

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

 Date:
 6/15/2022

 Time:
 6:00 p.m.

 Location:
 Zoom.us/join – ID# 865 1520 6309

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS, COVID-19, EMERGENCY ADVISORY NOTICE

Consistent with Government Code section 54953(e), and in light of the declared state of emergency, and maximize public safety while still maintaining transparency and public access, members of the public can listen to the meeting and participate using the following methods.

- How to participate in the meeting
 - Access the meeting real-time online at: Zoom.us/join –Meeting ID 865 1520 6309
 - Access the meeting real-time via telephone at: (669) 900-6833
 Meeting ID 865 1520 6309
 Press *9 to raise hand to speak

Subject to Change: Given the current public health emergency and the rapidly evolving federal, state, county and local orders, the format of this meeting may be altered or the meeting may be canceled. You may check on the status of the meeting by visiting the City's website www.menlopark.org. The instructions for logging on to the Zoom webinar and/or the access code is subject to change. If you have difficulty accessing the Zoom webinar, please check the latest online edition of the posted agenda for updated information (menlopark.org/agendas).

Regular Session (Zoom.us/join – ID# 865 1520 6309)

A. Call To Order

- B. Roll Call Elkins, Evans, Chair Kabat, Vice Chair Hedley, Lin, London, Schmidt
- C. Public Comment

The public may address the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) on any subject not listed on the agenda. Each speaker can make public comment for a limit of three minutes once. The EQC cannot act on items not listed on the agenda other than to provide general information.

D. Regular Business

- D1. Approve the May 18, 2022 Environmental Quality Commission meeting minutes (Attachment)
- D2. Informational presentation on Love the Earth Festival
- D3. Discuss and confirm the number, purpose, and participants in the Environmental Quality Commission's subcommittees as it relates to the Commission's work plan (Attachment)
- D4. Discuss the Chair's quarterly report to the City Council

Environmental Quality Commission Regular Meeting Agenda June 15, 2022 Page 2

E. Reports and Announcements

E1. Reports and announcements from staff and Commissioners

F. Adjournment

At every Regular Meeting of the Commission, in addition to the Public Comment period where the public shall have the right to address the Commission on any matters of public interest not listed on the agenda, members of the public have the right to directly address the Commission on any item listed on the agenda at a time designated by the Chair, either before or during the Commission's consideration of the item.

At every Special Meeting of the Commission, members of the public have the right to directly address the Commission on any item listed on the agenda at a time designated by the Chair, either before or during consideration of the item.

For appeal hearings, appellant and applicant shall each have 10 minutes for presentations.

If you challenge any of the items listed on this agenda in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Menlo Park at, or prior to, the public hearing.

Any writing that is distributed to a majority of the Commission by any person in connection with an agenda item is a public record (subject to any exemption under the Public Records Act) and is available by request by emailing the city clerk at jaherren@menlopark.org. Persons with disabilities, who require auxiliary aids or services in attending or participating in Commission meetings, may call the City Clerk's Office at 650-330-6620.

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AGENDA ITEM D-1 Environmental Quality Commission



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – DRAFT

 Date:
 5/18/2022

 Time:
 6:00 p.m.

 Location:
 Zoom

A. Call To Order

Chair Kabat called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present:	Elkins, Hedley (Vice Chair), Kabat (Chair), Schmidt
Absent:	Evans, Lin, London
Staff:	Sustainability Manager Rebecca Lucky, Management Analyst II Ori Paz,
	Management Analyst Joanna Chen, City Arborist Jillian Keller

C. Public Comment

• Ole Agesen requested an opportunity to provide a presentation on Climate Action Plan (CAP) analytics at a future meeting.

D. Regular Business

D1. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair

ACTION: Motion and second (Elkins/ Schmidt), to select Commissioner Kabat as Chair and Commissioner Hedley as Vice Chair, passed 4-0 (Evans, Lin, and London absent).

D2. Approve the March 16, 2022 Environmental Quality Commission meeting minutes (Attachment)

ACTION: Motion and second (Kabat/ Elkins), to approve the March 16, 2022 Environmental Quality Commission meeting minutes, passed 4-0 (Evans, Lin, and London absent).

D3. Public urban tree canopy and Heritage Tree Ordinance implementation presentation (Attachment)

City Arborist Jillian Keller and Management Analyst Joanna Chen made the presentation (Attachment).

• John McKenna spoke in support of planting more trees.

The Commissioner received information about the role of the city arborist, the tree division staff, statistics around the City's public urban tree canopy, exploring an urban tree management master plan, and the heritage tree ordinance process for removals for public trees versus privately owned trees.

