



Environment & Climate Commission

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE COMMISSION

**Wednesday, February 28, 2024
6:00 PM**

**North Berkeley Senior Center
1901 Hearst Avenue**

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The City of Berkeley recognizes that the community we live in was built on the territory of xučyun (Huchiun (Hooch-yoon)), the ancestral and unceded land of the Chochenyo (Cho-chen-yo)-speaking Ohlone (Oh-low-nee) people, the ancestors and descendants of the sovereign Verona Band of Alameda County. This land was and continues to be of great importance to all of the Ohlone Tribes and descendants of the Verona Band. As we begin our meeting tonight, we acknowledge and honor the original inhabitants of Berkeley, the documented 5,000-year history of a vibrant community at the West Berkeley Shellmound, and the Ohlone people who continue to reside in the East Bay. We recognize that Berkeley’s residents have and continue to benefit from the use and occupation of this unceded stolen land since the City of Berkeley’s incorporation in 1878. As stewards of the laws regulating the City of Berkeley, it is not only vital that we recognize the history of this land, but also recognize that the Ohlone people are present members of Berkeley and other East Bay communities today. The City of Berkeley will continue to build relationships with the Lisjan Tribe and to create meaningful actions that uphold the intention of this land acknowledgement.

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Tregub, Igor	Mayor	Mayor
Ranney, Sarah	Kesarwani	District 1
LaBonte, Alison	Taplin	District 2
McGuire, Brianna	Bartlett	District 3
Tahara, Daniel	Vacant	District 4
Allen, Shannon	Hahn	District 5
Guliasi, Les	Wengraf	District 6
Lunaparra, Cecilia	Vacant	District 7
Vacant	Humbert	District 8
Athanasiou, Mabel	Youth Commissioner	
Syed, Shanza	Youth Commissioner	

2. **Public Comment:** Comments on subjects not included on the agenda (3-minute limit per individual)
3. **Approval of Minutes:** [Approval of Minutes from last meeting \(January 24, 2024\)](#)
4. **Agenda Check:** Commissioners may rearrange items on the agenda
5. **Update from Chair**
6. **Update from Staff** (Sarah Moore, Rebecca Milliken)

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

7. **Action:** Commissioner Election of Officers
8. **Discussion and Action:** [2024 Draft Workplan](#)
9. **Reports from Commission Liaisons**
 - a. Planning Commission (Shannon Allen)
 - b. Transportation and Infrastructure Commission (Brianna McGuire)
 - c. Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission (Cecilia Lunaparra)
 - d. Zero Waste Commission (Sarah Ranney)
 - e. Disaster and Fire Safety Commission (Les Guliasi)
 - f. Housing Advisory Commission (Vacant)
 - g. Council Policy Subcommittees (Vacant)
10. **Workplan Subcommittee Updates**
 - a. Vehicle Miles Traveled Reduction (Tregub, Ranney, Tahara, Lunaparra)
 - b. Native Plants (Ranney, McGuire, Allen)
 - c. Electrification (Tregub, LaBonte, Tahara, Guliasi)
11. **Items for Future Agenda**
 - Urban Forestry programs
 - Proposed Utility Tax (Tregub)

INFORMATION ITEMS

12. **Communications**
13. **Announcements from Commissioners**

ADJOURNMENT

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*This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54953. Any member of the public may attend this meeting. Questions regarding this matter may be addressed to Sarah Moore, 510-981-7494, [smoore@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:smoore@berkeleyca.gov).*

*Communications to Berkeley boards, commissions or committees are public record and will become part of the City’s electronic records, which are accessible through the City’s website. Please note: E-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required but, if included in any communication to a City board, commission, or committee, will become part of the public record. If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission, or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the secretary to the relevant board, commission, or committee for further information.*

*Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the Planning Department located at 1947 Center Street.*



**COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION:**

This meeting is being held in a wheelchair-accessible location. To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.

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I hereby certify that the agenda for this regular/special meeting of the Berkeley City Commission on Commissions was posted at the display case located near the walkway in front of the Maudelle Shirek Building, 2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, as well as on the City’s website.
Sarah Moore, Commission Secretary



Environment & Climate Commission

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE COMMISSION DRAFT MINUTES
Wednesday, January 24, 2024

Tregub, Igor	Mayor	Mayor
Ranney, Sarah	Kesarwani	District 1
LaBonte, Alison	Taplin	District 2
McGuire, Brianna	Bartlett	District 3
Tahara, Daniel	Harrison	District 4
Allen, Shannon	Hahn	District 5
Guliasi, Les	Wengraf	District 6
Lunaparra, Cecilia	Vacant	District 7
Vacant	Humbert	District 8
Athnasiou, Mabel	Youth Commissioner	
Syed, Shanza	Youth Commissioner	

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Sarah Moore at 6:01 pm.
Commissioners Present: Tregub, Ranney, LaBonte, McGuire, Tahara, Allen, Guliasi, Athanasiou, Syed
Commissioner Leave of Absence:
Commissioner Absent: Lunaparra
Staff: Sarah Moore, Rebecca Milliken

2. Public Comments and Announcements:

6 member(s) of the Public
0 comment(s)

3. Approval of Minutes:

Motion/second to approve the November 29, 2023 Minutes (Guliasi, Allen). The motion carried: 6-0-3-1; Tregub, Ranney, McGuire, Tahara, Allen, Guliasi. Noes: None. Abstain: LaBonte, Athanasiou, Syed. Absent: Lunaparra

