

SC 10.16.2025

Oral Communications

Written Comments

From: Owen Kim
Sent: Tuesday, October 14, 2025 3:51 PM
To: City of Cupertino Sustainability Commission
Subject: Public Comment for 10.16.2025 Sustainability Commission Meeting
Attachments: Living Footprints Flyer (2).jpg

Hi Cupertino Environmental Department,

My name is Owen, and I'm a high schooler at Mountain View High School. I'm writing because I've created an educational simulation game called *Living Footprints*. The app allows users to explore living spaces and learn how daily household actions impact the environment by interacting with objects. I was inspired to create this after taking AP Environmental Science, where I learned how small household actions can make a big difference. I realized that many people, like me, aren't aware of these simple changes, so I built this app to help raise awareness.

Here are some of the topics included in the app:

- Phantom load: energy wasted through idle appliances
- Food contamination in recycling
- Reusable containers and jars
- Water usage with native vs. non-native plants
- Deciduous trees as a temperature regulator
- NOx pollution from car emissions
- Saving water with rain barrels
- Dynamic electricity pricing
- Roof gardens: reducing floodwater & albedo
- Solar panels: the benefits and drawbacks of renewables
- Proper e-waste disposal
- Diet: meat vs. crops
- Food down drains: sewer contamination
- Pharmaceutical contamination in waterways

So far, this app is being utilized as an educational tool at the Mountain View, Cupertino, and San Jose libraries. I'm currently working with Acterra's team to integrate it into their Youth Be the Change Program. I was wondering if *Living Footprints* would be a useful educational tool for any educational events you guys host. I've linked a brief preview so you can see how it works. I've also included a digital flyer that may help advertise the app in newsletters or any community engagement efforts with the Cupertino community, so residents can easily try it at home.

Here is the download link, so you can check it out:

<https://cellocielo.itch.io/living-footprints>

Let me know if you are open to a quick 10-15-minute meeting in the near future, if you would like a walkthrough of the app, and possibly set up a partnership!

Sincerely,
Owen

YOUR HOME. YOUR CHOICES. YOUR FOOTPRINT.

Scan me to
download and play!



Play Living Footprints to:



Tour your virtual home



Unlock hidden scenes



See how your lifestyle
changes the planet



PLAYED IT? DROP US YOUR THOUGHTS!



LIVINGFOOTPRINTS.TEAM@GMAIL.COM



(650) 254-6736

From: Gautam Taneja
Sent: Wednesday, October 15, 2025 8:08 PM
To: City of Cupertino Sustainability Commission
Cc: Victoria Morin
Subject: Written Communication 10.16.2025
Attachments: image.png

Hi Sustainability Commission,

I hope this email finds you well. I am a senior at Cupertino High School who is passionate about the environment and I am planning on attending the Sustainability Commission meeting tomorrow and talking a little bit about a personal project of mine during the Oral Communications. It is a mobile app that allows users to track their positive impact on the environment and motivate them. I am attaching an image that I would hope you can put up while I talk about it. Thanks!

Best Regards,
Gautam Taneja



GreenScore!