



AGENDA

LA MESA ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

A Regular Meeting on Monday, May 16, 2016, 6:00 p.m.

City Manager's Conference Room
8130 Allison Avenue, La Mesa, California

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Total Time – 15 Minutes)
Members of the public may address the Commission on subjects within the jurisdiction of the Commission. Unless such subjects are contained within this agenda, there can be no discussion or action by the Commission until a subsequent, publicly noticed meeting.
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - April 18, 2016
5. COMMERCIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY
6. LA MESA COMMUNITY TREES (URBAN FORESTRY)
Street tree selection guide
Tree canopy assessment workshop
7. ROUNDUP CHEMICAL USE DISCUSSION
8. UPDATE OF GRAYWATER BROCHURE
9. UPDATE ON LA MESA'S CLIMATE PROTECTION ACTIONS REPORT
10. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS
11. CITY STAFF UPDATE
12. NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE - Monday, June 20, 2016

PLEASE NOTE: Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the La Mesa Environmental Sustainability Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the City Clerk's Office located in La Mesa City Hall, 8130 Allison Avenue during normal business hours.

Citizens who wish to make an audio/visual presentation pertaining to an item on the agenda, or during Public Comments, should contact Sheryl Sherman at 619.667.1143, no later than 12:00 noon, one business day prior to the start of the meeting. Advance notification will ensure compatibility with City equipment and allow Commission meeting presentations to progress smoothly and in a consistent and equitable manner. Please note that all presentations/digital materials are considered part of the maximum time limit provided to speakers.

Individuals with disabilities who require reasonable accommodation in order to participate in City of La Mesa services, activities, programs and/or attendance at City Council meetings, Commission meetings, or any Public Hearings should contact the City's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator, Rida Freeman, Human Resources Manager, 48 hours prior to the meeting at 619.667.1175, fax 619.667.1163, or freeman@ci.la-mesa.ca.us.

**MEETING OF THE CITY OF LA MESA
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
6:00 PM, CITY MANAGER'S CONFERENCE ROOM
8130 ALLISON AVENUE, LA MESA, CA 91942**

DRAFT MINUTES
April 18, 2016

1. CALL TO ORDER (6:01)

2. ROLL CALL (X indicates present)

Mark Thayer, Vice Chair	X
Mary Jane Bailey	X
Jim Stone, Chair	Excused absence
Bradon Hoover (Youth Member)	
Robin Rivet	X
Greg Trigeiro (Senior Member)	X
Maria Hesse	Excused absence
Steve Babbitt (La Mesa-Spring Valley School District)	X
Debi Byrd (Helix Charter High School)	Excused absence
Don Parent (SDG&E)	X
Maggie Eggers (EDCO)	X
Lisa Stoia (Helix Water District)	Excused absence

Others present: Greg Humora, Director of Public Works/City Engineer
Scott Munzenmaier, Purchasing Officer
From the public: None

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM March 21, 2016

Action: Motion to approve minutes
Vote: 3-0-1
Ayes: Thayer, Bailey, Trigeiro
Noes: None
Abstained: Rivet
Absent: Hoover, Stone, Hesse

5. COMMERCIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY

SDG&E had some additional revisions to the brochure. Mark will email brochure to Greg. Mark is ready to start meeting with businesses. April 28th is the La Mesa Chamber business fair from 5:30 – 8:00 at the Community Center.

6. LA MESA COMMUNITY TREES (URBAN FORESTRY)

Robin attended the tree canopy assessment workshop. The City of San Diego has a \$750,000 CalFire grant. The EPA is supposed to supplement funding so that most of the county urban area tree canopy is surveyed. Robin is still working on this.

7. ROUNDUP CHEMICAL USE DISCUSSION

An intern candidate is supposed to attend the next subcommittee meeting.

8. UPDATE OF GRAYWATER BROCHURE

No update.

9. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Mary Jane mentioned that the 101 is very scenic right now. On Saturday the Water Conservation Garden is hosting its spring plant sale.

Robin attended a native plant garden tour in East County and Grossmont College is doing a nice job with its landscaping.