Environmental Quality Commission Meeting Minutes – DRAFT May 18, 2022 Page 2 of 2

E. Reports and Announcements

- E1. Reports and Announcements from staff and commissioners
 - Sustainability Manager Lucky announced new Commissioners, provided a list of the subcommittees and vacancies, and provided an update regarding reach codes.
 - Commissioner Hedley requested subcommittee selections be placed on the next agenda and requested to work with staff to establish a regular CAP reporting plan.
 - Commissioner Elkins provided an update from Palo Alto regarding their gas powered leaf blower ban, noting a new code enforcement officer was hired to enforce the ban's escalating citation schedule for homeowners and gardeners violating the ordinance.
 - Commissioner Schmidt requested a CAP progress report update, the opportunity to have local nonprofits present their work, and capacity to assist the City at a future meeting.
 - Commissioner Hedley requested information about how the subcommittees share information and how to get information about the various community groups and nonprofits working in the area.
 - Commissioner Kabat provided an update on his work with BlocPower investigating constraints and opportunities with the electrician for two pilot projects in Menlo Park to electrofit existing multifamily residential buildings at Willow Court and Willow Terrace.
 - Commissioner Kabat provided an update from a City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG) meeting he attended discussing clean energy and reach codes options related to burn out ordinances, intervention points, and a gas equipment disclosure form.

F. Adjournment

Chair Kabat adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Ori Paz, Management Analyst II



Commission work plan guidelines

Step 1	Revie	ew purpose of Commission as defined by Menlo Park City Council Policy 3-13-01.			
Step 2	Deve	lop a mission statement that reflects that purpose.			
Step 3	Discu	uss and outline any priorities established by City Council.			
Step 4	Brain	storm goals, projects, or priorities of the Commission and determine the following:			
	A. B. C. D. E. F. G.	Identify priorities, goals, projects, ideas, etc. Determine benefit, if project or item is completed Is it mandated by State of local law or by City Council direction? Would the task or item require a policy change at City Council level? Resources needed for completion? (Support staff, creation of subcommittees, etc.) Completion time? (1-year, 2-year, or longer term?) Measurement criteria? (How will you know you are on track? Is it effective? Etc.)			
Step 5	Prior	itize projects from urgent to low priority.			
Step 6	•	are final work plan for submission to City Council for review and approval in the following order: /ork plan cover sheet, listing of members, priority list, work plan worksheet – Steps 1 through 8.			
Step 7	Step 7 Use your "approved" work plan throughout the term of the plan as a guide to focus in on the work a				
Step 8	Repo	ort out on work plan priorities to the City Council, which should include:			
	А. В. С.	List of "approved" priorities or goals Status of each item, including any additional resources required in order to complete If an item that was on the list is not finished, then indicate why it didn't occur and list out any additional time and/or resources that will be needed in order to complete			



Environmental Quality Commission

Mission Statement

The Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) is committed to helping the City of Menlo Park to be a leading sustainable city that is well positioned to manage present and future environmental impacts, including the grave threat of climate change. The Environmental Quality Commission is charged primarily with advising the City Council on matters involving environmental protection, environmental improvement, sustainability and climate change.

Environmental Quality Commission Work Plan for 2021-2022



Environmental Quality Commission 2021-2022

Commission members listing

Commissioner (Chair) Ryann Price

Commissioner (Vice Chair) Janelle London

Commissioner Leah Elkins

Commissioner Josie Gaillard

Commissioner Tom Kabat

Commissioner Deborah Martin

Commissioner James Payne



Environmental Commission Priority List

The Environmental Quality Commission has identified the following priorities during 2021-2022:

1.	 Climate Action Plan (CAP) – Continue to recommend/advise on implementation of the City's adopted 2030 Climate Action Plan initiatives to achieve or surpass the City's greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction target, which includes: Adoption of an existing building electrification policy (Action #1) Promotion of City goals for increasing EVs and decreasing gasoline sales (Action #2) Implementation of a program or policy to expand access to EV charging for multi-family and commercial properties (Action #3) Reduction of vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by 25% or an amount recommended by the Complete Streets Commission (Action #4) Elimination of fossil fuels from municipal operations, including fleet vehicles, gardening equipment, furnaces, water heaters, pool heaters, etc. (Action #5) Development of a climate adaptation plan to protect the community from sea level rise and flooding (Action #6) 					
2.	Urban Canopy Preservation – Continue to recommend/advise development of a comprehensive urban canopy strategy for Menlo Park, which includes monitoring the effectiveness of the City's Heritage Tree Ordinance, hearing heritage tree appeals and consider establishing an urban canopy inventory.					
3.	Green and Sustainable Initiatives – Support sustainability initiatives, as needs arise, which may include but not be limited to habitat protection, healthy ecology, environmental health protection, healthy air, surface water runoff quality, water conservation and waste reduction.					
4.	Gas Powered Leaf Blower Ordinance- Recommend/advise City Council on a gas-powered leaf blower ordinance.					

