



Minutes

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, December 11, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers

10890 San Pablo Avenue

This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible

Call to Order: 7:04 PM

Roll Call: Chair Miner, Vice-Chair Milliken, Members Goudey, Molnar, Moreno, O'Connor, Sobul, Tsutsui, Verrier

Absent: Members Pavel, Solari, Spitalnik, Tarbet, Weinstein

Also Present: Will Provost, Staff Liaison; Kaiya Levine, City Climate Corps Fellow

- 1. Council/Staff Liaisons Announcements and Reports** – Provost announced that Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto was recently selected as El Cerrito's new Mayor. He went on to state that the City is moving forward with the draft Tree and Shrub Ordinance, which would add protections for trees and shrubs in public spaces and help the City to become a "Tree City USA". There will be a public meeting held on January 7th at 7pm at City Hall to review the public draft. Lastly, the new Centennial Park has officially opened on the corner of Eureka Ave. and Liberty St.
- 2. Comments from the Public on Non-Agenda Items** – Cordell Hindler stated that a presentation on the Brown Act would be helpful. He also requested that more information be made available on LimeBike operations and services.
- 3. Approval of the Minutes** – Motion to approve the Tuesday, November 13th minutes (O'Connor, Milliken, unanimous; Abstain Tsutsui).
- 4. EQC Role in Reducing Risk from Wildfires** – The Committee engaged in discussion about residential concerns regarding wildfires and the management of the El Cerrito Hillside Natural Area. Miner suggested the EQC hold a workshop to educate the community about wildfire management as well as the idea to stock smoke masks to provide to citizens in the event of an emergency.
- 5. EQC Work Plan 2019** – Committee members discussed and made minor edits to the draft 2019 work plan. Motion to approve the EQC Work Plan for 2019 as amended (O'Connor, Tsutsui, unanimous).
- 6. Environmental Quality Volunteer Awards** – The EQC discussed formalizing the award process for future environmental awards and recommending that the City Council re-name the awards the "Ron Eggherman Environmental Quality Volunteer Awards" as a way to recognize Eggherman's volunteer efforts. The Committee decided to continue this discussion at the next meeting after talking to Eggherman's family.

7. **Climate Action Plan Implementation** – Goudey announced that MCE is going to continue the Living Lightly campaign and encouraged the Committee to continue to get El Cerrito residents to sign up for Deep Green. He went on to note that Contra Costa County is doing an update to their countywide Climate Action Plan.
8. **EQC “Year of Plastic Pollution Prevention” Implementation**– Provost discussed a recent workshop he attended on expanded food ware ordinances which was attended by many Bay Area cities. He stated that City staff is pursuing an expanded food ware ordinance, however, the timeline is still uncertain. The Committee discussed following the City of Richmond’s lead and creating a similar ordinance.
9. **EQC Budget and Calendar Events** – The Committee heard updates, participated in discussion, and considered possible action items regarding planning for the EQC calendar of events including:
 - **Educational Events, Films, and Workshops**
 - East Bay Electrification Expo (Thursday, Feb 7, 2019)
 - Ed Roberts Campus (Above Ashby BART, 3pm-8pm)
 - National Drive Electric Week Event
 - Berkeley Event (Saturday, Sept 14, 2019)
 - Richmond Event (Sept 2019, TBD)
10. **Announcements and Future Agenda Items** – Milliken announced LimeBike is no longer \$1/ride, and now costs an additional 5 cents per minute. Sobul suggested the EQC discuss how to improve community engagement around environmental issues at the next meeting.

Consideration of Upcoming Agenda Items

- Urban Greening Plan Implementation
- City Purchased Vehicles
- Climate Adaptation, Severe Weather Events, and Emergency Preparedness
- Partner with LimeBike on event/education
- Green Infrastructure Plan Public Meeting
- Climate Action Plan Implementation Update
- Brown Act Presentation from City Clerk
- Wildfire Preparedness and Potential Efforts around Smoke/Air Pollution
- Expanded Food Ware Ordinance
- Citizen Scientist Initiative or Event
- Community Engagement Discussion

11. Adjournment – 8:50 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 p.m.