Mark and Jim met with Mayor Arapostathis and gave him an update on the Commission's activities. He was interested in tree identification along the urban trails.

10. CITY STAFF UPDATE

Scott will be updating the City report on the climate protect actions.

Greg reported that the City Council recently approved the construction contract award for the University Avenue Median Water Quality Improvement Project.

11. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 16, 2016.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Prepared by:

Greg Humora, Secretary to the Environmental Sustainability Commission
Director of Public Works/City Engineer



DATE: May 24, 2016
TO: Mayor and Members of the City Council
VIA: David Witt, City Manager
Gregory Humora, Director of Public Works/City Engineer
FROM: Scott Munzenmaier, Purchasing Officer
SUBJECT: Update on La Mesa's Climate Protection Actions

The City Council approved a resolution in 2007 endorsing the U.S. Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement and directed staff to report back periodically on the City's actions towards climate protection. The following actions are listed, with new items since the 2015 update indicated, as they relate to the areas of concern listed in the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement passed by the U.S. Conference of Mayors in 2005. This update was presented to the Environmental Sustainability Commission on May 16th of this year and their comments were incorporated.

1. Inventory Emissions in City Operations

- **NEW** – La Mesa has received 2015 Platinum and Gold Level Beacon Awards for sustainability best practices.
- The City has an updated greenhouse gas emissions inventory through a partnership with the Energy Policy Initiatives Center (EPIC) and the University of San Diego.
- The City completed the SANDAG Energy Roadmap program and has a report based on energy audits on City facilities and operations which is used to look for ways to reduce energy consumption.
- The City is complying with Air Pollution Control Board regulations, including inventorying and cataloging the City's fleet.
- Purchasing staff continue to seek environmentally friendly options for products and services for use by all departments.

2. Land-Use Policies

- **NEW** – A Climate Action Plan (CAP) is being drafted and should be presented to the Planning Commission in late 2016. The CAP is partially funded by a grant from the SDG&E Emerging Cities Program for Local Governments.
- The Centennial General Plan includes goals, objectives, and policies that further environmental sustainability, health and wellness in the community.
- Existing policies reduce urban sprawl, preserve open space, and create a more compact urban community.

- The Mixed Use Urban Overlay Zone supports compact urban development and pedestrian oriented neighborhoods.
- A model water efficient landscape ordinance was adopted in 2010 in accordance with AB 325 that complies with the State's requirements for water conservation.

3. Transportation

- **NEW** – The La Mesa Urban Trails Mobility Action Plan was adopted by the City Council on February 23, 2016.
- **NEW** – Work was completed in December 2015 on the Downtown Village Streetscape Improvement Project with improved walkability, connections to transit, and convenient biking.
- **NEW** – The League of California Cities named La Mesa a 2015 Helen Putnam Award of Excellence winner in the category of City/County/Schools Partnership Intergovernmental Collaboration for the Intergenerational Safe Routes to School Program.
- Sidewalks were added to the east side of Maryland Avenue between Maryland Avenue Elementary School and Lake Murray Boulevard with a Safe Routes to School grant.
- La Mesa was ranked 4th in 2015 by Circulate San Diego's Regional Walk Scorecard. La Mesa ranks as one of the top scoring cities due to our continuing investment and focus on infrastructure upgrades and pedestrian safety.
- The City encourages non-automobile transportation such as more sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and pedestrian-friendly zones supported by the Sidewalk Master Plan and the Bicycle Facilities and Alternative Transportation Plan.
- A Bicycle Facilities and Alternative Transportation Plan has been adopted in accordance with AB 1358 "Complete Streets" legislation funded by a \$75,000 SANDAG grant awarded in July 2009. The Plan was upgraded with a "Safe Routes to Transit" component funded by a second \$50,000 SANDAG grant awarded in February 2011.
- Allison Avenue between University Avenue and Palm Avenue was upgraded for better walkability including two new mid-block crosswalks at the community library and trolley station that include sensor-activated flashing LED lights.
- The University Avenue Revitalization Plan is complete which will improve walkability along the major thoroughfare once the project is completed.
- Plans were adopted for neighborhood traffic management (February 2004), walkability (February 2006) and a concept for pedestrian and bicycle crossings for the freeways (December 2008).

