



# CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION MEETING

## REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

# MINUTES

Wednesday, April 17, 2024, 5:30 PM

City Hall Council Chambers

635 S. Highway 101, Solana Beach, California

This meeting will be conducted in accordance with Government Code sections 54953(e) and 54954.3 and other applicable law.

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Minutes contain a summary of the discussion and actions taken by the Climate Action Commission during a meeting. Climate Action meetings are audio recorded. The audio recordings capture the complete proceedings of the meeting and are available for review.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson McClune called the meeting to order 5:31 PM.

Present: Chairperson Michael McClune, Vice Chairperson Mika Nagamine, Councilmember David Zito, Commissioners Ken Flagg, Lane Sharman, Heidi Dewar, John Kellogg, Greg Coleson, and Michelle Buchanan  
Junior Commissioners: Hayden Crocker, Georgia Wallerius

Also Present: Nicole Gucky, Senior Management Analyst; Yichao Gu, University of San Diego Energy Policy Initiatives Center (EPIC)

### 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**Motion:** Moved by Dewar. Seconded by Coleson. Approved 9/0. **Motion Carried.**

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Meeting of March 20, 2024

**Motion:** Moved by Kellogg. Seconded by Dewar. Approved 9/0. **Motion Carried.**

### 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

### 5. CLIMATE ACTION PLAN UPDATE – Nicole Gucky

Nicole Gucky, Senior Management Analyst with the City of Solana Beach, provided an overview of the Draft Climate Action Plan (CAP) Update – outlining the City's goals, greenhouse gas emissions, and proposed pathways and actions that are within the Draft Climate Action Plan Update. The Draft Climate Action Plan Update will be open for public review for over 30 days, ending on Friday, May 24.

### *Discussion & Questions*

Commissioner Sharman and Commissioner Dewar asked for more specifics on the greenhouse gas data. Yichao Gu from EPIC provided more information and clarified there will be an additional Appendix (Appendix A) that is the technical analysis of the greenhouse gas emission data that will be included within the final Climate Action Plan Update. In particular, the 2016 inventory doesn't show the effect of the Solana Energy Alliance on electricity emissions during 2018, 2019, and 2020. Additionally, for the estimated emissions associated with tree planting, only carbon sequestration is included, no other potential co-benefits like reducing the urban heat island affect.

Chair McClune asked for a timeline of when the technical document and cost analysis can be expected. Nicole Grucky let the Commission know that those documents should be available in a month or so.

Commissioner Buchanan asked if our last CAP was successful/did it meet the goals that were outlined within in? Gu stated that the City has completed inventories about every two years, which has shown that the City has been on track to meet their reduction targets, thus far.

Councilmember Zito asked for clarification on the SANDAG growth forecast data used in the CAP Update. Gu stated that SANDAG has released newer data since the emissions forecasting was completed. However, since the EPIC team uses conservative modeling, the new growth forecast data wouldn't be drastically different than what was included and the newer SANDAG numbers had a lower projected growth so, if anything, the numbers would have shown greater reductions. Zito also asked if a projected larger senior population was factored into measures, as a 30% bike walk goal may not be feasible in ten years when Solana Beach has an even larger proportion of senior residents. Grucky stated this is something that could be included within the Equity Analysis.

Sharman requested that IRA funding opportunities were added into the document within the funding table.

Commissioners brought up specific text modifications that they would like to be made, leading to McClune asking the Commission how they wanted to utilize their time today discussing the draft without going line by line. After discussion, it was decided that City staff will send out the draft CAP Update in a Word format to each Commissioner. The Commissioners will have until May 1<sup>st</sup> to send City staff their edits and comments. City staff will then organize the comments in a similar format as what is done for CEQA items, and send the organized spreadsheet back to the Commission as a part of the Agenda Packet for the May meeting. The Commission will then have an opportunity to review together at the May meeting.

## **6. PRESENTATION OF POLLINATOR PROJECTS WITHIN THE CITY – Commissioner Dewar**

Commissioner Dewar provided a background on pollinators, informing the Commission that many types of pollinators are not doing well. Our natural ecosystems require pollinators to be a healthy system and preserving these natural habitats have a lot of other co-benefits that are outlined in the Adaptation Chapter in the Climate Action Plan.

Seaweeder's (a local gardening group) and the City started working together to increase native habitat in 2020. In 2021, the City joined the Mayors Monarch Pledge. Through the Mayors Monarch Pledge, the Seaweeder's and the City have created pollinator gardens at La Colonia, the Coastal Rail Trail, and sold plants to residents to plant in their private gardens. They are now working with

schools to see how it can be expanded to the schools, the Maintenance Yard, and in front of City Hall.

*Discussions & Questions*

Vicechair Nagamine suggested that this plan could be combined with the age-friendly plan (there is an outdoor space section to make outdoor space more comfortable, pocket parks) and that there may be opportunities to work with seniors.

Commissioner Sharman loves what the Seaweeder's are doing. Sharman inquired if we have a shortage of corridors for the pollinators in Solana Beach. Dewar stated that they have a vegetation survey. The Seaweeder's have focused a lot on monarchs but would love to expand to other pollinators and that there are lots of opportunities to do more education, especially about things like pesticides and outdoor cats.

Chair McClune suggested the need to get a native landscape architect. Dewar stated they would love to have a native landscape architect on board, but they can be costly. Commissioner Buchanan reiterated that there seems like there is room for an education piece, especially around the difference between drought tolerant vs. native. Buchanan would love to see a subsidy to incentivize native, pollinator plants and maybe something to budget in the workplan.

**7. JUNIOR COMMISSIONER UPDATES – Junior Commissioner Crocker & Wallerius**

Junior Commissioners Crocker and Wallerius presented updates on Fiesta Del Sol planning, including successfully recruiting four additional student volunteers to man the sorting stations. Crocker and Wallerius are continuing to work with City staff to plan.

Staff provided an update that they have reached out to Clean Energy Alliance to provide materials, are in the process of ordering swag for the table, and are looking for any help reaching out to local volunteer organizations and the Chamber.

Commissioners agreed that they want to see City educational pieces via QR codes and will help create some of the content.

**8. NEW/PROPOSED BUSINESS:** New or proposed business provides an opportunity for Commissioners to discuss items not on the agenda but that may be added to the CAC agenda/workload at a future date. Pursuant to the Brown Act, there will be no action taken on these items.

Commissioner Sharman would like to provide an informational presentation on financing ideas and grant opportunities in June.

Given the overlap of the CAP and Age-Friendly Action Plan, Councilmember Zito suggested bringing the Workplan to the May meeting to make suggestions to Council on what should be prioritized in the next year.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting is adjourned at 7:03pm

  
Nicole Gucky, Senior Management Analyst

Approved: 5/15/2024