4



Environmental Quality Commission Work Plan

Step 1	
Review purpose of Commission as	The Environmental Quality Commission is charged with advising the City Council on the following matters:
defined by Menlo Park City Council	 Mitigating climate change by reducing community-wide greenhouse gas emissions to zero as rapidly as possible and inspiring other cities to follow,
Policy 3-13-01	 Preparing the community for the effects of climate change, especially the threat of sea level rise, flooding and drought,
	 Preserving heritage trees, maintaining the urban canopy, making determinations on appeals of heritage tree removal permits and organizing an annual Arbor Day tree planting event,
	• Advising on programs and policies related to all other areas of environmental sustainability, including protection of natural areas, recycling and solid waste reduction, environmentally sustainable practices, air and water pollution prevention, and water and energy conservation.

Step 2

Develop or review a	The Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) is committed to helping the City of Menlo Park to be a leading
mission statement	sustainable city that is well positioned to manage present and future environmental impacts, including the
that reflects that	grave threat of climate change. The Environmental Quality Commission is charged primarily with advising the
purpose	City Council on matters involving environmental protection, environmental improvement, sustainability and
	climate change.

Step 3

Discuss any priorities already established by City Council	Make gains on our Climate Action Plan

Step 4 "The goals and priorities *Brainstorm goals, projects or priorities of the Commission	Benefit, if completed	Mandated by State/local law or by City Council direction?	Required policy change at City Council level?	Resources needed for completion? Staff or creation of subcommittees?	Estimated completion time	Measurement criteria How will we know how we are doing?
 Climate Action Plan (CAP) – Continue to recommend/advise on implementation of the City's adopted 2030 Climate Action Plan initiatives to achieve or surpass the City's greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction target, which includes: Action #1: Review and recommend/advise on a policy to phase out the use of fossil fuels of existing buildings Action #2: Advise on whether to work with BGI for promoting citywide goals of increasing EVs and decreasing gasoline sales Action #3: Review and recommend/advise on policies and programs to increase access to EV charging for multi family and commercial properties Action #4: Recommend that Council request CAP action #4 be included on Complete Streets 	 Other cities inspired to join us in adopting bold climate action, as happened with City's all-electric Reach Code Reduced GHG emissions Reduced air pollution Reduced traffic congestion Improved public health Increased community engagement for emissions reductions Reduced risk of stranding fossil fuel assets Increased equity and environmental justice Increased preparedness for sea level rise and other climate threats Demonstrated environmental leadership Improved transparency on city goals and activities to meet GHG targets 	Yes	Yes 🗹	 Subcommittees Possible partnerships with organizations, businesses, other commissions Staff time Consultants/contrac tors 	2 years	 City reports progress on CAP metrics such as gasoline sales, EV registrations, natural gas sales, water heater replacements, etc. City adopts policy for phasing out the use of fossil fuels in existing buildings City launches program to assist multi-family and commercial building owners to install EV charging Complete Streets proposes a VMT reduction goal City makes progress on developing a climate adaptation plan Other cities copy Menlo Park's climate policies and programs

Step 4 *The goals and priorities identified below are not listed in order of magnitude.

			-	-	
	Commission Work Plan				
	(reduce vehicle miles				
	traveled (VMT) by 25% or				
	an amount recommended				
	by the Complete Streets				
	Commission)				
	,				
•	Action #5: Continue to				
	advise/recommend ways				
	to electrify municipal				
	buildings, fleet and				
	landscaping equipment				
•	Action #6: Continue to				
	advise/recommend a				
	climate adaptation plan to				
	protect the community				
	from sea level rise and				
	flooding				
	nooding				
•	Recommend 2021-22				
•	Climate Action for Council				
	Adoption				
•	Advise/recommend				
	Council support for State				
	adoption of impactful				
	impactful CALGreen and				
	energy reach codes for				
	the 2022 building code				
	update				
•	Continue to provide				
	recommendations/advice				
	that improves				
	communication with the				
	community about the				
	Climate Action Plan				
•	Recommend City strategy				
	for sharing our policies				
	and analysis with other				
	cities to inspire and help				
	others adopt bold climate				
	action				

