



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 27, 2025
7:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER:

a. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Wood at 7:04 pm.

2. ROLL CALL:

a. Present: Kahlon, Wood, Sese, Shoaito

b. Absent: Damasco

c. Staff Present: Stephanie Reyna-Hiestand, Assistant Director – Utilities
Carla Sorich, Executive Assistant

d. Recorded by: Carla Sorich, Executive Assistant

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Commissioner Kahlon.

4. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None.

5. CONSENT ITEMS

5.A REVIEW AND APPROVED THE MEETING MINUTES FOR JANUARY 23, 2025.

ACTION: Motion was made to approve Item 5.A by Chairperson Wood and was seconded by Commissioner Kahlon. All in favor; passed and so ordered. (4,0,0)

Approve – Wood, Kahlon, Sese, Shoaito

Oppose - None

Abstain – None

6. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

6.A ACCEPT AN INFORMATIONAL REPORT FROM THE SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN AD HOC COMMITTEE RELATED TO MEASURE T-3, T-18, AND BIO-5.

Chairperson Wood gave the report.

Commissioner questions and comments followed.

ACTION: Motion was made by Chairperson Wood and seconded by Commissioner Sese to accept the report and add the following recommendations to the SAP.

1. Measure T-3: Support for Bicycling, promote bicycle usage through the following:
 - a. Improve the bicycle network to connect major hubs of the city, including public transit, schools, retail centers and parks and to connect with routes identified by SJC in their Bike plan.

- b. Plan for and create a Class I Shared-Use Path for transportation and recreation connecting major recreational areas of the city.
- c. Use a “Complete Streets” approach to street design based on Smart Growth for America guidelines, to enable safe access for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities.
<https://smartgrowthamerica.org/what-are-complete-streets/>
- d. Become a Bicycle Friendly Community using the League of American Bicyclists guidelines. <https://bikeleague.org/bfa/community>

2. Measure T-18 Carbon Sequestration on Municipal Property

Add:

- a. Create a City Heritage or Protected Tree policy that identifies historic or protected trees for protection from removal.

3. Measure BIO-5 Stormwater Best Management Practices

Add:

- a. Ensure that storm drainage areas are used as parks/open spaces, including putting grass and native plants and trees around them.

All in favor and so ordered. (4,0,0)

Approve – Wood, Sese, Kahlon, Shoaito

Oppose - None

Abstain - None

7. ACTIONABLE ITEMS

7.A REVIEW AND APPROVE AN UPDATE TO THE ESC 2025 WORKPLAN

The staff report was read by Stephanie Reyna-Hiestand. Commissioner questions and comments followed.

ACTION: Motion was made by Commissioner Kahlon and seconded by Commissioner Sese to make the following changes to the 2025 ESC Workplan:

All in favor and so ordered. (4,0,0)

Approve – Kahlon, Sese, Wood Shoaito

Oppose - None

Abstain - None

7.B REVIEW AND DISCUSS THE PROPOSED CONTENT FOR THE ANNUAL REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FINAL DRAFT PRESENTATION SLIDES AT THE MARCH MEETING.

Chairperson Wood provided the draft presentation slides. Commissioner discussion followed and edits were recommended.

7.C RECEIVE AN UPDATE AND DISCUSS THE SAP; AND 1) BY MOTION AGREE TO UPDATE THE ESC WORKPLAN WITH STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS; 2) RETURN WITH A DISCUSSION TO SELECT THREE TO FIVE COMPARABLE CITIES FOR REFERENCING POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO THE SAP; AND 3)

RETURN WITH A DISCUSSION TO APPOINT VOLUNTEERS TO A SPECIFIC TOPIC WITHIN THE SAP TO MAKE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff report was read by Stephanie Reyna-Hiestand and discussion by commissioners followed. The following actions were taken:

ACTION: Motion was made by Commissioner Shoaito and seconded by Chairperson Wood to adopt the proposed work plan for the SAP (Action 1 in staff report). All in favor and so ordered. (4,0,0)

Approve – Shoaito, Wood, Kahlon, Sese
Oppose - None
Abstain - None

ACTION: Motion was made by Commissioner Kahlon and seconded by Commissioner Sese to return with a discussion and adoption of 3-5 comparable cities for the SAP (Action 2 in staff report). All in favor and so ordered. (4,0,0)

Approve – Kahlon, Sese, Wood, Shoaito
Oppose - None
Abstain - None

ACTION: Motion was made by Chairperson Wood and seconded by Commissioner Kahlon to return with a discussion to appoint volunteers to a specific topic within the SAP to make policy recommendations (Action 3 in staff report). All in favor and so ordered. (4,0,0)

Approve – Wood, Kahlon, Sese, Shoaito
Oppose - None
Abstain - None

8. STAFF ITEMS

Stephanie Reyna-Hiestand gave an update on contacting Valley Link representative for a presentation but has received no response.

9. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Kahlon shared recent events she attended. Commissioners discussed the upcoming Tracy Earth Day event and how they can participate.

10. ADJOURNMENT – Time: 9:15 PM.

ACTION: Motion was made by Chair Wood and seconded by Commissioner Shoaito to adjourn. All in favor and so ordered. (4,0,0)

Approve – Wood, Shoaito, Kahlon, Sese
Oppose - None
Abstain - None