MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, March 10, 2015, 7:00 p.m.
El Cerrito City Hall – Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue
This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible

Chair Miner called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Roll Call:
Chair Miner, Vice-Chair Goudey, Members Benjamin, Schaadt, Solari, Spitlnik, Weinstein, and Wildenberg

Absent: Members Benjamin, Krueger, Spitalnik
Also Present: Maria Sanders, Staff Liaison; Trina Mackie, Rebecca Milliken, and Paloma Pavel.

1. Council/ Staff Liaison Report – No announcements were made.

2. Comments from the public on non-agenda items – Sean O’Connor suggested Earth Day projects, including clean-ups along East Shore Blvd and Cerrito Creek. Tom Panas provided a written statement regarding the City’s prospective Priority Conservation Area application to ABAG (included in EQC binder).

3. Approval of the Minutes – Minutes approved (Weinstein/Goudy/Unanimous).

4. EQC Member Appointment Process – Goudey, Wildenberg, Miner reported on their interviews with the Rebecca Milliken, Trina Mackie, and Paloma Pavel, including their interests as they pertain to the work of the EQC. Goudey moved to welcome all candidates to the EQC and recommend that City Council appoint Milliken, Mackie, and Pavel to the EQC. (Goudey/Schaadt/Unanimous).

5. Announcing Elections for Chair and Vice-Chair – Sanders announced that April is when all City Committees are to hold elections for Committee officers. She asked that nominations for EQC Chair and Vice Chair to be sent to her prior to her next EQC meeting in April.

6. Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) – Sanders provided an update on the MCE enrollment process, saying El Cerrito was on track to have one of the highest Deep Green Enrollment rates in MCE territory. She announced three upcoming community meetings that will provide information for El Cerrito electricity account holders on their new energy choices under MCE. Goudey, Miner, Schaadt reported on progress of working with businesses to encourage Deep Green sign-ups.

7. Eco-Film Series: Updates and Action Items – Goudey proposed showing The Future of Energy, focusing on community scale renewable energy, on April 28th at 7:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. EQC Members asked to combine the event with a talk by MCE before showing. Sanders to produce the flyer for the film. Motion to authorize up to $350 for a screening fee. (Schaadt/Solari/Unanimous).

8. EQ Work Plan, Budget, Calendar of Events – Miner provided an update on Earth Day, to be held April 18, and proposed that the EQC provide a table at the event. Weinstein announced a possible work party by Save the Bay to count cigarette butts. Sean O’Connor recommended a work party at Cerrito Creek or Potrero and East Shore. Schaadt volunteered to lead a clean-up. Goudey

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.

10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530 | 510-215-4361 | msanders@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us
will partner with maintenance to do a French broom pull. Motion for the EQC to sponsor at least
one Earth Day work party. (Goudey/Schaadt/Unanimous). Weinstein passed out a proposal
discussing logistics and costs for the Hillside Festival on May 17. Goudey moved to allocate $1000
for the Hillside Festival. (Goudey/Wildenberg/Unanimous). Weinstein also mentioned the Music
for Madera Festival, to be held on Sept. 20th. He mentioned that it would be good to pay the
musicians.

9. Trash Mitigation Strategies – Schaadt has not been able to complete the trash can assessment. He did
say w can’t eliminate litter through trash cans alone. There also needs to be a real behavioral change
campaign to get people to even use trash cans. Members discussed the need to educate families and high
school kids.

10. Green Teams: Updates and Action Items – Weinstein expressed disappointment in the turn out for
the Green Team clean-ups. Concerned that the City is not supporting outreach for the Green Team
events and wondering if it makes sense to keep doing these events. Sanders explained that in her new
position she will need to train other staff in providing this type of support in outreach for the Green
Teams. She has not yet identified who will do that work, but she is working on it.

11. Ohlone Greenway Weed Abatement – Goudey is interested in understanding how the City and BART
evaluates its use of weed abatement strategies vis-à-vis El Cerrito’s IPM policy. Members expressed an
interest in having City staff present on the City’s IPM policy.

12. Announcements and future agenda items – The following announcements were made: Miner
announced that PACE may go to Council in March. He also announced that the Community
Development Department is considering applying to establish the Hillside Natural Area as a Priority
Conservation Area (PCA) and will ask staff to discuss in April. Weinstein provided information on a new
anti-cigarette butt bill, AB 48 – the Preventing Toxic Cigarette Butts Act. Weinstein also announced that
the transfer of the Madera Property to the City should happen in March.

Consideration of Upcoming Agenda Items
1  PACE Update – April
2  Hillside Natural Area Planned Conservation Area - April
3  Grey Water Education – TBD
4  City IPM Policy – TBD
5  Presentation on the Active Transportation Plan – May
6  Pollinator Safe Communities – going to Council in May

Upcoming Meetings + Events | more details online at www.el-cerrito.org/newgreen

• Thank City Council for purchasing Madera Open Space – March 17
• MCE Community Presentations
  ▪ City Hall – March 24
  ▪ Community Center – April 15
  ▪ City Hall – June 18

13. Adjourned at 9:00 PM

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 pm