

**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
July 19, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER (6:02 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
Maggie Eggers (EDCO)	X
Joe Garuba (Helix Water District)	X
Joe Britton (SDG&E)	X
Nelson Lomelli, San Diego Community Power	X
Vacant (Youth Rep)	
Vacant (La Mesa-Spring Valley School District)	
Vacant (Helix Charter High School)	

Others present: Hilary Ego, Environmental Program Manager

Public present: Debbie Kinsinger, resident; Mark Gracyk, Elected Division 3 Director of Helix Water District

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments submitted or stated.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 21, 2021

Andrea Beth Damsky and Ricky Williams had a correction for item 8 and 11.

Ricky Williams had a correction for items 6 and 11.

Approval of minutes from the June 21, 2021 meeting.

Action:	Motion to approve minutes by Trey McDonald; second by Ricky Williams
Vote:	5-0
Ayes:	Damsky, Williams, Lonjaret, McDonald, Bourton
Noes:	None
Abstained:	Grooms
Absent:	None

5. CITY STAFF UPDATES

Hilary Ego gave updates on the following items:

- 2020 Climate Action Plan Annual Report was presented to Council on June 22
- FY22-23 Climate Action Plan Implementation Plan is being finalized and will be presented at a future Council meeting and might be a Special Meeting that the Commission will know ahead of time
- CivicSpark Fellowship Program : The City received match funding to host two full time 11 month fellows to work on CAP implementation
- Waste: planning a backyard composting workshop and working on the Cal Recycle annual report
- Trees: Continuing Cal Fire grant and planning two events. First is a community tree planting event on September 24th at Aztec Park and the second is a tree steward training on November 6th at the City's Park Appreciation Day event.
- San Diego Community Power: the City opted it's municipal accounts to Power100 and an article was added to the City's Summer Newsletter
- Transportation: Intern working on a fleet GHG emissions inventory and continuing to identify grant funding for EV infrastructure

6. PRESENTATION OF FY22-23 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN UPDATE (HILARY EGO)

Hilary Ego presented an overview of the FY22-23 CAP Implementation Plan that includes progress from the FY19-21 CAP Implementation Plan, process for the update, and the changes made from the last plan to the current plan. Hilary already presented to the Mobility and Planning Commissions and requested the Environmental Sustainability Commission feedback for key actions listed in the FY22-23 Plan and keep in mind new ideas for the upcoming 2023 CAP update.

Ricky Williams asked about the miles of bicycle lanes in the City and Hilary responded that we are tracking this in GIS. Ricky also asked how we are marketing our successes with items like our bicycle lane infrastructure. Hilary responded that she will be working with the new Communications Manager once they are hired to brainstorm and coordinate CAP communications efforts. Ricky asked about the ICC building code and what participating in that means and if that would accelerate any Title 24 requirements. Hilary to check on this.

Andrea Beth Damsky asked a question about the housing complex construction and if the City has oversight on environmental sustainability measures implemented into the construction. Hilary responded this occurs during the design review stage and that there are standards the City follows and there are also State standards.

Jean-Guillaume Lonjaret asked about the photovoltaic survey and if battery storage and pool solar hot water heating questions can be included. Hilary responded that this would be a great item to create a future ad hoc subcommittee to assist with the survey creation.

Jean-Guillaume Lonjaret commented on tracking transit and bicycle infrastructure usage. Hilary mentioned SANDAG has a bicycle counter in La Mesa and will provide the link to the Commission.

Michael Bourton commented that on the difficulties to find bicycle lanes in San Diego. Ricky responded that Google Maps can be used in San Diego. Hilary will look into adding a link to a map of the bicycle lanes in La Mesa on the City's website.

7. FORMATION OF AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEES (ANDREA BETH DAMSKY)

Andrea Beth Damsky asked the Commission if the two existing ad hoc subcommittees are enough or if more need to be created.

