



# MINUTES

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, **October 13, 2015**, 7:00 p.m.  
El Cerrito City Hall – Council Chambers  
10890 San Pablo Avenue  
**This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible**

**Roll Call:** Chair Goudey, Vice-Chair Schaadt, Members Hargrove, Mackie, Milliken, Miner, Pavel, Solari, Spitalnik

**Absent:** Member Weinstein

**Also Present:** Maria Sanders, Staff Liaison; Beth O'Brien, staff.

- Council/ Staff Liaisons Announcements and Reports** - Sanders announced that El Cerrito joined the Cool California competition, sponsored by the California Air Resources Board. More information about the event can be found at <http://myenergytool.mcccleanenergy.com>. The city with the most people participating will win a cash prize that can go towards future sustainability projects. Public Works staff Stephen Pree announced that the Tree Committee has completed its revised Tree List.
- Comments from the public on non-agenda items** – None.
- Approval of the Minutes** – Motion to adopt the minutes of the Committee meeting on September 8, 2015. (Schaadt/Miner/Unanimous).
- IPM Update – 7:15** – Stephen Pree provided information on the types of applications of pesticides and herbicides used by the City during the last fiscal year. He reported that the City only uses herbicides when other means of controlling weeds is not effective or practical, and that the herbicides are selected for the least toxic, effective application per the City's IPM policy. Pree also discussed an upcoming herbicide application that is planned for the Ohlone Greenway. Notice of the application will be provided probably within the next month.
- EQC Budget and Calendar of Events – 7:15**
  - Green Team Clean-Ups – Weinstein was not present to report on Coastal Cleanup Day, which occurred at Cerrito Creek on September 19. Goudey reported he heard it was quite successful.
  - Music for Madera – Schaadt announced that this fundraising event raised \$2,516 - to be donated to the City for restoration and maintenance efforts in the Hillside Natural Area. These funds were collected by Trail Trekkers, with the El Cerrito Community Foundation acting as fiscal agent. Given the low turn-out, Committee members briefly discussed the need to rethink next year's event, including combining it with the Hillside Festival.

### COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION

*To request a meeting agenda in large print, Braille, or on cassette, or to request a sign language interpreter for the meeting, call Maria Sanders, Staff Liaison at 215-4361 (voice) at least FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS NOTICE PRIOR TO THE MEETING to ensure availability.*

- EQC Speaker Series - Goudey reported that the lecture on Plant Destroyers was successful with about 40 attending. He is still interested in organizing a related lecture on Sudden Oak Death and said he will discuss a date and time with the lecturer, Professor Mateo from UC Berkeley.
  - Green Team Coordination with Crime Prevention Committee (CPC) - Schaadt announced the event will take place on November 14. Schaadt and Milliken discussed various quotes for reprinting the Green Team T-Shirts. Committee members agreed to delegate choice of vendor to Schaadt and Milliken so that shirts will be available in time for event.
  - Workshops: Residential Rooftop Solar - Milliken announced rooftop Solar workshop could be held either December 3 or 10. It will be targeted towards residents that have questions about going solar. Committee agreed that December 10<sup>th</sup> would be a better date for the event, if possible.
  - We Love Our Volunteers Event – Miner suggested that the EQC could consider holding this event next September if it doesn't hold another Music for Madera festival.
  - Eco-Film Showings – Pavel announced that she attended a film series held in Richmond on social justice. She also noted that as part of the upcoming Bioneers Conference, there will be a film festival to be held in Marin. Pavel indicated that she is still interested in sponsoring, with the League of Women Voters, the “Building Healthy Communities” film series, maybe to be held sometime after the first of the year. Solari indicated that it probably isn't necessary to do a showing of “Cowspiracy” now that is streaming on Netflix. Spitalnik recommended “Sand Wars”.
  - Drought Awareness – No activities were reported.
6. **EQC Work Plan 2016** – Goudey asked for people to think about policy topics that the EQC would like to consider for inclusion in the 2016 Work Plan. Solari suggested going through the goals in various City plans, such as the *Climate Action Plan* and the *Urban Greening Plan*, to see what should be prioritized. Motion to form an ad-hoc sub-committee to edit the draft 2016 Work Plan. (Solari/ Schaadt/ Unanimous). Members Miner/Solari/Goudey volunteer to serve on sub-committee.
7. **Announcements and future agenda items** – Pavel announced the results of the Richmond “Soil, Not Oil” Conference, saying it was a good opportunity to link with the Richmond groups like Urban Tilth. Schaadt noted that he came across some good informational pamphlets on residential grey water systems developed by another local government in Contra Costa County. He suggested that these may be good pamphlets for the EQC to use. He will bring in copies.

#### Consideration of Upcoming Agenda Items

- 1 Grey Water Education – TBD
- 2 Train the Trainers/ Sustainable Living – TBD

#### 8. Adjournment – 9:07

*Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Environmental Quality Committee regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the El Cerrito Recycling + Environmental Resource Center Administrative Office at 7501 Schmidt Lane, El Cerrito, Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.*