



THE CITY OF
EL CERRITO

PUBLIC WORKS

Staff Liaison

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MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
Environmental Quality Committee**

Tuesday, August 9, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

JOIN VIA ZOOM:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89070740619?pwd=bzZrQ05lTlNHK1BJZHF0d0FBOVZYdz09>

CONVENE REGULAR MEETING Chair Goudey called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

1. **ROLL CALL** – Chair Howdy Goudey; Vice-Chair Rose Vekony; Members Buddy Akacić, Rebecca Milliken, Mark Miner, Evelyn Mitchell, Beth Molnar, Sean O'Connor, Paloma Pavel, Ellen Spitalnik, Sheila Tarbet, Neil Tsutsui, and Dave Weinstein **Absent:** None
Also Present: Christina Leard, Staff Liaison
2. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**
El Cerrito resident Vanessa Warheit expressed her interest in transparency and requested that members of the public be allowed to be visible on camera during public meetings.
3. **ENVIRONMENTAL ART** (5 min.)
Member Molnar presented artwork created by Olga Ziemska entitled "Listen."
4. **COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISONS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**
Staff Liaison Christina Leard announced that the City is looking to replace the baler at the Recycling Center, and that the item is on the Consent Calendar for the August 16 City Council meeting. She also announced that the City Council passed an amended foodware ordinance to incorporate AB 1276, foodware by request only, on the first reading and will also be on the Consent Calendar for final adoption at the August 16 City Council meeting. Additionally, she reported that the City is working on a Request for Proposals (RFP) to update the Climate Action Plan and will be bringing it for discussion and feedback at the September EQC meeting. Lastly, she reported that work is underway on the City's Clean Water Program annual report.
5. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**
Consider a motion adopting the minutes of the EQC meeting on July 12, 2022.
Move/Second: Members O'Connor/Akacić **Action:** Passed a motion to adopt the Minutes of the July 12, 2022 EQC meeting. **Ayes:** Goudey, Vekony, Akacić, Milliken, Miner, Mitchell, Molnar, O'Connor, Pavel, Tarbet, and Weinstein **Noes:** None **Abstain:** Tsutsui, Spitalnik
6. **PRESENTATION ON THE SAN PABLO AVENUE SPECIFIC PLAN**
The Committee received a presentation from Sean Moss, Planning Manager in the Community Development Department, with support from Chris Dugan, Consultant with MIG, on the draft update of the [San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan and the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report](#), and participated in discussion. Public Comments were made by El Cerrito residents Vanessa Warheit, Steve Price, and Robin Mitchell.

Move/Second: Members Goudey/Weinstein **Action:** Passed a motion for the EQC to recommend to the Planning Commission and Council that the SEIR not be certified without addressing additional climate actions to meet stated climate goals, including all-electric buildings, increased EV infrastructure readiness and reducing embodied GHG emissions associated with construction materials. The EQC also recommends analysis of recent federal legislation, as well as state and regional funding opportunities supporting the funding of greenhouse gas emission reductions. **Ayes:** Unanimous **Noes:** None

7. PRESENTATION ON THE DEL NORTE COMPLETE STREETS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The Committee received a presentation from consultants Jason Chen of Anchor and Robert Stevens of CSWST2 on behalf of the Public Works Department on the [Del Norte Complete Streets Improvement Project](#) and participated in discussion.

Public Comments were made by El Cerrito residents Vanessa Warheit, Steve Price, and Robin Mitchell.

8. EQC MEMBER APPOINTMENT PROCESS

Staff Liaison Christina Leard noted that a potential new EQC Member, Simrun Dhoot, submitted her application to serve on the Committee.

Move/Second: Members Akacić/Goudey **Action:** Passed a motion to appoint members Tsutsui and Vekony to a subcommittee to interview the potential new member prior to the next EQC meeting. **Ayes:** Unanimous **Noes:** None

9. GOALS OF THE EQC

The Committee received a Memo from member Weinstein regarding the goals of the EQC and tabled the item for discussion at the September meeting.

10. 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:

- Pedestrian Bicycle Safety Event – July 25, 2022 - Debrief
- Recycling Center 50th Anniversary Celebration, August 5, 2022 - Debrief
- Green Team 2022 Cleanups / Broom Pulls:
 - Aug. 14 Sunday, Cerrito Creek
 - Oct. 2, Sunday, Northern Gateways
 - Dec. 4, Sunday, Baxter Park (with regular Baxter volunteers)
- Berkeley e-bike event, TBD

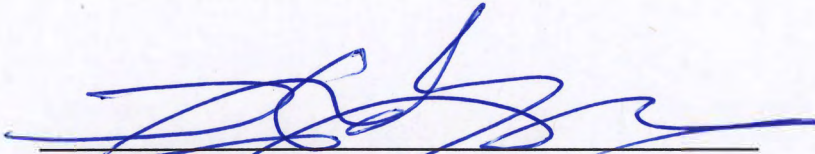
11. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

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

- Environmental, Social, And Racial Framework
 - Link to the [JEDI Tool](#)
- 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)
- Drought outreach
- Open Space Preservation
- Mitigation of heat effects; Federal Inflation Reduction Act (Ellen)

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:26 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 **August 9, 2022** as approved by the Environmental Quality Committee.



Christina Leard, Staff Liaison