

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF LA MESA
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
6:00 PM, CITY MANAGER'S CONFERENCE ROOM
8130 ALLISON AVENUE, LA MESA, CA 91942
TELECONFERENCE MEETING WEBINAR**

MINUTES
January 25, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER (6:05 p.m.)
2. ROLL CALL (X indicates present)

Andrea Beth Damsky, Chair	X
Ricky Williams, Vice-Chair	X
Stephen Grooms	X
Trey McDonald	X
Jean-Guillaume Lonjaret	X
Mike Bourton	X
Eugenie Budnik (Youth Rep)	X
Maggie Eggers (EDCO)	X
Joe Garuba (Helix Water District)	X
Joe Britton (SDG&E)	X
Vacant (La Mesa-Spring Valley School District)	
Vacant (Helix Charter High School)	

Others present: Lyn Dedmon, Senior Management Analyst; Hilary Ego, Environmental Program Manager

Public present: Mark Gracyk, Helix Water District; Jack Shu, Councilmember; Kathryn, resident; Melissa, resident; Susanne, resident

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments submitted or stated.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 21, 2020

Approval of minutes from the December 21, 2020 meeting.

Action:	Motion to approve minutes by Stephen Grooms; second by Jean-Guillaume Lonjaret
Vote:	6-0
Ayes:	Bourton, McDonald, Damsky, Grooms, Lonjaret, Budnik
Noes:	None
Abstained:	None
Absent:	None

5. CITY STAFF UPDATES

Hilary Ego gave an update on waste diversion and the organics rollout she is working on with EDCO, including mailers to La Mesa residents and an educational video. Hilary also stated that there will be

a workshop on March 11 hosted by I Love a Clean San Diego and EDCO that will educate residents about the anaerobic digester facility in Escondido.

Hilary Ego gave an update on the Urban Forest Management Plan and the City's tree planting effort.

Hilary Ego gave an update on the DIY Toolkit expansion, an award it received, and two new videos about the program that will be placed on the City's website.

Andrea Beth Damsky asked if staff could get an update on the grant that the La Mesa Foundation received for the Community Garden at MacArthur Park.

Lyn Dedmon updated the commission on the grant and offered the opportunity for the ESC to plan a visit to the garden when complete.

Stephen Grooms stated that he's visited the garden and was impressed with the progress so far.

Andrea Beth Damsky stated that the City will likely have a grand opening and that the site visit could coincide with that.

Lyn Dedmon stated that he would bring this item back as a city staff update regarding a site visit to the garden.

6. CLIMATE EMERGENCY DECLARATION RESOLUTION (Hilary Ego, Lyn Dedmon)

Hilary Ego gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Climate Emergency Declaration Resolution.

Councilmember Jack Shu gave a brief introduction of the item and explained why the Climate Emergency Declaration Resolution is necessary.

Stephen Grooms asked about whether there was funding available for actions that could be added to the resolution or whether this is reinforcing the current CAP.

Hilary Ego stated that this item is reinforcing the current CAP.

Councilmember Shu added a comment to address Stephen Groom's question and remaining questions.

Trey McDonald stated that drive-through VMT's are not stated in the resolution and asked whether it should be added.

Councilmember Shu stated that he did not place it in the resolution because it is a relatively new topic and did not want to put the City in a compromising position considering the activity-based modeling that is currently used by transportation planners and the lack of mode-share data presently.

Andrea Beth Damsky asked whether a forward thinking statement should be added to the resolution that addressed drive-through VMT's as a commitment the City could make moving forward.

Councilmember Shu stated that the commission could certainly provide some language and that the Council Subcommittee would take it into consideration.

The commission discussed whether they want to provide edits and comments to the resolution or approve it as is.

After discussion and input from Commissioners, The Commission decided to allow commissioners the opportunity to review the resolution and provide input to staff individually via email with staff summarizing the entire Commission's

Action: Motion by Andrea Beth Damsky seconded by Ricky Williams to proceed with having Commissioners provide to staff edits and comments via email and for staff to collect, summarize, and provide the edits and comments to the Council Subcommittee and the Environmental Sustainability Commission.
Vote: 7-0
Ayes: Bourton, McDonald, Damsky, Grooms, Lonjaret, Budnik, Williams
Noes: None
Abstained: None
Absent: None

7. COMPLETION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY WORK PLAN UPDATES (Hilary Ego)

Hilary Ego introduced this item and stated that there is one remaining item to be finalized, which is whether there was a specific CAP measure for the creation of a communication and marketing plan. Hilary stated that there's education and outreach embedded into each CAP measure therefore a specific measure for the creation of a communication and marketing plan is not needed.