4. Clean Energy

- **NEW** – EDCO completed construction of a natural gas fuel distribution station that is now open to the public in the industrial area.

- The City is now participating in six Property Assessed Clean Energy (“PACE”) programs including Figtree, Ygrene Works, CaliforniaFIRST, HERO (Home Energy Renovation Opportunity), California Municipal Finance Authority, and California Statewide Communities Development Authority Open PACE.
- In 2015, 581 photovoltaic solar system permits were issued in La Mesa, a 105% increase in the number of solar permits issued from the prior year (283). Annual permits have increased by a factor of 10 since 2011.
- The landfills used by the City’s contract waste hauler, EDCO Disposal Corporation, utilize methane recovery energy programs.
- Solar power is used for radar feedback signs on Fletcher Parkway and Amaya Drive as well as three City street lights and parking meters in the downtown business district.
- The City replaced older backup generators with cleaner, more efficient units at the new Fire and Police facilities.

5. Energy Efficiency

- **NEW** – Expedited permitting procedures for small building energy conservation systems were adopted by a municipal code ordinance in 2015.
- The City is working with the California Center for Sustainable Energy to host periodic home energy upgrade workshops.
- The windows and doors were replaced at the Community Center and Recreation Center with more energy efficient products.
- High efficiency induction street light replacements were installed and have reduced the City’s street light energy costs by approximately half.
- All new City buildings meet California energy standards and have fluorescent lighting. The new police station has a high-efficiency HVAC system.
- The City has retrofitted all traffic signals with green and red LED (light-emitting diode) lights.

6. Appliance Efficiency

- Vending Miser systems were installed on machines at City facilities to reduce energy use during evenings and weekends.
- The City currently purchases Energy Star compliant equipment and technology.
- Equipment purchased for facilities including computers and printers/copiers are more efficient than the older models.

7. Green Building Design

- LEED standards are incorporated into the design of several facilities including the police station, Fire Administration/Station 11 and a cool roof on the Community Center. LEED certification is encouraged for all buildings and developments.

- Through the City's Design Review process, new development is encouraged to incorporate energy conservation and green building concepts in the review of new development projects.
- The City enforces the California Energy Efficiency Standards and the adopted California Green Building Code regulating energy conservation techniques, materials and appliances in the construction of buildings by the private sector.

8. Fleet Fuel Efficiency

- **NEW** – The Fleet Maintenance Division uses synthetic rather than petroleum-based lubricants for City vehicles.
- Vehicles' telematics devices were installed in 42 public works vehicles in 2014 which should result in reduced idling times and increased fuel efficiency.
- New police patrol vehicles using the new Ford designs are 14% more fuel efficient in city driving than the models they are replacing.
- The La Mesa-Spring Valley School District has new clean-diesel buses which replaced less efficient vehicles more than 20 years old.
- AIMS Fuelmaster automatic fuel monitoring devices are installed on all new vehicles.
- The City owns four hybrid vehicles for use by the City's building inspectors and parking enforcement which reduce the fuel needed for local use.
- The City has retrofitted nine diesel vehicles, partially with grant funding, to reduce emissions in compliance with the State's Tier 3 requirements.
- City operations have again achieved 100% compliance with the Air Resources Board DOORS (Diesel Off-Road On-Line Reporting System) program.

9. Wastewater Treatment

- **NEW** – 1,700 square feet of grass turf was removed in front of City Hall in 2015 and a \$3,400 rebate was received allowing the installation of new drought tolerant landscaping.
- 2,741 square feet of grass turf was removed in 2014 at the Community Center and replaced with drought tolerant landscaping with the assistance of grants from the Metropolitan Water District, the San Diego County Water Authority and the Helix Water District.
- Two lawns at City Hall were removed and replaced by drought-tolerant landscaping with irrigation drip systems which are expected to save 46,000 gallons of water annually.
- The Environmental Sustainability Commission created a graywater educational brochure to help residents and businesses understand the options and regulations for graywater systems.
- Irrigation systems have been upgraded at all parks, several landscaped medians and most facilities resulting in more efficient water use.

