The following is a profile of these individuals. It is our hope that by highlighting their work and the diversity of their technical professional backgrounds we are able to call attention to the shared nature of our responsibility to the health, security and richness of life for future generations. It is my great pleasure to introduce the Climate Liaisons (and Zero Waste Coordinators) of the Departments of the City and County of San Francisco.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Calla Rose Ostrander'.

Calla Rose Ostrander  
Climate Action Coordinator



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**Liz Garcia** is the Management Analyst for 311, and has worked for the City for five years. As the climate liaison for 311 Center, she believes she can make environmental changes in the department through the products the department purchases. From questions like, will the bees from the green roof get stuck in the air filters, to does recycled paper really get jammed in copiers more than non recycled paper?, Liz is the go to person for environmental questions on her floor. She's always ready with an answer and a smile.

**Houshang Esmaili** is a senior engineer at SFO with responsibility for environmental projects covering global warming, water quality, solid waste, and hazardous waste. He is a registered civil engineer and holds Master's and Dr. Engineering degrees in civil/environmental engineering from University of California. He was the main environmental consultant for the Airport's Master Plan Program and has been the coordinator and primary author of the SFO Climate Action Plan over the past four years. Dr. Esmaili has been working at SFO since 1994 and as a City employee since 2006. He is passionate in his belief that we must maintain and improve the quality of the environment in the Bay area as well as the rest of the US and the world.



**Liam Curry** is a Stationery Engineer for the City's Animal Care and Control; he has been with the City for three years. Before working for the City, Liam was involved in managing the deployment of different technologies as an Electronics Technician in the Navy. His diverse technical skill set and knowledge of building technologies makes Liam the perfect Climate representative for Animal Care and Control. As an engineer, he believes climate action makes sense and helps him meet his job goals to maximize efficiency of a building's space and address a building's and occupant's operational needs. Now he just has to put all of his work down on paper in Animal Care and Control's 2011 Climate Action Report! Luckily he does everything with a big, willing smile.

**Mark McLean** is a Senior Administrative Analyst for the Assessor-Recorder's Office and has been with the City for almost two years. He brings with him a diverse work experience which includes teaching middle school history, general contracting, and public financial planning for water and wastewater utilities. Mark holds a Master's degree in Public Policy from UC Berkeley's Goldman School. His broad base of life and work experience informs a holistic view of City financial policy and operations and makes him a valuable asset for smart climate action.





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Growing up **Madeleine Licavoli** practiced conservation with her family by compacting cans to save space and money. She still carries the value of smart thrift with her today in her position she of Deputy Director for Operations for the Board of Supervisors. Over the 41 years she has been with the City Madeleine has had many liaison and coordinator roles, but the role of Climate Liaison is a special one to her given that she believes in carrying forward the positive values of the past for a better future, “we live on earth, and it is a beautiful planet. We need to take care of it so that it’s a livable place in the future. We all need to make it happen.”

**Ari Harding** is the Director of Building Systems for the California Academy of Sciences, and has overseen the work that it took to bring a LEED Platinum built building to a LEED Platinum functioning building over his four years with the Academy. Ari excels at making things work really well and is excited to work with the Department of the Environment and the Climate Action Plan process. Why we asked him? “Because I believe that it is for the good for the City and showcases our collective progress.”



**Aaron Pope** is the Manager for Sustainability Programs for the California Academy of Sciences, and has been infusing the Cal Academy with his own personal, ever renewable energy for the last four years. He believes that a healthy natural world is essential for a healthy human world, and that we must do everything we can to ensure it stays health, “I am very passionate about climate change because I believe it is not only the largest challenge facing us, but also represents an amazing opportunity for human beings to develop different economic, social and industrial systems moving forward, ones that are sustainable in the long-term.”

**Bernard Murphy** is the IT Manager for San Francisco Child Support Services, and has worked for the City for 36 years. Bernard notes that in the past few years, the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors have issued decrees and ordinances regarding how San Francisco Departments do business, “my participation in the process is to make sure CSS complies with these decrees and ordinances. The end result is a reduction in the CSS carbon footprint and lessens our impact on the environment. This is a good thing, but it also need to be tempered by the fact that CCSF departments deliver service to our clients and taxpayers. We need to balance the need to deliver these services while costing the least amount possible and complying with CCSF rules and regulations.” Thank you Bernard!





