



MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, July 12, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers

10890 San Pablo Avenue

This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible

Call To Order: 7:08 PM

Roll Call: Chair Goudey, Vice-Chair Schaadt, Members Hargrove, Milliken, Miner,

Absent: Mackie, Pavel, Spitalnik, Solari, Weinstein

Also Present: Maria Sanders, Staff Liaison

- Council/ Staff Liaisons Announcements and Reports** – Council Member Quinto made several announcements about and passed out flyers regarding the El Cerrito Restaurant Week in October, the annual Sierra Club David Brower Dinner to honor several Bay Area environmentalists. He also provided information regarding the AC Transit ½ cent sales tax. Sanders announced that Mayor Lyman sent a letter to the CPUC regarding their proposed decision on the calculation of PCIA exit fees charged by the utilities on CCAs such as MCE Clean Energy.
- Comments from the public on non-agenda items** – El Cerrito resident Sean O'Connor requested that the City get Home Depot to clean up litter on their property and that he applied to become a member of the EQC.
- Approval of the Minutes** – Miner noted that the Hillside Natural Area actually raised \$2200 rather than \$1700. Motion to adopt the minutes of the Committee meeting on June 8, 2016, with changes requested by Miner (Miner /Hargrove/Unanimous).
- PG&E's Moeser Lane Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM) Project** – Goudey reported that PG&E has been using IVM methods and working with community members to promote and protect native plants and pollinator communities on their Moeser Lane Right of Way. PG&E's IVM Division is currently applying to the Wildlife Habitat Council to undergo a certification process for habitat conservation on these properties. They have asked the EQC to provide a letter supporting the application (sample draft letter contained in EQC binder). Motion to recommend that the City Public Works Department develop a letter in support of PG&E's application to join the Wildlife Habitat Council certification program (Schaadt /Miner/Unanimous).
- BAAQMD Rule 12-16 Regarding Limits on Refinery Emissions** – Representatives of a coalition hosted by Communities for a Better Environment (El Cerrito resident and Sierra Club representative Dave McCoard, Shoshana Wexler from 350.org, and Charlie Davidson from Hercules) presented a resolution (contained in EQC binder) for consideration by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) regarding Rule 12-16, seeking enforceable numeric limits on refinery-wide emissions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and co-pollutants associated with heavy crude oil refining in the Bay

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.

Area. The presenters requested that the EQC recommend that the City Council urge the BAAQMD to support the coalition resolution. Sanders reported that the City Council will be considering this item at its July 19th meeting. Motion to recommend that the City Council urge the BAAQMD to support the coalition resolution (Schaadt /Goudey /Unanimous).

6. **Climate Action Plan Implementation** – Miner provided information regarding the goals and structure of the Climate Action Plan (adopted May 2014). Sanders reported that in information from data compiled for 2012, El Cerrito has reduced community greenhouse gas emissions by 11%, as compared to the 2005 baseline. This reduction, though still reflective of a Recession economy, indicates that the community is slightly ahead of schedule in reaching the CAP goals. Members discussed potential ideas for EQC action, including increased waste diversion in apartment buildings. Miner discussed the Sierra Club's 100 by 100 Renewable Energy Campaign.

7. **EQC Budget and Calendar of Events**

- Green Teams Ohlone Greenway Weed Pull – Goudey reported that six people (mostly City staff, Trail Trekker and EQC members) came to the events, but public turn out for the event was otherwise low. Sanders and Goudey brought up the idea of sponsoring an adopt-a-Greenway block. In order to increase turn out, Schaadt mentioned that the July 4th Festival is a good time for the EQC to advertise Green Team events. Motion to hold the next Green Team event on Saturday, August 27 in the Del Norte BART Station area. (Schaadt /Goudey /Unanimous).
- Grey Water Education – Sanders reported that the workshop on drought resilient gardening and grey water systems is set for September 27 in the City Council Chambers and that the event will be publicized in the City News and Views and Greener El Cerrito newsletters.
- National Drive Electric Week – Milliken reported the City of Richmond will be holding National Drive Electric Day at their Civic Center. The Ecology Center and the City of Albany are both co-sponsors of the event. Motion for the EQC to co-sponsor the event. (Milliken/ Hargrove/ Unanimous).
- Solar Workshop - Milliken provided a proposal (contained in EQC binder) from Doug McKenzie to provide a Solar Basics workshop in El Cerrito. Motion for the EQC to sponsor this solar workshop on a date to be determined in Council Chambers in October or November and to authorize a budget not to exceed \$200 (Milliken, Schaadt, Unanimous).

8. **California Plastic Bag Ban Referendum** – As discussed in a previous EQC meeting, Proposition 67 is a veto referendum on the November ballot to uphold SB 270, the California Plastic Bag Ban. A “yes” vote on the proposition is a vote in favor of upholding or ratifying SB270; a “no” vote is a vote in favor of overturning SB 270. Motion for the EQC to recommend that the City Council consider supporting upholding the California Plastic Bag Ban (Milliken, Schaadt, Unanimous).

9. **Announcements and future agenda items** – Goudey requested that members send questions they would like to ask the Building Official to Sanders in advance of the August EQC meeting.

Consideration of Upcoming Agenda Items

- 1 Conversation with Building Official - August
- 2 Watershed Alliance Coastal Clean-up Presentation –August
- 3 Trends in Solid Waste Management –Sept
- 4 Presentations from other environmental stakeholders in the City – TBD
- 5 Rat Poison and AB 708 Consumer Products Content Information- TBD
- 6 Drones in Hillside Natural Area – TBD
- 7 Conversation with Supervisor John Gioia – TBD
- 8 Tool Lending Library – TBD

10. Adjournment – 9:01

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.