Andrea Beth Damsky asked a question about the formatting of the Work Plan document and clarification on what the commission is being asked to do with this item.

Hilary Ego stated that if the commission agrees that all of the green highlighted items in the Work Plan are sufficient, the commission can move on to addressing the last remaining orange highlighted item.

Andrea Beth Damsky asked a question about goal 1.1, specifically whether the March 2021 timeline to identify two CAP measures to assist staff with is enough time.

Hilary Ego stated that the commission can push this date out if needed.

Lyn Dedmon stated that the Work Plan update to Council is actually February 9th, not February 23rd as shown on the agenda. Lyn Dedmon also stated that the recommendation to add a non-voting member from San Diego Community Power could be added to the Work Plan at this meeting but deferred to Hilary Ego on whether it makes sense to do so.

Hilary Ego stated that this item is separate from the Work Plan and should not be included.

The commission discussed the option of including the addition of a non-voting member to the ESC.

Action: Motion by Ricky Williams seconded by Trey McDonald to approve the Work Plan as amended.
Vote: 7-0
Ayes: Bourton, McDonald, Damsky, Grooms, Lonjaret, Budnik, Williams
Noes: None
Abstained: None
Absent: None

8. DISCUSS FEBRUARY 9, 2021 WORK PLAN UPDATE TO CITY COUNCIL (Hilary Ego)

Andrea Beth Damsky stated that in the past she has presented the Work Plan to Council and would be happy to do it on February 9th.

Action: Motion by Stephen Grooms seconded by Trey McDonald to have Chair Andrea Beth Damsky present the FY20/21 ESC Work Plan to City Council.
Vote: 7-0
Ayes: Bourton, McDonald, Damsky, Grooms, Lonjaret, Budnik, Williams
Noes: None
Abstained: None
Absent: None

9. DISCUSS RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL TO ADD SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY POWER NON-VOTING MEMBER TO ESC (Lyn Dedmon)

Jean-Guillaume Lonjaret introduced this item and stated that it makes sense to have a representative from San Diego Community Power as a non-voting member on the commission.

Michael Bourton asked what the current rules state as far as adding a representative from a utility.

Lyn Dedmon stated that the City's Municipal Code would need to be amended and the item would need to go to City Council for approval.

Action: Motion by Jean-Guillaume Lonjaret seconded by Ricky Williams to recommend to City Council to add a non-voting member from San Diego Community Power to the Environmental Sustainability Commission.
Vote: 7-0
Ayes: Bourton, McDonald, Damsky, Grooms, Lonjaret, Budnik, Williams
Noes: None
Abstained: None
Absent: None

10. CAP SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE (Trey McDonald, Ricky Williams)

Trey McDonald stated that the CAP Subcommittee does not have much to report and that they are continuing to study a decarbonization ordinance for the City of La Mesa. Trey stated that the CAP Subcommittee will bring its finding back to the commission in the coming months.

11. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Jean-Guillaume Lonjaret stated that he would like to invite an organization called Clean Earth 4Kids to give a presentation to the commission to educate the commission about pesticides and pesticide management.

Andrea Beth Damsky gave a brief recap of the commission's previous work on pesticide management.

Lyn Dedmon stated that he would try to find the report.

Jean-Guillaume Lonjaret asked for an update on the Strategic Plan goals and statement that the commission created for the City's Targets for Action and Strategic Plan.

Lyn Dedmon stated that staff is working on the Strategic Plan now and that the commission's recommendation to add "Environmental Stewardship" as the eight strategic direction and to add "foster community health by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving environmental quality" as an adopted goal in the Targets for Action is being implemented.

Joe Garuba stated that Helix Water District is in the middle of their budget process and that over the next month the budget will be finalized. Joe stated that he will report to the commission the important items in the budget that will be of interest.

Andrea Beth Damsky stated she is pleased with the Climate Emergency Declaration Resolution that Councilmember Shu brought forward and that she's looking forward to the new presidential administration's climate policies.

12. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting will be a special meeting scheduled for Monday, March 15, 2021.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Prepared by: Lyn Dedmon, Senior Management Analyst