



City of Emeryville

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Sustainability Committee Minutes

Monday, September 12, 2016 at 5:00pm

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Dianne Martinez, Chair, Ruth Atkin, Member; Nancy Humphrey, Hoi-Fei Mok, Lori Elefant, Diana Keena, Michael Guina, staff.

2. Public Comment

None

3. Approval of Minutes: July 11, 2016 minutes approved.

4. Items

4.1 Update on Community Choice Energy Process

Nancy Humphrey reported that the East Bay Clean Energy Joint Powers Authority (JPA) is set to go to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors on August 2 was delayed, and will go to the Board on October 4, following a public retreat to discuss the issue on September 20.

Cities are requested to approve the JPA by November 30, which will take two readings. There is a presentation to Council scheduled for October 18; this will be the third presentation to this Council on the matter.

The remaining sticking point is:

Voting share: Votes of the JPA Board will be one per jurisdiction, with the option for a voting shares vote, by percent of load, if requested by a certain number of members. Large cities are saying they can't accept the JPA if the voting shares vote requires more than two cities to request it; smaller cities are saying they can't accept the JPA if fewer than four are needed to call for a voting shares vote. Reportedly, however, no CCAs have ever had to call for a voting shares vote.

The issue of the Community Advisory Committee and Ex-Officio members of the JPA Board was settled with the formation of a nine-member Community Advisory Committee; the chair of that committee will be the sole Ex-Officio member of the JPA Board.

Michael Guina joined the meeting briefly and described the process of finalizing JPA language with the City Attorneys. Dianne Martinez said she would consider attending the September 20 retreat, and discussed the possibility of submitting a comment letter in favor of having the voting shares vote triggered by four or more members' requests.

4.2 StopWaste Update

Mayor Martinez offered her help with putting an educational effort in place at the ECCL, both in the school and the after-school. Marcy Greenhut of Public Works is already planning a program and is just waiting for ECCL staff to get through the opening rush.

4.3 Climate Action Plan

Fei Mok reported that the Adaptation Plan written for Emeryville by consultants 427, with funding from StopWaste. That plan will go into the CAP Background Report along with the implementation measures proposed for near and long term. The plan is to have Council adopt the CAP 2.0 document itself, which will set goals and targets, and to keep the Background Report as a living document attached to the formal CAP 2.0.

The CAP 2.0 has been recognized as a “Best Practice” by the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, which will publicize it state-wide. The concerns that Fei Mok and Nancy Humphrey shared with the OPR staff were about the need for a regional effort on adaptation and resilience efforts, and about the need for top-down commitment to sustainability and climate action. The CAP 2.0 is set to go to Council on November 1.

As an aside, Councilmembers Atkin and Martinez both thanked Fei Mok for her work in the past year as a CivicSpark member, and Ruth Atkin also thanked staff for making a CAP 2.0 that is a great deal more mature than the first plan: comprehensive and technical.

4.4 Transportation Sharing Policy

Nancy Humphrey mentioned that there is increasing demand for curb space for residents’ use, especially since our parking allowances in new developments are very tight. There are several car share operators in the area, and the more we give people options to avoid car ownership, the more we can meet our climate action goals. There is currently no comprehensive policy about the use of the right of way by private companies for transportation sharing, although at least one company has some dedicated spots, as will bike share.

Ruth Atkin directed that this be addressed along with the overall City parking policy and plan, which should include residential permits and meters. Diana Keena pointed out that we have not received needed grant funding to institute such programs.

4.5 Dream Project List

Members requested that staff start a list of “Dream Projects” for sustainability. The group discussed and added to the list. The complete current list is attached.

5. Staff Program Updates/Comments

5.1 Green Team and Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

A draft EPP is complete and an Administrative Instruction has been drafted. The next step is to get it to the Department Heads meeting for consideration. We’ve set up an account with Blaisdell’s that showcases green products at the prices negotiated by the County.

Diane Martinez mentioned Novvi, a local company producing oil, and asked if that can be incorporated into the EPP. Local sourcing should be a part of the EPP; staff will follow up.

5.2 Water conservation update

Public Works has dialed back the watering schedule for established areas other than play fields to drought levels. And in following up on a question from last meeting, the reason we don’t have “purple pipe” reclaimed water for our City Hall irrigation is that the pipe runs too far away, on 45th Street, and it would cost far more than it would be worth for our small irrigated area.

6. Future Agenda Items
None identified.

7. Announcements/Member Comments

It was mentioned that the City received a “Gold Level” Beacon award for sustainability actions taken from the Institute for Local Government, and the Mayor and City Manager will receive the award at an upcoming event.

8. Adjournment, 6:15 pm. The next meeting will be on November 15, 2016.

Sustainability/Climate Dream Project List

Transportation/Transit:

Car-free areas of the city.

Roundabouts replacing stop signs/stop lights (significant fuel/emissions and noise reductions).

BRT on 40th, San Pablo and Shellmound (in Council-supported County and AC Transit plans) designed with cyclists in mind; bollards on 40th St bridge.

Bus shelters with benches, trash bins, lighting, bike racks, real time bus info, and landscaping at all bus stops (partly in Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan but hard to fund without ads; we want to do it without ads).

Vision Zero – Zero pedestrian and cyclist deaths and injuries (this will be voted on at the next League of California Cities meeting)

- 20mph speed limit city-wide, 15 on exclusively residential blocks;
- 3 E's – engineering, enforcement, education;
- Study where crashes have occurred and change those locations and other similar locations;
- Engineering includes protected bike lanes, wide sidewalks, traffic calming, well-marked crosswalks, pedestrian zones, and automatic walk signals - no button to push.

EV charging infrastructure city-wide.

Parking management city-wide.

Allow the “Idaho Roll” for cyclists.

Railroad quiet zones.

Public education about hydrogen fueling station.

Camera enforcement of speed limits.

Water, energy and building systems:

Living machines – wastewater treatment in tank systems emulating wetlands.

Cisterns and graywater – beyond allowing, to incorporating into City facilities and supporting in private projects.

All new buildings must be zero-net energy (ZNE).

All municipal buildings must attempt to be ZNE.

Building and landscape design to reduce energy use – shade, natural ventilation, etc. (part of ZNE).

Requiring utilization of rooftops for energy, lighting, greening, and/or open space; unusable areas must be reflective.

Electrification as the energy mix becomes all clean fuels, and/or with on-site solar or wind generation, beginning with new construction.

Micro-grids allowable and in place between parcels city-wide.

Eco-block expanded city-wide (Eco-block is a project in design now for a block above Stanford between Fremont and Marshall, led by NASA, LBL, the City of Oakland and others.)

Capture tidal action for energy.

Charge differential for people opting out of CCE (to cover their additional GHGs).

Encourage cogeneration projects.

Beyond mobility and buildings:

Support for local agriculture and makers (there's a 4H club in Emeryville now).

Non-toxic products for home, garden, work, cleanliness, pest control - beyond promotion to substantial support.

Support for establishment of, or conversion to, benefit corporations. Purchase from them.

Ban more kinds of packaging, (Peter presented a proposal to ban plastic coffee cup lids?) Ban drinking straws. Ban disposable plastic anything. Beef up enforcement on existing bans.

Institute a local cap and trade system to fund sustainability programs.

Playgrounds that generate energy.