



# City of Sunnyvale

## Meeting Minutes - Draft

### Sustainability Commission

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Monday, September 17, 2018

7:00 PM

West Conference Room, City Hall, 456 W.  
Olive Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086

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#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Paton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the West Conference Room.

#### **SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Chair Paton led the salute to the flag.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 7 - Chair Bruce Paton  
Vice Chair Kristel Wickham  
Commissioner Dan Hafeman  
Commissioner Douglas Kunz  
Commissioner Stephen Joesten  
Commissioner Shana Padgett  
Commissioner Steven Zornetzer

Council Liaison – Gustav Larsson (present)

Commissioner Padgett arrived at 7:02 p.m.

#### **PRESENTATION**

[18-0828](#) PRESENTATION - City of Sunnyvale Vehicle-Miles-Traveled Reduction Strategies

Chip Taylor, Director of the Department of Public Works, provided an overview of the City's vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reduction strategies. The Commission asked questions and Mr. Taylor provided information regarding the City's policies for parking reduction, speed limit regulation, complete streets, and transportation demand management (TDM) strategies. Mr. Taylor shared that staff would begin updating the City's integrated Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safe Routes to School Plan beginning in fall 2018.

Chair Paton opened the public hearing.

Tim Oey, Sunnyvale resident, emphasized the importance of having accurate data on total miles of streets with complete bicycle lanes. He also noted that street design elements to reduce speeds (e.g., bumps, curves, narrowing) make the streets safer and encourage more people to ride bicycles.

John Cordes, Sunnyvale resident, noted that a key way to reduce VMT is to increase housing in Sunnyvale and reduce longer distance commutes. He also noted the importance of boosting school bus ridership for safer commutes and reducing VMT and of shifting the responsibility of commute VMT reduction to employers.

Chair Paton closed the public hearing.

### **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Tim Oey, Sunnyvale resident, shared that he was running Santa Clara County's bicycle training program as a cycling instructor. He also shared that Sunnyvale had, without providing a reason, decided to disband the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) community collaborative group formed by the County's Department of Public Health, which he believes was a setback in encouraging participation in SRTS.

Susan Bremmond, Sunnyvale resident, observed that Amazon shipping uses packing pillows, which cannot be recycled in Sunnyvale and urged the City and the Commission to encourage Amazon to use more sustainable packaging.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

[18-0827](#)      Approve the Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes of August 20, 2018

Commissioner Hafeman pulled the minutes of the August 20, 2018, noting that the word "seconded" was missing from when he seconded the SI on a single-use plastics ban.

Commissioner Padgett noted that her name was mis-spelled in the voting record.

Vice Chair Wickham moved, and Commissioner Joesten seconded, a motion to approve the consent calendar as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Yes: 7 -** Chair Paton  
Vice Chair Wickham  
Commissioner Hafeman  
Commissioner Kunz  
Commissioner Joesten  
Commissioner Padget  
Commissioner Zornetzer

**No: 0**

**STANDING ITEM: CLIMATE ACTION PLAN (CAP 2.0) UPDATE**

Vice Chair Wickham shared that there were no further updates on the CAP 2.0 timeline. Staff noted that the CAP 2.0 document would be released for public review later this fall and would share a timeline when available.

Chair Paton opened the public hearing.

No comments.

Chair Paton closed the public hearing.

**STANDING ITEM: CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL STUDY ISSUES**

[18-0276](#) Draft Study Issue: Mobility Strategy to Increase Transparency of Transportation Policies and Reduce Sunnyvale GHG emissions

Chair Paton stated that he had revised the Study Issue to reflect that the City needs a greater engagement in planning at the regional scale. This Study Issue would holistically approach the problem of transportation without focusing on selected strategies. He noted that the City needed a more collaborative approach to work with private sector to identify which TDM strategies were most effective. He noted it was worth including Vice Chair Wickham's suggestion to include autonomous vehicles in the Mobility Strategy.

Chair Paton opened the public hearing.

No comments.

Chair Paton closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Kunz moved, and Commissioner Padgett seconded, a motion to forward this Study Issue to Council. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Yes:** 7 - Chair Paton  
Vice Chair Wickham  
Commissioner Hafeman  
Commissioner Kunz  
Commissioner Joesten  
Commissioner Padgett  
Commissioner Zornetzer

**No:** 0

[18-0736](#) Draft Study Issue: Reduce GHG Emissions from All Residential and Non-Residential Construction

Commissioner Kunz explained that this Study Issue essentially targeted electrification of buildings. He observed that the GreenPoint Rated certification system by Build It Green included Measure J5.1 which required homes meet the All Electric Compliance option.

Chair Paton opened the public hearing.

No comments.

Chair Paton closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Zornetzer noted that this Study Issue is very synergistic with the Study Issue previously sponsored by the Commission entitled "Require New Non-Residential Construction to Achieve Significant Improvements in Building Energy Performance." Commissioner Joesten agreed that an emphasis on incentives rather than mandates is important.

Commissioner Kunz moved, and Commissioner Joesten seconded, a motion to forward this Study Issue to Council. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Yes: 7 -** Chair Paton  
Vice Chair Wickham  
Commissioner Hafeman  
Commissioner Kunz  
Commissioner Joesten  
Commissioner Padget  
Commissioner Zornetzer

**No: 0**

[18-0824](#) Single Use Plastics Strategy

Commissioner Wickham provided an overview of the Study Issue highlighting that several cities in California have implemented a single-use plastics ban. Elements of the Study Issue included: types of single-use plastics to be addressed; availability and cost of non-plastic alternatives; costs and methods for implementation; and an assessment of community and business support.

Chair Paton opened the public hearing.

