



City of Sunnyvale

Meeting Minutes Sustainability Commission

Monday, November 17, 2025

7:00 PM

Online and Redwood Conference Room,
City Hall, 456 W. Olive Ave., Sunnyvale,
CA 94086

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Nabhan called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. in the Redwood Conference Room (Room 140) at City Hall.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Chair Nabhan led the salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Chair Jeffery Nabhan
Vice Chair Kristina Pistone
Commissioner Madeline Chang
Commissioner Colin Ford
Commissioner Cortney Jansen
Commissioner Douglas Kunz
Commissioner Richard Parenteau

Council Liaison - Councilmember Srinivasan (present)

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

STUDY SESSION

25-1072 Green Stormwater Infrastructure Plan Update

Emma Hinojosa, Environmental Programs Manager, presented an update on the Green Stormwater Infrastructure Plan. Commissioners asked questions and staff provided answers.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1.A 25-1070 Approve the Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes of

October 20, 2025

Commissioner Parenteau moved, and Commissioner Kunz seconded, a motion to approve the consent calendar.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Chair Nabhan
Vice Chair Pistone
Commissioner Chang
Commissioner Ford
Commissioner Jansen
Commissioner Kunz
Commissioner Parenteau

No: 0

1.B [25-1071](#) Approve the Joint Study Session Minutes of October 23, 2025, with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory and Sustainability Commissions.

Commissioner Kunz moved to approve the minutes as presented.

Commissioner Ford noted a correction to the minutes, stating that Commissioner Parenteau was incorrectly marked as present when they were absent.

Commissioner Jansen proposed a friendly amendment to update Commissioner Parenteau's attendance status and seconded the motion.

Commissioner Kunz accepted the friendly amendment.

The motion as amended carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Chair Nabhan
Vice Chair Pistone
Commissioner Chang
Commissioner Ford
Commissioner Jansen
Commissioner Kunz

No: 0

Abstain: 1 - Commissioner Parenteau

PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS

1.C 25-1069 Annual Review of City Code of Ethics and Conduct for Elected and Appointed Officials and Opportunity to Recommend Changes to the City Council

Chair Nabhan provided an overview of the 2025 Code of Ethics and Conduct for Elected and Appointed Officials and invited Commissioners to ask questions and offer comments or recommendations. Christina Raby, Environmental Engineering Coordinator, noted there were no updates to the 2025 Code of Ethics.

Chair Nabhan opened the public hearing at 8:11 p.m.

No public comments were made.

Chair Nabhan closed the public hearing at 8:11 p.m.

Commissioner Parenteau moved, and Commissioner Ford seconded, a motion declaring Commissioners have read and will abide by the rules of the Code of Ethics.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Chair Nabhan
Vice Chair Pistone
Commissioner Chang
Commissioner Ford
Commissioner Jansen
Commissioner Kunz
Commissioner Parenteau

No: 0

1.D 25-1073 Discussion of Potential Council Priority Project Ideas

Ms. Raby provided an overview of the Council Priority Projects (CPP) process and timeline. Ms. Raby noted that each Board and Commission may forward one priority project for City Council consideration.

Proposal No. 1 – Commissioner Parenteau presented a proposal focused on promoting distributed energy storage for renters in multi-tenant housing, emphasizing uninterruptible power supplies (battery storage) to reduce energy costs during peak hours, improve resilience, and address barriers for low- and moderate-income renters. Commissioners discussed potential implementation

challenges, jurisdictional considerations, coordination with Silicon Valley Clean Energy (SVCE), and landlord-related constraints.

Proposal No. 2 – Vice Chair Pistone presented a proposal related to the environmental impacts of AI data centers in Sunnyvale. Commissioners discussed potential approaches including transparency requirements, efficiency standards, a possible temporary moratorium on approving new data centers, and broader economic and regional considerations.

Proposal No. 3 – Commissioner Jansen presented a proposal to implement two pilot projects for natural grass athletic fields using regenerative maintenance practices and not using synthetic pesticides or herbicides. Commissioners discussed cost, staff capacity, training requirements, timing relative to the turf and pesticides Study Issues, and overall feasibility.

Chair Nabhan opened the public hearing at 9:17 p.m.

No public comments were made.

Chair Nabhan closed the public hearing at 9:17 p.m.

Staff drafted project proposal language with the Commission and discussed feasibility, staff resources, and alignment with City goals.

Commissioner Parenteau moved, and Commissioner Kunz seconded, a motion to forward Proposal No. 1 on studying barriers for low- and moderate-income tenants to utilize uninterruptible power supplies (battery storage) and encourage SVCE to provide incentives to City Council.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Kunz
Commissioner Parenteau

No: 5 - Chair Nabhan
Vice Chair Pistone
Commissioner Chang
Commissioner Ford
Commissioner Jansen

The motion failed on a roll call vote.

Commissioner Kunz moved, and Commissioner Jansen seconded, a motion to forward Proposal No. 3 on implementing two pilot projects for natural grass athletic fields using regenerative practices to City Council.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Chair Nabhan
Vice Chair Pistone
Commissioner Chang
Commissioner Ford
Commissioner Jansen
Commissioner Kunz
Commissioner Parenteau

No: 0

Proposal No. 3 will be forwarded to the City Manager for City Council consideration.

1.E 25-1074 Approve 2026 Master Work Plan

The Commission discussed finalizing the Draft 2026 Master Work Plan. The Draft Work Plan was prepared by staff and reflects topics prioritized by the Commission.

Chair Nabhan opened the public hearing at 10 p.m.

No public comments were made.

Chair Nabhan closed the public hearing at 10 p.m.

Commissioner Parenteau moved, and Commissioner Jansen seconded, a motion to approve the 2026 Draft Master Work Plan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Chair Nabhan
Vice Chair Pistone
Commissioner Chang
Commissioner Ford
Commissioner Jansen
Commissioner Kunz
Commissioner Parenteau

No: 0

NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS

-Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Kunz reported on two presentations from the November Livable Sunnyvale meeting addressing mass timber building techniques and embodied carbon, and dark sky ordinances.

Commissioner Parenteau referenced a Southern California city's revision to its building code allowing denser multi-tenant buildings on small lots and suggested Sunnyvale consider a similar approach.

Commissioner Jansen announced House Representative Ro Khanna's virtual town hall on November 19, 2025, and encouraged Commissioners to attend and advocate for environmental protection and sustainability initiatives.

Vice Chair Pistone recommended a podcast episode from the "What If We Get It Right" series by Dr. Ayana Elizabeth Johnson.

Councilmember Srinivasan thanked the Commission for their work and noted this was his final meeting as the Sustainability Commission's Council liaison.

-Staff Comments

Ms. Raby reported on previous and upcoming events.

INFORMATION ONLY REPORTS/ITEMS

[25-1075](#) Updated Annual Work Plan November 2025

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 p.m.