Stephen Grooms requested the Commission come back to this item after updates from the two ad hoc subcommittees are given.

Ricky Williams stated a reminder that the ad hoc subcommittees are designed to support Hilary's CAP Implementation and to prioritize those projects.

Trey McDonald stated the Commission should focus on the two ad hoc subcommittees and to wait until onboarding the new Fellows and revisit adding ad hoc subcommittees in the future.

Hilary Ego read the list of ad hoc subcommittee topic ideas to the Commission and received feedback from the Commissioners.

8. DISCUSSION OF AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE: BUILDING DECARBONIZATION

Jean-Guillaume Lonjaret, Michael Bourton, and Hilary Ego met on July 6, 2021.

Jean-Guillaume Lonjaret stated the ad hoc subcommittee discussed and drafted 5-6 bullet point ideas for the next Environmental Sustainability Commission Work Plan Update that will be presented in Council in February. They will present them to the Commission in a future meeting for feedback.

Andrea Beth Damsky asked about creating an ad hoc subcommittee for the Work Plan Update and what can be done in the meantime. Jean-Guillaume Lonjaret responded that they are working on the key action list and to have actions ready once the Work Plan is adopted.

Michael Bourton stated that he found a number of great resources that organizations have and what cities have already accomplished.

Andrea Beth Damsky asked when the ad hoc subcommittee would finish and Hilary responded it would be in February once the Work Plan is approved.

Jean-Guillaume Lonjaret asked if the City can have a pilot program for decarbonization for municipal buildings and Hilary responded that she would explore including this in the Fellow scope.

9. DISCUSSION OF AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE: NO IDLING

Ricky Williams, Trey McDonald, Andrea Beth Damsky and Hilary Ego met on July 15, 2021.

Ricky Williams stated the ad hoc subcommittee discussed and outlined their two stages of work: 1) working with Clean Earth 4 Kids to do a no idling campaign for schools and 2) expand that program into a no idling program for City fleet vehicles. Hilary coordinated a meeting with Clean Earth 4 Kids.

Andrea Beth Damsky stated that they are also looking into other methods to reduce emissions from vehicles and to get a program in place for when school starts.

Trey McDonald stated that they are researching idling policies from cities, universities, etc. and also looking into providing eco-driver training to reduce emissions with existing fleet.

Trey McDonald and Hilary Ego provided an update for the bus electrification project for Grossmont Union High School District and their interest in presenting to the Environmental Sustainability Commission.

10. DISCUSSION OF OUTREACH TO CITY COUNCIL

Andrea Beth Damsky stated she worked with Hilary Ego to receive guidance on how to reach out to Council. Andrea Beth Damsky read an email with guidance on this topic to the Commission. There is a concern about inviting individual City Councilmembers to a Commission meeting and that it raises a potential seriatim violation of the Brown Act. The Chair can reach out to an individual Councilmember to set up a meeting on behalf of the Commission with staff present to help answer questions about the CAP and the Chair can then report out to the Commission.

Trey disappointed by the response, as the Commission is interested in hearing from the Councilmembers directly.

Hilary Ego apologized to the Commission as they were told in a previous meeting they could do this, but are getting new direction now and offered to connect Commissioners with the City Managers Office for additional questions.

11. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Jean Guillaume Lonjaret commented on a question from Andrea Beth Damsky about renters and homeowners 2010 Census data.

Joe Garuba stated that Helix Water District has started its third GHG emission analysis and is hopeful it will show substantial savings over the last few years since they made a number of changes to their operations and will share after it's presented to their board in early 2022. Helix Water District has been electrifying their fleet and has a roadmap over the next 5 or 10 years.

Andrea Beth Damsky stated Hilary sent the slides for the Brown Act and Roberts Rules of Order presentation from the June meeting along with a Commissioner roster. Andrea Beth noted an edit to her contact information.

12. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 16, 2021.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Prepared by: Hilary Ego, Environmental Program Manager