



Record of Action

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

An Advisory Body to the Board of Supervisors

Monday, April 26, 2021
5:00 P.M.

Wes Sullens, Member, District 4, Chair	Chris Easter, Alternate, District 2	Luz Gomez, At-Large, Community Group
Sarah Foster, At-Large, Environmental Justice, Vice Chair	Mike Moore, Alternate, District 3	Chuck Leonard, At-Large, Business
Nick Despota, Member, District 1	Brandon Matson, Alternate, District 4	Marisha Farnsworth, At-Large, Business
Shoshana Wechsler, Alternate, District 1	Charles Davidson, Member, District 5	Isabella Zizi, At-Large, Environmental Justice
Victoria Smith, Member, District 2,	Renee Fernandez-Lipp, Alternate, District 5	Kim Hazard, At-Large, Education
John Sierra, Member, District 3	Howdy Goudey, At-Large, Community Group	

Agenda Items:

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

Present: Nick Despota, Member, District 1
 Shoshana Wechsler, Alternate, District 1
 Victoria Smith, Member, District 2
 Chris Easter, Alternate, District 2
 Mike Moore, Alternate, District 3
 Wes Sullens, Member, District 4, Chair
 Brandon Matson, Alternate, District 4
 Charles Davidson, Member, District 5
 Renee Fernandez-Lipp, Alternate, District 5
 Chuck Leonard, At-Large, Business
 Marisha Farnsworth, At-Large, Business
 Luz Gomez, At-Large, Community Group
 Howdy Goudey, At-Large, Community Group
 Sarah Foster, At-Large, Environmental Justice, Vice Chair
 Isabella Zizi, At-Large, Environmental Justice

Absent: John Sierra, Member, District 3
 Kim Hazard, At-Large, Education

Staff Present: Jody London, Sustainability Coordinator, Dept. of Conservation and Development
 Demian Hardman, Senior Planner, Dept. of Conservation and Development
 Nicole Shimizu, Climate Corps Fellow, Dept. of Conservation and Development
 Dom Pruett, Office of Supervisor Anderson
 Wade Finlinson, Integrated Pest Management Coordinator, Contra Costa Health Services

Attendees: Colin Clarke, Marti Roach, Samantha Moy, Janet Callaghan, Ford Tivakul, Denice Dennis, Devin Jackson, Fred Glueck, Jan Warren, Aryana, Maureen Brennan, Vincent Manuel, Carol Weed, Angela Vincent

1. Call to Order and Introductions

The four new members of the Sustainability Commission, Chris Easter, Brandon Matson, Chuck Leonard, and Luz Gomez, were introduced.

2. Public Comment

Devin Jackson from the Mt. Diablo Unified School District's (MDUSD) Outdoor Learning Infrastructure Committee announced that MDUSD passed its Climate Change Resolution on April 14, 2021. Jackson informed the Commission about the growing support for outdoor learning in MDUSD and how the Commission could partner with the Outdoor Learning Infrastructure Committee to support the school district's current and future efforts.

3. APPROVE Record of Action for February 22, 2021 meeting.

The Record of Action for the February 22, 2021 meeting was approved.

MOTION: Leonard

SECOND: Moore

4. RECEIVE REPORT on Vision Zero Framework in Contra Costa County. (Colin Clarke, Contra Costa Transportation Authority)

Colin Clarke presented an overview of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority's (CCTA) Countywide Vision Zero Transportation Safety Framework. Clarke summarized the Bike and Pedestrian Plan and how Vision Zero is implemented throughout. Clarke concluded his presentation by saying that Local Road Safety Plans were the next opportunity to integrate Vision Zero.

Sarah Foster noted the importance of including disabled people in alternative transportation planning. Foster stated interest in having a conversation about transit-oriented development, especially near housing.

Luz Gomez suggested that the Commission recommend CCTA's policy recommendations to the Board. Gomez recommended real-time data be collected to inform actionable program design.

Victoria Smith voiced interest in quantifying the greenhouse gas emission reductions linked to alternative transportation methods.

The Commission voiced concern over coordinated efforts among County staff to make biking and walking more attractive and safer across the whole bike network. The Commission asked if CCTA was getting public input about the Vision Zero proposal.

The Commission formed a working group of Wes Sullens, Sarah Foster, and Renee Fernandez-Lipp to research what Contra Costa County is currently doing to implement Vision Zero.

5. RECEIVE REPORT on Green Buildings. (Wes Sullens, U.S. Green Building Council)

Wes Sullens presented an overview of the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) building rating system. Sullens asked the Commission how it could use green buildings to the County's benefit.

The Commission discussed integrating LEED principles into the County's Climate Action Plan (CAP).

Nick Despota voiced interest in modeling a measure or action after the County of Marin's building

code changes to use low-carbon concrete. Jody London suggested having a conversation about County facilities with the Department of Public Works and a separate conversation with the Building Department about County building codes.

Sullens noted that County staff is preparing a building electrification reach code and reminded the Commission that embodied carbon, indoor air quality improvements, and other solutions could all be considered.

Shoshana Wechsler voiced concern about the issue of residential retrofits of existing residential buildings. London reported that she was working with a Goldman School for Public Policy graduate student exploring alternatives to Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing. Chuck Leonard added that equity must be considered when discussing the retrofit and electrification of residential buildings.

The Sustainability Commission briefly discussed construction waste. Luz Gomez suggested encouraging deconstruction rather than demolition as a way to reduce construction waste.

Jody London suggested a Sustainability Commission retreat to do a deep dive on topics of interest. Brandon Matson and Wes Sullens voiced interest in a retreat.

Nick Despota, Luz Gomez, and Chris Easter volunteered to be part of a green building working group.

6. RECEIVE UPDATE on and DISCUSS Implementation of Climate Emergency Resolution.

Jody London reported on the Interdepartmental Climate Action Task Force's first report to the Board, the Sustainability Committee's continued conversation around the draft environmental justice policies for inclusion in the updated General Plan and Just Transition, and the continued work by County staff on a building electrification reach code ordinance. Additionally, the City of Martinez adopted a Climate Emergency Resolution last week.

7. RECEIVE Reports from Sustainability Commission members and alternates, and PROVIDE DIRECTION as needed.

Chuck Leonard reported that Assembly Bill 844 proposed by Assemblymember Grayson would be discussed at a hearing on Tuesday, April 27, 2021.

8. RECEIVE Report from Sustainability Coordinator.

Jody London reported that the focus will be the interim CAP work plan until the updated Climate Action Plan (CAP) is adopted. London is working with PlaceWorks on the CAP update. The grant funding the Cleaner Contra Costa Challenge grant is ending and London is starting to focus on the carbon sequestration feasibility study grant.

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

Jody London will communicate with the transportation working group and green building working groups about next steps.

Sarah Foster motioned to extend the Sustainability Commission's meetings by thirty minutes and to

empower working groups. The Commission voted and approved this motion.

MOTION: Foster

SECOND: Leonard

10. The next meeting is currently scheduled for June 28, 2021.
11. Adjourn