MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
Environmental Quality Committee
Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue
This Meeting Place is Wheelchair Accessible

7:00 p.m. CONVENE REGULAR MEETING Chair Milliken called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL – Present: Chair Rebecca Milliken; Vice-Chair Neil Tsutsui; Members Howdy Goudey, Daniel Hamilton, Mark Miner, Elizabeth (Beth) Molnar, Alison Moreno, Sean O'Connor, Jeff Sobul, Renee Solari, Sheila Tarbet, Gisele Verrier
Absent: Members Paloma Pavel, Ellen Spitalnik, and Dave Weinstein
Also Present: Paul Fadelli, Council Liaison; Will Provost, Staff Liaison

2. COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISONS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS
Council Liaison Paul Fadelli highlighted recent City Council action to adopt a Just Cause Ordinance and Rent Registry. Staff Liaison Will Provost spoke of the changes in the international recycling markets and noted that City staff is planning to update the rates for recycling services at the June 4 City Council meeting.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC - None

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES
Consider a motion adopting the minutes of the Committee meeting on April 9, 2019.

Moved/Second: Members O'Conner/Sobul Action: Passed a motion to adopt the minutes of the April 9, 2019 EQC meeting Ayes: Unanimous Noes: None

5. SAN PABLO AVENUE CORRIDOR PROJECT – PRESENTATION AND WORKSHOP
Hear about the San Pablo Avenue Corridor Project and provide feedback on the plans and proposals.

The Environmental Quality Committee and members of the public received a presentation on concept designs that have been developed to potentially transform San Pablo Avenue to be more accessible by pedestrians, cyclists, and buses. Members of the public voiced concerns about the potential impacts on parking, small businesses, and congestion. Other members of the public voiced
the desire to find a solution that would increase safety for pedestrians and cyclists across the corridor.

6. **RECENT EQC MEMBER APPOINTMENT PROCESS**
Hear from Daniel Hamilton, the EQC’s newest member, on what his plans are for participating with the EQC moving forward.

Hamilton described his interest in decarbonization and equity, to ensure environmental efforts focus on all members of the El Cerrito community.

7. **APPROVE THE 2019 REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE EQC**
Pass a motion to approve the proposed regular meeting schedule for the remainder of the 2019 calendar year.

Moved/Second: Member O’Connor/Miner Action: Passed a motion to approve the regular meeting schedule for 2019, consisting of the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers (10890 San Pablo Ave), with the following exceptions: July 2019 – meet the 3rd Thursday, and October – meet the 2nd Thursday. Ayes: Unanimous Noes: None

8. **EQC BUDGET AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS**
Hear updates, participate in discussion, and consider possible action items regarding planning, logistics, and expenditures for the EQC calendar of events, including:

- Educational Events, Films, and Workshops
  - 6th Annual Hillside Festival
    - Miner noted the Hillside Festival was successful and many of the events were very well attended.
  - Earth Day
    - Members discussed the Earth Day event and Miner highlighted that the food were was 100% compostable at the event.
  - City Nature Challenge
    - Tsutsui discussed the City Nature Challenge and the potential to create a field guide using what has been observed in the Hillside Natural Area.
    - Robin Mitchell mentioned that it would be great if the Nature Challenge event aligned with the Hillside Festival in future years.
  - Bike to Work Day
    - Provost noted that Bike to Work Day had more than 400 cyclists pass the El Cerrito Plaza Energizer Station.
  - Fixit Clinic
    - Goudey discussed the Fixit Clinic and noted that it was successfully held in the Community Center for the first time. Barbara Chan highlighted the support provided by volunteers that help make the Fixit events a success.
  - 4th of July
    - Verrier shared initial ideas by the Ad-hoc Subcommittee on Plastics for the 4th of July event. Members discussed potential options for policies and outreach at the event.
- Barbara Chan asked the Committee to look into prohibiting plastic foodware at City events and facilities.
- National Drive Electric Week Event
  - Berkeley Event (Saturday, Sept 14, 2019)
  - Richmond Event (weekday, Sept 2019, TBD)
- SunShares 2019 Participation (August – November)
  - Provost stated that the City is already signed up to participate.
  - Green Team Cleanups:
    - April 28, Sunday, Madera Property Broom Pull – Debrief
    - June 1, Saturday, Northern Entries and San Pablo Avenue
    - Aug. 17, Saturday, Central Park and Cerrito Creek or Ohlone Greenway
    - September 21, Saturday, Coastal Cleanup Event
    - October date TBD, tree planting with Urban Forest Committee
    - Nov. 2, Saturday, Baxter Creek

9. EQC “YEAR OF PLASTIC POLLUTION PREVENTION” IMPLEMENTATION
Hear updates, participate in discussion, and consider possible action items regarding implementation of the EQC’s “Year of Plastic Pollution Prevention”, including hosting events, conducting outreach, and the development of a Draft Expanded Food Ware Ordinance. – None.

10. CLIMATE ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION
Hear updates, participate in discussion and consider possible action items regarding implementation of the Climate Action Plan.
  - Living Lightly Campaign - MCE Deep Green
  - “20K by 2020”
  - 7% Deep Green as of November 2018
  - CCA & CPUC Updates

Miner discussed a recent CPUC decision to allow more “direct-access” customers, that may impact MCE’s customer base and noted MCE is hosting an upcoming advocacy training event. Provost mentioned that MCE’s new 100% renewable initiative is to have 20,000 members by 2020.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
Hear committee member announcements and suggestions for future EQC agenda items. Potentially engage in discussion and make decisions regarding logistics of EQC participation in the following.

Consideration of Upcoming Agenda Items
- Urban Greening Plan Implementation
- City Purchased Vehicles
- Climate Adaptation, Severe Weather Events, and Emergency Preparedness
- 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
- Collapse of Insect Population
- Meatless "Green Mondays"
- Environmental Quality Volunteer Awards – Formalizing and Renaming
- Educate Community on Recycling Market Changes

Molnar mentioned a desire for the EQC to discuss lending libraries (tools, toys, etc.). Provost mentioned a new Environmental Awareness Art and Essay Contest for teens in El Cerrito, that may have opportunities for EQC partnership and support.

12. **ADJOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

[Signature]
Rebecca Milliken, Chair

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Environmental Quality Committee meeting of **May 14, 2019** as approved by the Environmental Quality Committee.

[Signature]
Will Provost, Staff Liaison