 Urban canopy preservation Continue to recommend/ advise development of a comprehensive urban canopy strategy for Menlo Park, which includes monitoring the effectiveness of the new Heritage Tree Ordinance, hearing heritage tree appeals, and consider establishing an urban canopy inventory. Receive update on implementation and operation of the Heritage Tree Ordinance and recommend adjustments as needed Research ways other cities measure health of urban forest and make a recommendation to Council 	 Improved public awareness and satisfaction with Heritage Tree policies Efficient functioning of the Heritage Tree policies 	Yes 🗹 No	Yes	 Subcommittee Staff time budgeted 	Ongoing	 Reduction in the number of healthy trees removed Increase in the diversity and quality of trees within the entire urban canopy Improved coordination with the planning process Deliver recommendation on conducting inventory and catalogue of urban tree canopy
 Green and sustainable initiatives – Support sustainability initiatives, as needs arise, which may include but not be limited to habitat protection, healthy ecology, environmental health protection, healthy air, surface water runoff quality, water conservation and waste reduction. Develop recommendation for pesticide posting ordinance Support initiatives improving air and water quality 	 Reduced cases of asthma Clean air Clean water Reduced environmental impacts on health Reduced exposure to pollutants More efficient water usage Critical habitat preserved Less waste generated 	Yes 🗹 No 🗌	Yes 🗹 No 🗌	Create Subcommittee, if needed	Ongoing	 Council and community view Commission as responsive to environmental concerns

 Support initiatives protecting environmental health Support initiatives that reduce waste Support initiatives that conserve water Support initiatives that improve the quality of water runoff in the City 						
Gas Powered Leaf Blower Ordinance- Recommend/advise City Council on a gas-powered leaf blower ordinance.	 Clean air Reduced exposure to pollutants Improved public health 	Yes 🗹 No 🗌	Yes 🗹 No 🗌	Subcommittee	1 year	Recommendation provided to City Council

	**Prioritize tasks by their significance									
List identified goals, priorities and/or tasks for the Commission	1 Urgent	2 1-year	3 2-year	4 Long term						
Climate Action Plan (CAP) – Continue to recommend/advise on implementation of the City's adopted 2030 Climate Action Plan initiatives to achieve or surpass the City's greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction target.	 Action #1: Review and recommend/advise on policies to phase out the use of fossil fuels of existing buildings Action #2: Advise on whether to work with BGI to promote citywide goals of increasing EVs and decreasing gasoline sales Action #4: Recommend that Council request CAP action #4 be included on Complete Streets Commission Work Plan (reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by 25% or an amount recommended by the Complete Streets Commission) Recommend 2021- 22 Climate Action for Council Adoption 	 Action #3: Review and recommend/advise on policies and/or programs to increase access to EV charging for multi family and commercial properties Action #5: Continue to provide recommendations/advice to electrify municipal buildings, fleet and landscaping equipment Advise/recommend Council support for State adoption of impactful impactful CALGreen and energy reach codes for the 2022 building code update 	 Action #6: Continue to provide recommendations/advice in developing a climate adaptation plan to protect the community from sea level rise and flooding Continue to provide recommendations/advise on new climate actions to be adopted by Council in 2021 	 Continue to provide recommendations/advice that improves communication with the community about the Climate Action Plan Recommend City strategy for sharing our policies and analysis with other cities to inspire and help others adopt bold climate action 						
	Track citizen concerns on large	 Receive update on operation and 	 Provide advice on developing an urban 							

Urban canopy preservation – Continue to recommend/ advise development of a comprehensive urban canopy strategy for Menlo Park, which includes monitoring the effectiveness of the new Heritage Tree Ordinance, hearing heritage tree appeals, and consider establishing an urban canopy inventory.	scale tree removal projects and provide advice on future policy improvements as it relates to tree removals	implementation of the Heritage Tree Ordinance and recommend adjustments as needed	forest master plan to City Council	
Green and sustainable initiatives – Support sustainability initiatives, as needs arise, which may include but not be limited to habitat protection, healthy ecology, environmental health protection, healthy air, surface water runoff quality, water conservation and waste reduction.				 Develop recommendation for pesticide posting ordinance Support initiatives improving air and water quality Support initiatives protecting environmental health Support initiatives that reduce waste Support initiatives that conserve water Support initiatives that improve the quality of water runoff in the City
Gas Powered Leaf Blower Ordinance- Recommend/advise City Council on a gas-powered leaf blower ordinance.		 Form a subcommittee Prepare recommendation to City Council and receive further direction 		

- **Step 6** Prepare final work plan for submission to the City Council for review, possible direction and approval and attach the Worksheets used to determine priorities, resources and time lines.
- **Step 7** Once approved; use this plan as a tool to help guide you in your work as an advisory body.
- **Step 8** Report out on status of items completed. Provide any information needed regarding additional resources needed or And to indicate items that will need additional time in order to complete.

