



Staff Liaison
Will Provost | (510) 559-7684
wprovost@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE Environmental Quality Committee

Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

JOIN VIA ZOOM:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85938650771?pwd=ay9xVGtMcWpIS2M0dDJVQ0psKzc3dz09>

CONVENE REGULAR MEETING Vice-Chair Vekony called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

1. **ROLL CALL** – Chair Howdy Goudey; Vice-Chair Rose Vekony; Members Buddy Akacić, Rebecca Milliken, Mark Miner, Beth Molnar, Sean O’Connor, Ellen Spitalnik, Sheila Tabet, and Dave Weinstein **Absent:** Members Neil Tsutsui, Eevelyn Mitchell, Paloma Pavel **Also Present:** Mayor Pro Tem Lisa Motoyama; Will Provost, Staff Liaison; Christina Leard, Staff

2. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

El Cerrito resident Simrun Dhoot expressed interest in joining the EQC and noted she has been an El Cerrito resident for almost 6 years and works as an air quality engineer at the Bay Area Air District.

3. **COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISONS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**

Mayor Pro Tem Lisa Motoyama gave a brief update on the FY 22-23 draft budget. Staff Liaison Will Provost provided updates on the following: plans for the City’s Climate Action Plan (CAP) Update, CivicSpark fellow recruitment, the recently approved East Bay Sanitary Services Franchise Agreement, the upcoming Napa Recycling and Waste Services Post-Collection Agreement (PCA) Agreement, and the MRP 3.0 Stormwater Permit.

Member Goudey requested recycling statistics from Napa Recycling and Waste Services, specifically information on the percentage of plastic received that actually gets recycled. There was Public Comment from El Cerrito resident Vanessa Warheit, who echoed Member Goudey’s request – and also requested paper recycling statistics.

4. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Consider a motion adopting the minutes of the EQC meeting on May 10, 2022.

Move/Second: Members O’Connor/Akacić **Action:** Passed a motion to adopt the Minutes of the May 10, 2022 EQC meeting. **Ayes:** Members Goudey, Vekony, Akacić, Milliken, Miner, O’Connor, Spitalnik, **Noes:** None **Abstain:** Members Molnar and Tabet

5. **COLLABORATION WITH THE URBAN FOREST COMMITTEE**

Urban Forest Committee Member Robin Mitchell and EQC Member Sean O’Connor gave updates from the most recent Urban Forest Committee meeting, which they both attended. Member Miner will attend the next UFC meeting to collaborate on drought education.

6. **ENVIRONMENTAL ART**

The Committee discussed potential next steps for the EQC to promote diversity and inclusion. Member Molnar volunteered to lead as curator collecting art to promote at EQC meetings.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND RACIAL FRAMEWORK

The Committee discussed potential next steps for the EQC to promote diversity and inclusion.

8. EQC BUDGET AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Staff and Committee members provided updates on recent events the EQC has supported and discussed plans for future events in 2022, including:

- Recycling Center 50th Anniversary Celebration, August 5, 2022
 - City Council Resolution (Staff to bring forward in July), Budgetary Needs
- Hillside Festival – May 14-15, 2022 - Debrief
- East Bay Green Home Tour – May 14-15, 2022 - Debrief
- Bike to Work Day – May 20, 2022 - Debrief
- Green Team 2022 Cleanups / Broom Pulls:
 - May 21, Saturday, Hillside Natural Area Broom Pull - Debrief
 - June 5, Sunday, Baxter Park (with regular Baxter volunteers) - Debrief
 - Aug. 14 Sunday, Cerrito Creek
 - Oct. 2, Sunday, Northern Gateways
 - Dec. 4, Sunday, Baxter Park (with regular Baxter volunteers)
- 4th of July Planning
- Berkeley e-bike event, summer 2022 TBD

9. CLIMATE ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

EQC Members heard brief updates on items relating to implementation of the Climate Action Plan, including the following:

- Real Property Transfer Tax Rebates for Energy Efficiency – Education
- MCE Clean Energy & California Public Utilities Commission Updates
 - 100% renewable (deep green) power as the default electrical power
- San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan Update/EIR – EQC Comments
- Recommendations to the Council Climate Action Ad Hoc Subcommittee
 - **Move/Second:** Members Goudey/Spitalnik **Action:** Passed a motion to create an ad hoc subcommittee of members Goudey, Weinstein, and Miner to bring ideas for near-term climate action for discussion to the next meeting, with the intent to make recommendations to the City Council Climate Action Ad Hoc Subcommittee **Ayes:** Unanimous

10. EQC THEME FOR 2022 – “GO ELECTRIC!”

The Committee participated in discussion regarding implementation of the EQC’s workplan theme for 2022 to “Go Electric!”.

- Electrification Education
- PGE/Frontier Induction Burner Loaner Program
 - https://pge-induction.myturn.com/library/?WT.mc_id=Vanity_inductionloaner

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (5 min.)

Staff and Committee members made announcements and suggestions for future EQC agenda items.

- Presentation on El Cerrito Trails and Pathways
- Climate Adaptation, Severe Weather Events, and Emergency Preparedness
- Integrated Pest Management Report from City Staff
- EQC Collaboration with Young People in El Cerrito
- Tool/Toy Lending Library
- Urban Greening Plan Implementation
- Community Member Suggestions (e.g. Meatless Green Mondays)

New items for future consideration:

- Drought outreach

- Pedestrian Bicycle Safety Event on July 25
- Open Space Preservation
- Research/Discuss Role of the EQC

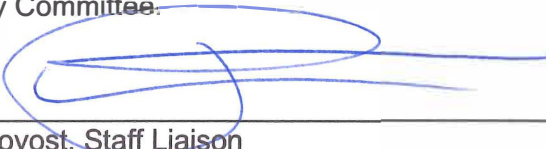
12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:16 PM.



Howdy Goudey, Chair

This is to clarify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Environmental Quality Committee meeting of **June 14, 2022** as approved by the Environmental Quality Committee.



Will Provost, Staff Liaison