



# Minutes

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 9, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers

10890 San Pablo Avenue

**This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible**

**Call to Order: 7:09 PM**

**Roll Call:** Chair Miner, Vice-Chair Milliken, Members Goudey, Hargrove, Miller, Schaadt, Solari, and Weinstein

**Absent:** Members Mackie, O'Connor, Pavel, and Spitalnik

**Also Present:** Maria Sanders, Staff Liaison; Justin Marquez, City CivicSpark Fellow; Will Provost, Environmental Analyst

- 1. Council/ Staff Liaison s Announcements and Reports** - Sanders introduced Will Provost, the city's new Environmental Analyst. Sanders distributed invitations from East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) Director Andy Katz to EQC members to attend EBMUD's annual public meeting.
- 2. Welcome** - Chair Miner welcomed new EQC member Becky Miller.
- 3. Comments from the public on non-agenda items** - Pam Austin announced the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Hillside Festival on May 21st. She reported out on the planning efforts to date and made a call for volunteers to help set up day-of at 8:30 am. Neil Tsutsui, a UC Berkeley professor, introduced himself and expressed interest in joining the EQC. Jeff Sobal, formerly with Sungevity, introduced himself and expressed interest in joining the EQC. Rosa Estille introduced herself and wanted to learn more about the EQC and recommended adding more information about the EQC to the website and to the City's NextDoor page. Barbara Chan introduced herself, representing the El Cerrito Progressives and their Environmental Justice Committee. She requested more promotion of the Green Business Certification program.
- 4. Approval of the Minutes** -Several corrections were made to the minutes. Motion to approve the minutes as amended (Schaadt, Weinstein, Unanimous).
- 5. Climate Action Plan Implementation** - El Cerrito CivicSpark Fellow, Justin Marquez, gave a presentation (contained in EQC binder) on the City's 2015 Greenhouse Gas Inventory and progress to date in implementing the City's Climate Action Plan. Members asked questions about data sources. Barbara Chan requested more information about programs to increase composting in multifamily dwellings.

### 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.*

Members shared interest in getting more information about residential natural gas upgrades, solar permits, electric vehicle usage, and municipal deep green enrollment.

- MCE and Deep Green Enrollments (Centennial Deep Green Push) - Milliken reported that postcards for the Deep Green were put in Bike- to-Work Day bags. She also reported that so far there have been a total of 8 new sign-ups for Deep Green. Milliken also plans to have a Deep Green table at the Hillside Festival. She will investigate with City staff whether it is possible to sponsor a drawing to engage more people. Motion to appropriate \$175 to order 500 more Deep Green post cards. (Solari, Schaadt, Unanimous).
- Community Choice & CPUC Updates—Chair Miner and Goudey reported that Contra Costa committed to joining MCE next year. Milliken circulated an open letter (contained in EQC binder) from MCE to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors outlining their commitments in the County. Miner also provided updates on the status of SB 692: Transmission Access Charges and SB 618: CCA Integrated Resource Plans.
- Efficiency in Multi-Family Dwellings Ad Hoc Subcommittee—Goudey had no new reports.
- SunShares 2017—SunShares is a program in the 9 Bay Area counties that coordinates a bulk PV and electric vehicle purchasing program for residents. Milliken reported that SunShares is active and that El Cerrito could become an outreach partner. Sanders will investigate more. Motion to encourage staff to investigate the potential in participating as a SunShares outreach partner. (Goudey, Solari, Unanimous).

## 6. EQC Budget and Calendar of Events -8:20

The following items were discussed:

- Bike to Work Day - Goudey reported that Milliken will be there to do outreach for MCE Deep Green and to generally represent the EQC.
- Hillside Festival - All new updates were addressed during public comment by Pam Austin.
- July 4<sup>th</sup> Festival - Sanders reported that EQC can have a table at the July 4<sup>th</sup> Festival. Milliken, Weinstein, Miner, Goudey, and Miller will sign up for shifts to staff the table.
- Green Teams - Weinstein announced there will be a clean-up event on June 25<sup>th</sup> in the Del Norte Area.
- Earth Day - Members reported a lower than normal turn out for lunch, though not necessarily for work parties. This year's event may have had lower turn out since it competed with the March for Science.
- Film and/or Educational Events
  - National Drive Electric Week -Milliken reported that this year's event will be held in Berkeley.
  - Before the Flood Film Showing - No new information to be reported

## 7. Announcements and Future Agenda Items - 8:50

Consideration of Upcoming Agenda Items

- 1 UUTr and UUTe - June
- 2 Urban Greening Plan Implementation

- 3 Huber Park Invasive Plant Removal
- 4 Drones in Hillside Natural Area
- 5 Invite John Gioia
- 6 City Purchased Vehicles
- 7 Changes to Federal Environmental Policy
- 8 SunShares

## **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.