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**Shawn Ewing** is the Information Systems Manager for the Department of Children, Youth, and their Families, and has worked for the City for 12 years. Why is he passionate about nature and climate change? "Because the next closest planet that would sustain life as we know it is too far away, 'beam me up Scotty,' is not an option. We're stuck here so we might as well take care of Mother Earth." We're glad to have Shawn with us here on starship earth.

**Mary Jane Winslow** is a Manager for Operations and Facilities for the City Attorney's Office. Mary Jane has been a City employee for 26 years and remembers the long hours spent by the City Attorney's Office as they worked tirelessly to support the closure of the state's dirtiest power plant, Hunters Point. She points out that the successful closure of this plant not only was a major environmental justice victory, but was also biggest greenhouse gas reduction achievement by City of San Francisco community since 1990.



**Sandra Eng** is the Assistant Executive Officer for the Civil Service Commission. She has been with the City for almost six years. In Sandra's words, "Climate change affects our homes, cities, countries, and our planet. The increase in greenhouse gases has resulted in extreme changes in weather events and global warming. Large populations have seriously been affected by these events. Human activities from the use of energy and the land contributed to the emission of greenhouse gases. Changes in the use and source of energy, mode of transportation, disposal of waste, and management of land and agriculture can reduce the amount of pollution and greenhouse gases. Individuals must work together to protect public health and the environment."

**Louis Voccia** is the Departmental Personnel Officer at the Controller's Office, and has twenty years of experience with the City. He holds a bachelor's degree in Organizational Behavior and a graduate degree in Organizational Development and Human Resources. Louis is as practical as he is clever. His work over the past year to convert the City's Payroll system from paper to electronic accounting and delivery has saved millions of tons of paper, thousands of gallons of water and many tons of greenhouse gas emissions. Louis believes in global warming and recognizes that in order to successfully overcome the challenges of climate change we must all work to change our every day behavior with regards to the environment.





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For four years **Vicente Centeno** has worked as a Personnel Analyst at the Controller's Office. Vicente holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Management and a graduate degree in Public Administration. To Vicente, climate work is crucial, since it is positive and it helps the environment. The Controller's Office is contributing in their own respect by spearheading paperless paychecks. Vicente points out that by ac-

**Martha Knutzen** is the Legal Operations Manager at the District Attorney's Office, and has been with the DA for eight years. Martha is an attorney and a techie and has worked in legal technology as an IT consultant. Her role at the DA's Office is to oversee and support staff, facilities, and infrastructure. To Martha, climate change work on behalf of the office is gratifying though she is honest that, "at times there is a feeling helplessness about not being able to do anything about climate change". In spite of this feeling, or maybe alongside it, Martha acknowledges the importance of the work and while stewarding best practices at her office notes that, "it takes a lot of smaller pieces to get our carbon footprint and, at least we're doing something here."



The Department of the Elections' **Evan Kirk** has served as the Management Assistant since 2006. Evan feels that local government can be an essential bridge between personal environmental action and regulatory reform. "It is our responsibility to provide the San Franciscans we serve with opportunities to reduce their environmental impact, while also improving our own operations as an example for private industry."

**Vivina Santos** is the Facilities Manager for the Department of Emergency Management. Vivina has been with the City for three years, and prior to this she worked at a law firm as an office manager and legal assistant. Taking on the Climate Liaison role for her department has led her to think about the environment in a new way. She is now a green advocate at her daughter's school and after she is done with work, she continues to spread the message of responsibility and conservation by educating students about recycling.





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**Al Barna** is the Occupational Safety Officer for the San Francisco Fine Arts Museum where he has worked for over 20 years. He graduated with a Fine Arts degree, and worked briefly as a coal mine safety engineer before joining the De Young as an exhibition technician. Al was appointed Climate Liaison because of his regular interface with the engineering and facilities teams. He enjoys “putting all the pieces together” to green his organization and believes that human caused climate change is beyond debate. Al carries his values into this personal life. Not owning a vehicle he and his wife enjoy zip car and make their plans around sustainable options, “and”, Al adds, “ we are not hippies”.