- EDCO Station in La Mesa accepts cooking fats, oils and grease for free to be recycled into biofuel by a local company in San Diego.
- The Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) Control Program was implemented to help reduce blockages within the wastewater system which can lead to overflows and impact surface water quality.
- The City is actively upgrading the wastewater collection system to mitigate any storm water inflow or infiltration into the collection system.
- Information kiosks are located in four City parks as part of the City's storm water pollution prevention efforts and staff participates annually in the Creek to Bay Cleanup and Coastal Cleanup Day events.
- Helix Water District continues to report water conservation, reducing the amount of wastewater necessitating treatment.

10. Increased Recycling

- **NEW** – The City and EDCO Disposal developed a compliance program for 139 commercial waste generators that must begin implementing organic waste diversion programs in 2016 under the mandates of AB 1826. The program includes mail-out notifications, education and awareness articles and bill inserts, as well as site visits.
- In the most recent Annual Report to CalRecycle the 2015 estimated trash disposal rate by residents was 4.3 pounds/person/day (PPD) and 9.8 PPD by employees of local businesses. This is lower than the maximum disposal allowed in La Mesa, 6.2 PPD and 13.8 PPD respectively, under AB 939 which mandates 50% diversion from landfills.
- Nearly 75,550 pounds of household hazardous waste was collected from 698 La Mesa and Lemon Grove residents during 2015.
- Two free paper shredding events were held for residents. Over 1,460 vehicle loads were dropped at the annual Spring Cleanup event at EDCO Station, weighing over 509.62 tons. Nearly 169 tons was diverted for recycling.
- EDCO now accepts wax-coated cartons, such as milk and juice box containers.
- All playground upgrades and replacement use recycled materials when available, including flooring materials that are either recycled tires or wood chips.
- The city has warehouse space devoted to used office equipment, supplies, and furniture for reuse by departments.
- A backyard composting program is available for residents in which they can purchase discounted bins from Dixieline ProBuild in La Mesa. City Hall has a compost bin for use by employees.
- The City's mandatory recycling ordinance is enforced and has a citywide compliance rate among commercial businesses and multifamily properties of over 80%.
- Recycling containers are located in the downtown village as well as all City parks.
- An aerosol recycling system captures propellant for safe disposal.

11. Promoting Urban Forests

- The City is participated in the San Diego County Tree Inventory developed by the California Center for Sustainable Energy with CAL FIRE funding to provide interactive maps to quantify the ecological and economic benefits of trees.
- The City has been recognized as a Tree City USA since 1980.

12. Public Education

- **NEW** – The City hosted the Connect La Mesa Block Party on November 14, 2015 in the farmer's market parking lot to promote sustainable transportation and the Climate Action Plan.
- The City had a table at EarthFair 2015 in Balboa Park to promote the Climate Action Plan and other environmental programs.
- The Environmental Sustainability Commission is comprised of members from environmentally linked industries and the general public to address issues and establish guidelines related to climate change.
- The Environmental Sustainability Commission's graywater educational program will benefit both residents and businesses through brochures and information which are available at City Hall and on the City website.
- Helix Charter High School has AP Environmental Science, Oceanography and Earth Science courses focused on sustainability as well as an environmental club for student involvement that includes local clean-up efforts.
- La Mesa e-Gov allows anyone 24-hour access to services electronically including announcements of programs and events through Twitter, Nixle and Notify Me.
- The La Mesa-Spring Valley School District has recycling clubs at different schools and a grant-funded native plants learning laboratory at La Mesa Middle School.
- Information on various environmental topics is available on the City website including links to SDG&E, Helix Water District, EDCO, CalRecycle and the EPA.
- Presentations are made to schools for all grade levels under a contract with I Love A Clean San Diego to educate on topics of pollution prevention and recycling.

Attachment A: Resolution 2007-039 and U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement