



Record of Action

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

An Advisory Body to the Board of Supervisors

August 24, 2019
5:00 P.M.
30 Muir Road, Martinez

Howdy Goudey, Chair, At-Large, Community Group	John Sierra, Member, District 3 Vacant, Alternate, District 3	Harry Thurston, At-Large, Community Group Russell Driver, At-Large, Business
Nick Despota, Vice-Chair, Member, District 1	Wes Sullens, Member, District 4	Nicholas Snyder, At-Large, Business
Shoshana Wechsler, Alternate, District 1	Travis Curran, Alternate, District 4	Doria Robinson, At-Large, Environmental Justice
Victoria Smith, Member, District 2	Charles Davidson, Member, District 5	Sarah Foster, At-Large, Environmental Justice
Ryan Buckley, Alternate, District 2	Reneé Fernandez-Lipp, Alternate, District 5	Kim Hazard, At-Large, Education

Agenda Items:

Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

- Present: Howdy Goudey, Chair, At-Large, Community Group
Charles Davidson, Member, District 5
Shoshana Wechsler, Alternate, District 1
Victoria Smith, Member, District 2
Ryan Buckley, Alternate, District 2
John Sierra, Member, District 3
Wes Sullens, Member, District 4
Russell Driver, At-Large, Business
Nicholas Snyder, At-Large, Business
Doria Robinson, At-Large, Environmental Justice
Harry Thurston, At-Large, Community Group
Kim Hazard, At-Large, Education
Sarah Foster, At-Large, Environmental Justice
Reneé Fernandez-Lipp, Alternate, District 5
- Absent: Travis Curran, Alternate, District 4, Nick Despota, Vice-Chair, Member, District 1
- Staff Present: Demian Hardman, Senior Energy Planner, Department of Conservation and Development
Jody London, Sustainability Coordinator, Department of Conservation and Development
Dan Peddycord, Public Health Director, Contra Costa Health Services
Frank Di Massa, Department of Conservation and Development
Will Nelson, Principal Planner, Department of Conservation and Development
Cindy Cortez, Department of Conservation and Development
Chris Farnitano, Health Officer, Contra Costa Health Services
- Attendees: Devin Jackson, Mike Moore, Zoe Siegel, Cheryl Brown, Eli Krispi, Joanna Jansen, Jan Warren
1. Call to Order and Introductions
 2. Pledge of Allegiance
 3. Public Comment

Zoe Siegel, Greenbelt Alliance, commented on the role of the Commission in the implementation of the Climate Action Plan.

4. APPROVE Record of Action for August 26, 2019 meeting.

Motion: Kim Hazard. Second: Harry Thurston. Vote: Unanimous.

5. RECEIVE Presentation on Upcoming General Plan Meeting on Environmental Justice, Health and Sustainability and PROVIDE SUGGESTIONS, as needed.

Joanna Jansen, PlaceWorks, presented an update on the November 18 General Plan meeting on environmental justice, sustainability, and health. Jansen asked the Commission for feedback on the draft meeting approach and invitation included in the agenda.

The Commission suggested staff and consultants use the environmental justice assessment tool adopted at the previous Commission meeting.

Commission members discussed the proposed approach. They recommended:

- *Using additional data sources besides CalEnviroScreen 3.0, such as California Healthy Places Index.*
- *Announcing meetings and community events at public hearings and in social media platforms to increase community engagement, and considering youth as intended audience during meetings.*
- *Considering the feasibility of having actionable environmental justice approaches and tools.*

6. RECEIVE Presentation on Community Outreach Meetings for the Climate Action Plan and DISCUSS Draft Vision, Goals, and Strategies.

Eli Krispi from PlaceWorks reviewed goal topics in the 2015 Climate Action Plan. Topics include:

- *Energy Efficiency*
- *Renewable Energy*
- *Land Use and Transportation*
- *Solid Waste*
- *Water Conservation*
- *Government Operations*

New goal topics for possible inclusion in the updated CAP include:

- *Clean and Efficient Built Environments*
- *Carbon Free Energy*
- *Resilient Communities*
- *Resilient Natural Infrastructure*
- *No-waste Contra Costa*
- *Reduce Water Use and Increase Drought Resilience*
- *Clean Transportation System and Infrastructure*
- *Clean Transportation Network and Infrastructure*
- *Climate Equity*
- *Sustainable Agriculture Lands*

Krispi explained that the vision statement is usually intended to provide overarching direction to the Climate Action Plan.

Jody London emphasized the need to have measures that can be quantified and evaluated.

Commission members recommended using less technical wording in the CAP's goals, keeping in mind how this will be accessible to the General Public as the intended audience. They also recommended that the health goal be a more featured element in the CAP.

7. RECOMMEND the Board of Supervisors refer to its Sustainability Committee deliberation on adoption of a Climate Emergency Resolution.

Motion: Sarah Foster. Second: Russell Driver. Vote: Unanimous.

The Commission recommended the following:

(1) Establishing an advisory group that will help the County anticipate and plan for an economy that is less dependent on fossil fuel extraction and processing and helps plan for a transition from a fossil-fuel dependent economy. As the State of California adopts policies and goals for reducing pollution and addressing climate change, the County should consider what this will mean for County revenues, jobs, health, and infrastructure.

(2) Directing the County Administrator to establish an interdepartmental task force that will focus on implementing the County's Climate Action Plan and identifying additional actions, policies, and programs the County can undertake to reduce and adapt to the impacts of a changing climate.

(3) Identifying potential resources to support work in Contra Costa County to reduce and adapt to a changing climate. The Sustainability Commission advises that the Board refer this topic to the Sustainability Committee and direct the Department of Conservation and Development to prepare report to the Sustainability Committee to evaluate whether the County should adopt a Climate Emergency Resolution.

8. RECEIVE Reports from Sustainability Commission members and alternates, and PROVIDE DECISION as needed.

Reneé Fernandez-Lipp recommended the State of the Estuary Conference as a source for identifying local groups to collaborate in the creation of the CAP and the Climate Emergency Resolution.

Russell Driver observed that, in light of the recent PG&E power shutoff, the public is rushing to install conventional diesel powered generators to prepare for power outages, and is not likely to look at renewable fuels unless funding is available.

9. RECEIVE Report from Sustainability Coordinator.

Jody London reviewed the report included in the agenda.

10. RECEIVE Report from Sustainability Commission Chair and IDENTIFY TOPICS for next report to Ad Hoc Committee on Sustainability.

The Commission discussed the polystyrene ban recently adopted by the Board of Supervisors. Howdy Goudey noted the commitment to ban Styrofoam use must be responsive to changing markets and suggested reusable food ware should be a requirement.

11. The next meeting is currently scheduled for December 9, 2019.

12. Adjourn