**Rhab Boughn** began his career in 1998 as a firefighter, moved on as a paramedic, and is now a Compliance Officer for the San Francisco Fire Department. Rhab is involved with HIPAA and other regulatory requirements. In addition, he serves as the department’s webmaster and Climate Liaison. Combining his skills with data and task of tracking his Department’s carbon footprint Rhab has single-handedly saved SF Fire thousands of dollars in energy and water bills.

Interested in ecology as a kid, Rhab graduated from Humboldt in Natural Resource Planning, which makes the Climate liaison role an appropriate one for Rhab.



**Tania Fokin** is a Senior Analyst in Support Services Division for the Fire Department. A long-time City employee of 27 years, Tania works takes her excellent attention to detail and ever positive attitude with her in her work, helping to make sure all of the City’s 45 fire stations and other buildings run effectively and efficiently so that the Fire Department can continue to respond to San Franciscans whenever they needed. Tania is also responsible for the non-personnel budget, and her knowledge of diesel tanks, fire trucks, and the nuances of the Fire Department’s infrastructure and facilities provides her with a deeply informed view from which she, and her Co-Climate Liaison Rhab Boughn create and implement the Fire Department’s Climate Action Plan.



**Teri Jourgensen** is the Departmental Personnel Officer at the Department of Human Resources. This is Teri’s first full year as a Climate Liaison, though she started work with the City as a Management Trainer 25 years ago under the Department of Public Works. These days, she is busy with operations, building maintenance, and has been involved in improving technology for a paperless system. We are excited to have her on the team!



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**Nancy Bliss** is Director of Support Services at the Human Services Agency (HSA), and has been with the agency since 1997. Prior to working for HSA, Nancy worked as a research and development manager for a toy company. At HSA, half of Nancy's program consists of client applications, while the other half of her program involves working closely with utility workers and stationery engineers, space planning and design. She is also responsible for managing the fleet, so Nancy's expertise allows her to provide much insight in her department's Climate Action Plan. With 16 office locations, three child care centers, three homeless shelters and 1800 employees, HSA has a presence in the City. According to Nancy, with HSA's facilities and staff, starting with little changes can be significant.

A ten year veteran with the City, **Juliet Gil** serves as the Contracts Manager for the Juvenile Probation Department. Juliet is a strong environmental advocate and believes that the future is related to our resources. Since joining the Climate Action Team, the cause to her has become personal. Juliet has a three year-old grandson, and teaches him how to recycle, compost, and also grow vegetables, showing him at an early age how important it is to take care of the earth.



**Roberto Lombardi** is the Facilities Director for the San Francisco Public Library, and has worked for the Library 5 of his 10 years at the City. According to Roberto, "We take the atmosphere very much for granted. It seems boundless, but consider, if you look up, that the part we can breathe in is remarkably thin, less than the distance of a drive from Mission Bay to Ocean Beach. That seems like a pretty delicate veil of protection to me! Thus I am excited about doing some maintenance on the climate as I don't think even San Francisco can float a bond to replace it."

Roberto also states that he would be quite annoyed if climate change caused wine grapes to not ripen in California since he hate it when that happens.

**Kirsten Macaulay** is the Mayor's Community Liaison at the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services. A graduate of San Francisco State University, Kirsten has been with the City for two years, and works with San Francisco communities directly. As one of the top issues for San Franciscans, Kirsten believes that we need to protect the environment and that it can start with behavior. She says that it is our world, and if one part deteriorates, our ecosystem will not be sustainable.





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**Marty Mellerer** began his career with the City and County of San Francisco's Municipal Transportation Agency 12 years ago as a historic street car engineer, has worked in alternative fuels, environmental planning and now is the Manager of Climate Action and Greening with the Sustainable Streets Division. Marty graduated from San Francisco State University and carries the Automotive Service Excellence Master Auto Technician certification.

He is an enthusiastic and tireless champion of biofuels and walks his talk. When he does drive, he is always powered by sustainably sourced biodiesel.