4. Agenda Check

5. Update from Chair

6. Update from Staff

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

7. Presentation, Discussion and Action: Native Plants and Pest Reduction Subcommittee (Sarah Ranney, Brianna McGuire, Shannon Allen)

8. Discussion: 2024 Draft Workplan

9. Reports from Commission Liaisons

- a. Planning Commission (Shannon Allen)
- b. Transportation and Infrastructure (Brianna McGuire)
- c. Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission (Cecilia Lunaparra)
- d. Zero Waste Commission (Sarah Ranney)
- e. Disaster and Fire Safety Commission (Les Guliasi)
- f. Housing Advisory Commission (Vacant)

10. Workplan Subcommittee Updates

- a. Vehicle Miles Traveled Reduction Subcommittee (Tahara, Ranney, Lunaparra)
- b. Native Plants (Ranney, McGuire, Allen)
- c. Electrification Subcommittee (Tregub, Guliasi, Tahara, LaBonte)

11. Items for Future Agenda

- CPUC proposed utility tax
- Urban Forestry programs

INFORMATION ITEMS

12. Communications

13. Announcements from Commissioners

ADJOURNMENT

Motion/second to adjourn at 7:55pm (Sayed, Athanasiou)

Minutes Approved:

/S/ Sarah Moore, Berkeley Environment & Climate Commission Secretary



Environment and Climate Commission

INFORMATION CALENDAR

April XX, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Environment and Climate Commission (ECC)
Submitted by: Cecilia Lunaparra, Chair, ECC
Subject: Environment and Climate Commission 2024 Work Plan

INTRODUCTION

The Environment and Climate Commission (ECC) is responsible for advising the City Council on matters related to environmental sustainability and climate change. The commission's scope includes work to advance the goals of: advancing green buildings and resource efficiency; decarbonizing buildings and transportation; engaging and educating the community; addressing the impacts and welfare of all species, including animals, insects, and plants; reducing greenhouse gas emissions; reducing toxics and preventing pollution; and supporting environmental justice. The commission works closely with the City of Berkeley's Office of Energy & Sustainable Development (OESD).

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The ECC has a broad scope and a responsibility to support and work closely with OESD staff. The following projects are the current efforts underway by the ECC:

Project	Status	Description
Transportation Public Space Re-allocation & Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Targets	In Committee	Re-allocate public street space away from autocentric uses towards pedestrians, bicyclists, and buses, even more than currently envisioned in Berkeley's Climate Action Plans, bike and pedestrian master plans, etc. Begin by evaluating the city of Berkeley's existing transportation plans to determine to what degree they achieve the VMT necessary to meet climate goals.
Native Plants	In Committee	Identify opportunities and strategies to support native plants.

OESD Input & Support	Ongoing	Support OESD staff with feedback on programs, standards, and other initiatives, including the Building Emissions Saving Ordinance (BESO), the Berkeley Existing Buildings Electrification Strategy (BEBES), the Climate Equity Fund, Just Transition, Climate Action planning, etc.
Water Conservation, Recycling, and Reuse; Stormwater Management	In Committee	Explore how existing policies and initiatives around water conservation, recycling and reuse, and stormwater management, including the City's Hazard Plan, are evolving to address sustainability goals, adaptation and resilience for a future of larger storms, longer droughts, and seawater rise.

At its February 28, 2024 meeting the Environment and Climate Commission approved the work plan to send to the City Council as follows: Motion/second to approve the 2024 Workplan as revised during the meeting (Name, Name). The motion carried 10-0-0-0; Ayes: Tregub, Ranney, LaBonte, McGuire, Tahara, Allen, Guliasi, Lunaparra, Athanasiou, Syed. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

BACKGROUND

First established in 2022, the ECC was formed by merging the Community Environmental Advisory Commission the Energy Commission. ECC commissioners bring a wide range of expertise, with backgrounds in government, academia, nonprofit, and private sector environmental work, and includes youth perspectives. These backgrounds inform the ECC's work and help it to consider diverse and equitable approaches to addressing the City's environmental challenges.

This work plan is intended to provide a guide to the work the ECC plans to take on in 2024. As additional items or issues arise, or are referred to the Commission from Council, the ECC will adjust this plan accordingly.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

The ECC's initiatives will improve environmental sustainability, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and support a just transition.

POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

ECC is considering the following potential additional efforts:

Project	Status	Description
Green New Deal policies	Conceptual	Develop and support Green New Deal policies for Berkeley.
Electrification Information Campaign	Conceptual	Make it easier for homeowners and renters who are interested in electrification (building + vehicle) to get information and get excited. Give people positive feelings about induction and electrification. Create checklist / resources / what you might do / should think about for people who are not doing major remodel or buying home, etc.
Electric Mobility	Conceptual	Work to reduce technological, policy, access, and cost barriers to transportation electrification.
Expanded OESD Support – events; Resiliency Hubs	Conceptual	Provide additional support at public events where OESD is staffing tables or otherwise engaging with the public. Support OESD with resiliency centers.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

Future action items that the ECC may send to City Council could require staff time to develop, finalize, and/or implement. The ECC strives to ensure proposals provide significant net triple bottom line benefits to the City when evaluating total costs and benefits across environmental, social, and economic impacts.

CONTACT PERSON

Sarah Moore, Secretary, Environment and Climate Commission, smoore@berkeleyca.gov