



CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION MEETING

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

MINUTES

Wednesday, May 15, 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.

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 5:30 PM.

Present: Chairperson Michael McClune, Vice Chairperson Mika Nagamine, Councilmember David Zito, Commissioners Ken Flagg, Lane Sharman, Heidi Dewar, John Kellogg, Michelle Buchanan, and Greg Coleson (arrived at 5:34),

Absent: Junior Commissioners: Hayden Crocker, Georgia Wallerius

Also Present: Nicole Grucky, Senior Management Analyst; Dan King, Assistant City Manager

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: Moved by Sharman. Seconded by Zito. Approved 8/0/1 (Absent: Coleson) **Motion Carried.**

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Meeting of April 17, 2024

Motion: Moved by Dewar. Seconded by Zito. Approved 8/0/1 (Absent: Coleson) **Motion Carried.**

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

5. CLIMATE ACTION PLAN UPDATE – Nicole Grucky

Public Comment:

Marc Friedmann, representing the San Diego Building Electrification Coalition

Questions and Discussions:

Commissioners asked questions about building electrification to Mr. Friedmann. Friedmann mentioned that cities have been pivoting to Building Performance Standards, in light of the Berkeley ruling. Friedmann also recommended looking into Quit Carbon and Ensemble Energy. Commissioner Sharman asked if either of these companies have worked locally. Friedman stated that City of San Diego is working with Quit Carbon. Commissioner Coleson asked about funding programs and Commissioner Dewar asked about incentive programs.

Dewar had some general comments about the Climate Action Plan and will send updates to staff. In general, Dewar thinks the City should put a date instead of using language like “current” and “recent” in the CAP because it can become quickly outdated. Additionally, she agrees with Chair McClune’s comments about updating the climate science language to be stronger. Dewar would also like to see projects that the City is already working on included, such as pollinator project and the Lomas Santa Fe road project. Dewar would also like language around monitoring carbon capture technologies to see if it an option in the future. Dewar would also like to take a closer look at the Adaptation Chapter.

Dewar also stated support of other Commissioner’s input, including supporting setting the electricity default in the City to 100% renewable sooner than 2035 and supporting potable water reclamation (vs. purple pipes).

Assistant City Manager King stated that the 2035 date was selected for the 100% renewable electricity because it aligned with the Clean Energy Alliance’s (CEA) goals.

Council Member Zito also would like to see the City set an opt-in rate target around CEA, to be able to measure what we are doing. Zito supported moving up the 100% renewable default target date. Zito would also like to see stronger language about reducing electrification of non-City fleets (i.e., USPS, Sheriff’s, schools).

Dewar mentioned that there is a mention in the CAP about keeping housing prices low, but that we may need to include further language and keep in mind equity for homeowners. Staff stated that this is something they can explore adding into the equity chapter.

Commissioner Sharman asked if we have asked CEA about 100% renewable opt-in? It’s two parts – does CEA have enough renewable electricity to supply the City and then bandwidth to do outreach/fear of more opt-outs.

McClune expressed concern over lack of housing policy, as one of the most sustainable ways is to make the City more dense and walkable. Commissioner Buchanan added that there is the action related to the 15-minute city. However, Buchanan raised a concern over walkability for residents along the coast, as there is not a grocery store in walking distance to those homes. Vice Chair Nagamine also expressed concerns about walkability within the City because there are a lot of hills, and this is where she sees something like a shuttle system to be able to help people get to where they need to go, if the hills are a barrier.

Zito brought up that they would like to prioritize solar on roof tops over green roofs. After consulting with the rest of the Commission, they agreed that the green roof section should be removed in the Adaptation Chapter, in favor of promoting solar. McClune mentioned that we could also remove solar hot water heaters, but Zito mentioned that we should not remove reference to pool heaters.

6. WORKPLAN UPDATE – Dan King

King provided an overview on the Work Plan agenda item from the May 8th City Council meeting. Sharing

that most of the Environmental Sustainability Priority items on the draft Work Plan had originally come from previous suggestions from the Climate Action Commission. Staff's vision is that the CAP would be the main priority within the Environmental Sustainability section and it will be brought back to the full Council on June 12.

Questions and Discussion:

Commissioner Coleson was curious about the \$700,000 breakdown and if staff had researched the best bang for the carbon buck? Coleson suggestion that would it potentially be cheaper to pay residents to get rid of their old cars versus investing in a microtransit system. Commission Dewar asked if other cities who have started a similar microtransit system have seen a reduction in GHG emissions. Chair McClune asked if there were other ways to fund the microtransit system like employers, bringing up the example that the City of Mountain View's is heavily funded by Google. Vice Chair Nagamine suggested that staff look into SANDAG options, noting that Solana Beach is listed within Tier 3, which is the lowest priority. Additionally, other options like Park and Ride have proven to be expensive. Commissioner Kellogg asked for clarification on the wording around microtransit, feasibility versus implementation.

Dewar asked if the flooding on Stevens would be tied into the Major Storm Drain System priority? Staff responded that would not be directly tied into that priority, but addressed through a different priority.

McClune noted that the language is loose and inquired if there could be at least one item be a thing that the City can say that they will commit to. Councilmember Zito agreed, saying he would like that to be BPS.

Commissioner Buchanan highlighted several areas outside of the Environmental Sustainability Priority items that she would like to see a sustainability tie in or is directly at odds with sustainability. These items included addressing affordable housing; traffic calming, a mechanism that sometimes can create more traffic and be at odds with sustainability; fire station generator, could that be solar plus battery; pocket parks, incorporating native, pollinators. Additionally, Buchanan struggled to find the correct My Community app that residents are told to download, could the right one be included regularly in the weekly newsletter.

McClune added that parks are a great place to include shade and that staff should look into adding fuel removal as a project in the CAP's adaptation chapter. Zito asked staff to look at where we can increase renewable electricity and storage on municipal facilities.

Staff requested that Commissioners provide any feedback on the Work Plan by May 29th.

7. JUNIOR COMMISSIONER UPDATES

No update, as neither Junior Commissioner was in attendance.

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.

Zito made an announcement that BikeWalkSolana is still looking for volunteers to help with Fiesta del Sol bike valet this weekend.

Dewar would like to add to a future agenda a discussion around creating sub-committees. In particular, a sub-committee to talk with the Chamber about sustainability initiatives and a sub-committee focused on educating the community.

Staff made an announcement that the next meeting would be held on June 19th (or Juneteenth), an

observed holiday by the City. Staff will officially cancel the meeting and see if there is another date in June that could act as a special meeting and meet quorum.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting is adjourned at 6:45pm



Nicole Gucky, Senior Management Analyst

Approved: 7/17/2024