**Dan Coleman** is the Principal Fleet Analyst at Central Shops and has been with the City for 3 and half years. Dan's background is fleet management fleet, managing corporate vehicle fleet for 20 years. He spent 13 years with World Savings Bank, and also worked for PHH, a company specializing in fleet management.

As an expert on San Francisco's fuel and vehicle fleet it was natural for Dan to be Central Shops' Climate Liaison. Dan is interested in the environment since it is the only planet that supports life. Society, human culture are all supported by nature, even those who hate nature, need it.



A 28-year veteran with the San Francisco Planning Department, **Lulu Hwang**, started at the department as a planner. For the past ten years, Lulu has served as the Operations Manager, responsible for the office operations and management. This includes being the office's Green Coordinator, Zero Waste Coordinator, and Climate Liaison.

A strong advocate of recycling, Lulu encourages planning staff to reuse material for presentations or for other uses. She looks to creative approaches to reuse material and uses it as a way to promote recycling.

Officer **Ivan Sequeira** started with the Police Department in 1994, and began with patrol and then went on to work for the IT Division of the Police Department. Ivan's strong background in construction and engineering subsequently led him to the Facilities Division of the SFPD, where he currently serves as the Facilities Manager for all the buildings owned and operated by SFPD. As Facilities Manager he is responsible for tracking and maintaining performance of these facilities, and as Climate Liaison he takes pride in identifying opportunities for efficiency improvements with his partners in the Department of Real Estate. Officer Sequeira hand delivers SFPD's Climate Action Plan in person every year to the Department of Environment. We like having a blue







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**Rich Berman** serves as the Utility Specialist for the Port of San Francisco where he plays a key role in supporting shore side electric power, the greening of the 34th America's Cup and San Francisco's biodiesel future. He has been working in the environmental field for over two decades. Majoring in geology in the late seventies and early eighties Rich studied climatology and finding it a compelling topic at the time, when the request came to the Port to prepare a climate action plan, Rich volunteered to take on the task. We are very glad he did!

**John Updike** is the Acting Director of the Real Estate Department and has been with the City for over five years. Prior to working in San Francisco, John was working for the City of Tucson, Arizona for over twenty years.

John was fortunate to be a part of the team in Tucson that was a leader in environmental design & facility management issues, given the harsh desert environs, so carrying-on that passion for conservation here in SF was a natural for John, plus, it's the right thing to do!



**Ana Alvarez** is the Superintendent of Parks and Open Space for the Recreation and Parks Department. Ana has a strong managerial and facilitation track record and is also the Rec and Park scholar in residence. Having graduated from California State University, Fullerton with a minor in Physiology, Ms. Alvarez went on to attain a Master Degree in Public Administration from California State University, Northridge and is now, in addition to her full time work schedule, a Doctoral Degree Candidate at the University of Southern California's School of Policy, Planning and Development.

Her passion and personal commitment is the creation of environmentally just and livable communities where quality of life issues are embraced through governance. Ana's best qualities are her faith; her husband and two children; her quest for environmental justice, and her passion for community building through public service.

**Erin Anderson** is the Field Operations Analyst for Recreation and Parks and has been with the Department since Feb. 2011. Between tracking data in files and equipment on the ground Erin is keenly aware of the limitations of our natural resources and she also understands that better management can lead to better care of these resources, "I know that if we continue to consume the earth's resources at the current pace, future generations will suffer, but, I enjoy being a part of climate change work because I believe we are making a difference and working toward a solution."





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**Audrey Kay** is the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency's Property Management Supervisor, managing and maintaining properties all over the City. This entails a high level of detail when it comes to addressing operations and environmental issues. Prior to Audrey's nine years with the City, she worked as an accountant. As the representative for SFRA, Audrey feels more educated about the environment through learning about recycling and encouraging others to recycle as well. Another crucial part of work is accounting for street trees in her projects, another practice that she believes is essential in our environment.

**Robert Collins** is the Deputy Director of the San Francisco Rent Board, and has been with the City for 14 years. As the Deputy Director, Robert ensures that San Francisco rents comply by the Rent Ordinance, a very essential job in a City like San Francisco. On the environmental front, Robert is the Rent Board's Climate Liaison and as their representative, he believes that it is important to care and preserve the planet for the sake of future generations.



