



# ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, June 1, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

Recreation Center- Cypress Conference Room

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**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM.

Commissioners Present: Kathy Schrenk (Vice Chair), Douglas Scott, Christina Smolke, Mitch Slomiak, Daniel Kocher.

Commissioners Absent: Kristin Kuntz-Duriseti (Chair)

Staff Present: Rebecca Fotu, Environmental Programs Manager  
Thomas Rogers, Assistant City Planner

Public Present: Micheline Birkhead, Scott Marshall, Menlo Patch

## A. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Scott Marshall expressed concerns about the Heritage Tree Ordinance, and suggested placing values on heritage trees when considering their removal. The EQC stated that their work plan includes reviewing and potentially modifying the ordinance, and invited Mr. Marshall to attend these future meetings for further comments and discussion.

## B. BUSINESS ITEMS:

### 1. Review of March and May Minutes

*Action No.1:* March minutes Approved as presented with Commissioner Slomiak abstaining.

*Action No. 2:* May minutes unanimously approved as presented.

### 2. El Camino Real/Downtown Specific Plan – Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Presentation

*No action taken.* Informational presentation only.

**3. Report on Phase I Sustainable Building and Next Steps from Subcommittee**

*No action taken.* City staff will meet to define next steps for Phase II development, which will assist in defining the EQC's subcommittee role. Commissioner Slomiak requested including volunteers from other Commissions (e.g. Planning Commission) to provide input to the subcommittee.

**4. Sustainable Community Policy- Brainstorming session facilitated by City Staff**

*No action taken.* Discussion to be continued. See attached for notes from brainstorming session.

**C. REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**1. Climate Action Plan Assessment Report Update**

**MEETING ADJOURNED APPROXIMATELY 08:40 PM.**

Meeting minutes prepared by Rebecca Fotu, Environmental Programs Manager and Staff Liaison to the EQC.

# Environmental Sustainability Policy

- Notes Brainstorming Session

- Look outside of U.S for best practices for sustainability
- Should be a short list-limit the number of subjects
- May not be effective.
- Quantitative and be reviewed frequently by City Council
- Page 5 of Santa Monica
  - First, the most important to the community will be addressed first
  - Second, the most cost effective
- Be incorporated in the budget process
- Incorporate general plan
- Clear goals and timelines for example plant x number of trees per year.
- Methane recovery @ BBFP
- Climate Protection and Adaptation
- Transportation- ease of travel
- Decreased reliance on nonrenewable energy sources
- Water conservation
- Open Space and Offsetting Carbon Emissions
- Environmentally Friendly Purchasing
  - e.g city vehicle purchases need to be 40 gpm
- Incentive system for employees that use alternative transportation
- Municipal Leadership in Sustainability
- Disaster preparedness

Next steps...

Explore cost effective

Decide on themes and have a dialogue of pros and cons