

Environmental Quality Commission



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: 3/19/2025
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Teleconference and
City Hall Downtown Conference Room, 1st Floor
701 Laurel St., Menlo Park. CA 94025

A. Call To Order

Vice Chair McKenna called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Hedley, Hernandez, Hill (Remote – AB 2449 Just Cause, arrived at 6:08 p.m., exited at 7:26 p.m.), Kissel, Vice Chair McKenna, Meyer, Pelegri-Llopart
Absent: None
Staff: Sustainability Manager Rachael Londer, Management Analyst II Liz Tapia

C. Public Comment

- Brian Schmidt spoke in support of the March 22 City Council priority setting session, the \$4.5 million electrification grant, reach codes, repairing the El Camino bike lane and new efforts to achieve 2030 Climate Action Plan goals.

D. Regular Business

D1. Welcome new commissioner

Vice Chair McKenna introduced Commissioner Hernandez.

Commissioner Hernandez spoke on his background.

D2. Approve the February 19, 2025 Environmental Quality Commission meeting minutes (Attachment)

ACTION: Motion and second (Pelegri-Llopart/ Hedley), to approve the February 19, 2025 Environmental Quality Commission meeting minutes with edits to items A. and D3., passed 6-0-1 (Hill absent).

D3. Select chair and vice chair.

Vice Chair McKenna introduced the item.

The Commission discussed the selection of the chair and vice chair.

ACTION: Motion and second (Hill/ Kissel), to select Vice Chair McKenna as Chair, passed unanimously.

ACTION: Motion and second (Kissel/ Hedley), to select Commissioner Pelegri-Llopart as Vice Chair, passed unanimously.

D4. Report out on Zero Emission Landscaping Equipment (ZELE) ordinance and voucher program (Attachment)

Chair McKenna introduced the item.

Sustainability Manager Rachael Londer made the presentation.

The Commission received clarification on outreach and education, code enforcement and landlord notifications.

- Brian Schmidt spoke in support of continuing rebates, a leaf blower webinar hosted by Sustainable San Mateo County (SSMC) and the ZELE ordinance.
- Emily Burt spoke in support of the ZELE ordinance, Menlo Park enforcement and the voucher program.

The Commission discussed public notifications, outreach to residents and landscapers, additional vouchers and promotional material and eligibility.

D5. Consider disbanding or selecting additional commissioners to ad hoc subcommittees

Chair McKenna introduced the item.

ACTION: Motion and second (McKenna/ Hedley), to select Commissioner Hernandez and Commissioner Meyer to join the Climate adaptation ad hoc subcommittee, passed unanimously.

E. Reports and Announcements

E1. Reports and announcements from staff and Commissioners

Sustainability Manager Rachael Londer reported out on the March 22 City Council priority setting meeting, the March 25 City Council meeting at the Belle Haven Community Campus (BHCC), the April 9 deadline for Environmental Quality Commission vacancy applications, March 31 heat pump hot water heaters installation at Burgess pool, application for a \$300,000 grant from the Bay Area Regional Energy Network, Metropolitan Transportation Commission grant for \$2.2 million awarded for electric vehicle charging, BHCC award of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification, April 3 Sustainable San Mateo County award ceremony recognizing BHCC LEED award and April 26 Love our Earth Festival.

Chair McKenna reported out on a court case ruling in New York involving Energy Policy and Conservation Act (EPCA) and Assembly Bill 306.

Vice Chair Pelegri-Llopart reported out on tracking climate legislation.

Commissioner Kissel reported out on a tracking legislation tool.

F. Informational Items

F1. 2024-25 Environmental Quality Commission work plan (Attachment)

G. Adjournment

Vice Chair McKenna adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

Management Analyst II Liz Tapia

Minutes approved at the April 16, 2025 Environmental Quality Commission meeting.