**Brian Roberts** is the Department of Technology's (DT) Senior Policy Analyst and has been the City's senior telecommunications policy Authority for 12 years. Brian is responsible for telecommunications planning for the City and on the implementation of open access to cable Internet platform. Prior to joining DT, he served as a regulatory analyst at the California Public Utilities Commission. As DT's policy point person, Brian has contributed on several green IT initiatives which include Ecomap and Nextbus. Through technology, Brian believes that City can be more efficient and smarter about the environment, "starting at the Department level gets everyone on the right track".

**Kevin Lyons** is the Manager of Building Services for the San Francisco Sheriff's Department, and has been with the City for 32 years. Kevin has been through in his work to increase efficiency in the Sheriff's buildings and has also taken steps to manage their water usage and steward their neighboring wetlands. He brings a quite, through attitude with him to work, "In the San Francisco Bay Area we are very fortunate to enjoy a clean environment with great access to nature." As to why he is Climate Liaison for his department, he believes, "Everyone can make small changes that can have a beneficial effect on the environment." Thank you Kevin for doing your part so well.





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Before working for the City and County of San Francisco, **John Bitoff** was a Senior Naval Officer in the US Navy. His leadership and management skills were tapped when the Mayor of San Francisco asked Bitoff to step into restructure the Office of Emergency Services. John's lead of the redesign of the agency led to an increase in response time and better moral for dispatchers. Mr. Bitoff is currently the Executive Director of Facilities Maintenance and Operations for the San Francisco Unified School District where he is in charge of maintenance and operations of school facilities, the district's fleet, and Integrated Pest Management. John has been with the School District since 1998.

John's first experience with the environment was the discovery of beautiful wetlands near a naval base where he was stationed as a young officer in the Northeast. Since then John has been a proactive problem solver, tackling indoor and outdoor environmental and public health issues wherever he goes. He also would like to politely remind his neighbors to take care of their street trees as they are valuable public assets.

**Asja Steeves** is the Commission Secretary and Assistant to the Director of Island Operations at the Treasure Island Development Authority. In 2007 Asja joined the City and County of San Francisco working for the Public Utilities Commission.

I am a mother of a seven year old girl. I want her generation to grow up with a healthy resilient ecosystem, or at least be aware of the many ways to conserve and contribute in order to maintain resources for successful living. There could be serious impacts that will definitely affect my daughters children if we don't come together as a collective now and actively address climate change."



**Tajel Shah** is the Director of Budget and Operations for the Treasurer and Tax Collector. Tajel has been working for the City for 5 years. Most recently, the Treasurer and Tax Collector's focus has been on paperless filing. "This will have a profound effect on the organization, changing the way taxes in the City are filed. These investments would automate workflow, and would also demonstrate the environmental efforts of the City". Not only will it reduce paper consumption, but it will also lower costs. As the core person in Operations, Tajel is pivotal in these changes for her department.



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**Sachiko Tanikawa** is the Municipal Climate Action Plan Coordinator for the City and County of San Francisco where she is responsible for the project management of the city's Departmental Climate Action Program. She works with over fifty San Francisco departments to produce an annual climate action plan which describes each Department's effort in meeting San Francisco's goal of reducing municipal operational greenhouse gas emissions and in preserving the environment. She also manages the collection, organization, carbon accounting, and reporting of city asset data. She has successfully implemented two annual cycles of Departmental Climate Action Program and submittal of the 2006, 2007, and 2008 California Climate Action Registry reporting of municipal operational emissions for the City of San Francisco. Prior to joining SF Environment, she was a Senior Scientist at Exponent Failure Analysis Associates where she provided her geological and information management expertise to support litigations involving natural disasters and environmental issues.

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For more information on the Departmental Climate Action Program or to see the latest Departmental Climate Action Plans go to [SFEnvironment.org/DepCAP](http://SFEnvironment.org/DepCAP).  
Please direct questions about this program to [Sachiko.Tanikawa@SFGov.org](mailto:Sachiko.Tanikawa@SFGov.org)



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