



## PUBLIC WORKS

### Staff Liaison

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## AGENDA

### REGULAR MEETING OF THE Environmental Quality Committee

Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

### JOIN VIA ZOOM:

[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_JhE\\_2dM8QSmJI1TQYPTwEw](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_JhE_2dM8QSmJI1TQYPTwEw)

**Meeting ID:** 934 4204 0991 **Password:** 2154350  
**or Dial in:** 1-408-638-0968

Pursuant to Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20, and in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Teleconference Restrictions of the Brown Act Have Been Suspended, as Well as the Requirement to Provide a Physical Location for Members of the Public to Participate in the Meeting. Any person wishing to speak to the Environmental Quality Committee on any of these matters is invited to participate via web-conference as described above. The City encourages submission of written comments in advance to the Environmental Quality Committee by emailing [wprovost@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:wprovost@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us) prior to the meeting.

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### 7:00 p.m. CONVENE REGULAR MEETING

1. **ROLL CALL** – Chair Neil Tsutsui; Vice-Chair Beth Molnar; Members Buddy Akacić, Howdy Goudey, Chris Lynch, Rebecca Milliken, Mark Miner, Sean O’Connor, Paloma Pavel, Jeff Sobul, Ellen Spitalnik, Sheila Tarbet, Rose Vekony, and Dave Weinstein
2. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC** *(Estimated time: 5 minutes)*  
*Remarks are typically limited to three minutes per person and may be on anything within the subject matter jurisdiction of the body. Remarks on non-agenda items will be heard first, remarks on agenda items will be heard at the time the item is discussed.*
3. **COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISONS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS** *(5 min.)*  
Staff and/or Mayor Paul Fadelli may report on policies, priorities, and significant actions taken by the City Council, and/or on matters of general interest to the EQC.
4. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** *(5 min.)*  
Consider a motion adopting the minutes of the EQC meeting on March 9, 2021.
5. **ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND RACIAL FRAMEWORK** *(20 min.)*  
Discuss potential next steps for the EQC to promote diversity and inclusion, and the idea of developing an environmental, social, and racial framework or assessment tool to guide future EQC efforts. Consider coordinating a training/presentation for the Committee and leveraging environmental stewardship programs serving underserved communities.
6. **EQC BUDGET AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS** *(15 min.)*  
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
    - Earth Day/Month 2021
      - Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour, Doug Tallamy Keynote April 25
        - Register at: [www.bringingbackthenatives.net/](http://www.bringingbackthenatives.net/)
    - 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Hillside Festival
    - City Nature Challenge 2021, April 30-May 3, 2021
    - Green Team 2021 Cleanups / Broom Pulls:
      - March 14, April 3, April 18 Madera Broom Pulls
      - April 24, Saturday, Earth Day Clean up of Central Park and Surrounding Areas

- June 6, Sunday, Baxter Creek
- Aug. 15, Sunday, Cerrito Creek
- September, TBD, Coastal Cleanup
- Oct. 16, Saturday, Northern Gateway Cleanup
- Dec. 5, Sunday, Baxter Creek
- Green Home Tour (June 6 and June 13), Register at: [www.eastbaygreenhome.com/](http://www.eastbaygreenhome.com/)

**7. CLIMATE ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION (20 min.)**

Hear updates, participate in discussion and consider possible action items regarding implementation of the Climate Action Plan.

- San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan Update/EIR – EQC Comments
- MCE Clean Energy & California Public Utilities Commission Updates
- Climate Action Plan 2.0 Recommendations

**8. PROJECT HONORING AND COMMEMORATING MARIA SANDERS (15 min.)**

Participate in discussion and consider possible action items regarding developing a project to commemorate Maria Sanders, a long-time City of El Cerrito employee, and former EQC Staff Liaison, who passed away in February 2021.

**9. VEGETATION MANAGEMENT AND FIRE PREPAREDNESS (15 min.)**

Discuss the idea of exploring alternative vegetation management practices, emergency/fire preparedness, and how the EQC can support those efforts.

**10. PLASTIC REDUCTION EFFORTS AND FOOD WARE ORDINANCE (5 min.)**

Hear updates, participate in discussion, and consider possible action items regarding implementation of the EQC's Plastic Pollution Prevention efforts.

**11. COLLABORATION WITH THE URBAN FOREST COMMITTEE (5 min.)**

Hear updates, participate in discussion and consider possible action items regarding collaborating with the City's Urban Forest Committee.

**12. ELECTIONS FOR CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR (5 min.)**

Nominate and elect a Chair and Vice-Chair for an annual term beginning April 2021.

**13. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (5 min.)**

Hear committee member announcements and suggestions for future EQC agenda items. Potentially engage in discussion and make decisions regarding logistics of EQC consideration of items including:

- Briefing from the Fire Department / How can the EQC help with preparedness?
- Recycling Update and EQC Support in Implementing Recent Legislation
- Climate Adaptation, Severe Weather Events, and Emergency Preparedness
- PG&E Emergency Power Shutoffs
- EQC Collaboration with Young People in El Cerrito
- Tool/Toy Lending Library
- Urban Greening Plan Implementation
- Community Member Suggestions (e.g. Meatless Green Mondays, Leaf Blowers)
- Real Property Transfer Tax Rebates for Energy Efficiency – Education
- EQC Skills/Resource List

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Staff Liaison, Will Provost, at (510) 559-7684. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the members regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the El Cerrito Recycling + Environmental Resource Center (7501 Schmidt Lane) during normal business hours.