Subcommittee descriptions

Building Decarbonization	Transportation Decarbonization	Climate Adaptation	Climate Outreach	Trees & Sustainable Initiatives	Gas powered leaf blowers
This subcommittee of 2-3 people will assist staff in developing policies and plans to convert 95% of Menlo Park's existing buildings to all-electric by 2030. <u>Work will include:</u> • Researching the technical and financial feasibility of converting the City's existing building stock to all- electric • Researching financing options available to assist community members with conversions • Researching policy and funding mechanisms to assist low-income households with conversions • Reviewing legal frameworks for key policies • Facilitating City collaboration with key regional agencies, such as Peninsula Clean Energy • Collaborating with City staff and contractors in drafting key policies • Preparing materials to help educate the public about building electrification • Assisting City staff in completing electrification of municipal buildings • Developing Council recommendations for 2021 CAP actions related to building decarbonization	This subcommittee of 3 people will assist staff in developing policies and plans to eliminate the use of fossil fuels in transportation in Menlo Park by 2030. <u>Work will include:</u> • Researching the technical and financial feasibility of policies and programs to increase access to EV charging, especially during the day and for residents of multi- family housing • Reviewing the offerings of service providers who may be able to assist the City and community members in building out its EV charging network • Reviewing legal frameworks for proposed policies • Serving as a liaison to the Complete Streets Commission in developing and achieving a City goal to reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled by 25% through 1) rezoning to support increased housing density near transit and 2) the build out of a network of connected bike/ped paths throughout town • Tracking and promoting the City's goals of 1) making all new vehicles be electric by 2025 and 2) reducing gasoline sales each year by 10% • Assisting City staff in converting the municipal vehicle fleet to all-electric by identifying new electric vehicle offerings for staff and Council consideration • Developing Council recommendations for 2021 CAP actions related to transportation decarbonization	This subcommittee of 2 people will research and inform City staff and Council on strategies for preparing the City for the effects of climate change. <u>Work will include:</u> • Attending meetings of the San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District Board and reporting back to EQC • Working with staff and Council members to engage community members who will be most affected by sea level rise to educate them and take their input on how best to address the issue • Tracking Menlo Park's plans for sea walls and/or levees to protect the community against sea level rise and keeping the EQC apprised of those plans • Making recommendations to City Council on proposed development in the City's future flood zones • Researching other potential effects of climate change on the City, including wildfire, drought and heat waves, and identifying plans to address those effects • Developing a proposal for capturing 10% of the City's 2005 greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 though direct carbon removal	This subcommittee of 3 people will devise strategies for educating members of the public about Menlo Park's climate action plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 90% by 2030. Work will include: • Identifying opportunities for Staff and the EQC to educate the public about climate change and Menlo Park's climate action plan • Preparing educational materials and promoting them, either in conjunction with Staff or as private citizens • Devising a plan, including proposed venues, for regularly presenting the public with information about ways to electrify buildings, decrease gasoline consumption, reduce vehicle miles traveled and prepare for climate-related emergencies • Relaying to EQC any public feedback on the CAP and related policy proposals • Supporting the City's formal outreach effort on climate policies, as directed by Staff	This subcommittee of 2 people will support Staff in addressing all sustainability matters not addressed by the Climate Action Plan. <u>Work will include:</u> • Organizing the City's Arbor Day Tree Planting event • Assessing the effectiveness of the City's new Heritage Tree Ordinance and making recommendations to EQC for any changes needed • Supporting Staff in development of an inventory and catalogue of the urban tree canopy • Receiving public concern related to non-climate sustainability concerns, including: habitat protection, healthy ecology, environmental health protection, healthy air, surface water runoff quality, water conservation and waste reduction • Recommending appropriate responses or programs to address public concerns about non- climate sustainability matters	This subcommittee will provide city council with advice on potential policy and/programs to reduce or eliminate the use of gas powered leaf blowers in the community
This subcommittee supports CAP actions #1 & 5	This subcommittee supports CAP actions #2, 3, 4 and 5	This subcommittee supports CAP action #6	This subcommittee supports CAP action #1, 2, 3, 4 and 6	This subcommittee supports EQC goals for Urban Canopy Preservation and Green and Sustainable Initiatives not related to the Climate Action Plan	This subcommittee supports overall GHG emission reduction and CAP action #5
Current members: Evans and Kabat	Current members: none	Current members: Elkins	Current members: Kabat	Current members: Elkins	Current members: Elkins