Kim Jelfs, Sunnyvale resident, shared that she had done research into this topic as well as on a ban on the use of straws. She stated there were concerns that the State Bill requiring that straws should be provided only upon request may not be signed. She encouraged the Commission to seriously consider this Study Issue rather than waiting for State action.

Tim Oey, Sunnyvale resident, is doing a coast-to-coast run to educate people on the pollution caused by single-use plastics. He noted that manufacturers should be responsible for the products they put out.

Chair Paton closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Kunz noted it may be worthwhile considering rephrasing the Study Issue to penalize rather than ban the use of plastic bags, to add some flexibility. Chair Paton suggested revising the title to reflect the range of alternatives appropriate for diminishing the use of single-use plastics. Commissioner Hafeman suggested rephrasing to identify the group of possible plastics and to identify bans that are easier to implement (e.g., straws and stirrers) versus those that are harder to implement. Commissioner Zornetzer suggested including a phased approach to implementation, to address easier items initially and eventually move to more challenging items.

Commissioner Padgett moved, and Commissioner Joesten seconded, a motion that the Commission sponsor this Study Issue, as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Yes: 7 -** Chair Paton  
Vice Chair Wickham  
Commissioner Hafeman  
Commissioner Kunz  
Commissioner Joesten  
Commissioner Padgett  
Commissioner Zornetzer

**No: 0**

[18-0734](#) Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

Vice Chair Wickham provided her overview of this Study Issue, which would include elements to cover aspects of the City's purchasing decisions without involving a calculation of carbon cost.

Nupur Hiremath, Sustainability Coordinator, shared that the City is already considering updating its existing Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy (EP3) and would bring it to the Commission for review and action in 2019.

The Commission agreed that Vice Chair Wickham should draft this Study Issue so that its elements can be evaluated against the new EP3 when presented to the Commission at a later date.

[18-0735](#) Potential Study Issue: Developer Carbon Impact Fees

Chair Wickham noted that following the presentation on transportation programs by the Director of Public Works, this Study Issue was more prescriptive in its approach than the otherwise flexible incentive-based approach the City follows. Chair Paton proposed including this concept as an addition to the Study Issue on Reducing GHG Emissions from All Residential and Non-Residential Construction.

[18-0825](#) Potential Study Issue: Evaluation of a Parking Pricing Program

Commissioner Joesten shared an overview of this Study Issue to require paid parking program for Sunnyvale employers to target transportation emissions from commuters into Sunnyvale. He observed that employers could consider excluding carpools or electric vehicles from the paid parking requirement. The Commission

discussed advantages and disadvantages of paid parking and agreed that a Study Issue on this topic was not needed at the moment.

#### 18-0826      Addressing Non-Recyclables in Recycling Carts

Commissioner Kunz stated that the objective of this Study Issue was to ensure that the City adequately monitors the degree of contamination of recyclables in Sunnyvale. Commissioner Kunz shared that there was an organization called Recycle Across America that creates labels that can be standardized and used across organizations to encourage correct recycling.

Ms. Hiremath shared that the City's Environmental Services Department assesses the contamination in the recycling collected communitywide in Sunnyvale roughly 2-3 times per year. She noted that Sunnyvale's contamination levels were 12-15%, which is lower than in most communities. Staff recently released a list of "dirty dozen," which were the top 12 most commonly found contaminants in the recycling. Staff is planning to have more concerted campaign efforts around education for this topic in 2019. Commissioner Kunz asked that staff share this data publicly.

### **NON-AGENDA ITEMS & COMMENTS**

#### **-Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Joesten shared that he had attended a meeting of the Moffett Park Business Group, where he had learned that the Cupertino Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a public-private partnership to develop an aerial roadway connecting key locations in San Jose, Cupertino, Mountain View, and San Jose airport to support autonomous-only vehicles.

Commissioner Wickham shared that she presented public comments on behalf of the Commission at a Council Meeting on August 28, 2018 to urge Council to sign a petition to Governor Brown to phase out the use of fossil fuels. She noted that Council is considering whether the new City Hall building should be LEED-Platinum or Zero Net Energy. She also attended several Global Climate Action Summit events related to transportation and energy and shared their highlights. She also shared that she attended a public outreach meeting on the City's Green Building Program Update where changes to the program appeared to be incremental.

Commissioner Paton expressed that he was pleased that the proposed design of the City Hall building including almost all the sustainable elements that the Commission had asked for. Chair Paton also shared that the Homestead High School's Future Business Leaders of America group was awarded the Environmental Achievement Award at the State of the City. He also attended Global

Climate Action Summit affiliate events.

Commissioner Padgett shared that she attended Parachutes for the Planet event at the Community Center earlier this evening. She also shared that she had listened to a podcast on how greener neighborhoods are also those with lower crime and observed that a holistic approach is necessary.

Commissioner Kunz stated that he attended the Coastal Cleanup Day with the Cub Scouts group and shared that volunteers collected more than 1,300 pounds of trash by the creek near the Water Pollution Control Plant. He also noted that he was disappointed about the incremental changes in the proposed Green Building Program Update.

#### **-Staff Comments**

Nupur Hiremath, Sustainability Coordinator, noted that the October agenda would include the draft 2019 Sustainability Speaker Series proposal and Study Issues. She noted there were several upcoming events of interest, including: (1) the Sustainability Speaker Series event, "The Power of Stuff" by Annie Leonard, on September 26 at 7:00 p.m.; (2) the Sunnyvale Tech Expo on September 27 at 11:30 a.m.; and (3) the Green Building Program update outreach meetings (tentative) on October 15 at 9:00 a.m. and October 17 at 6:00 p.m.

#### **INFORMATION ONLY REPORTS/ITEMS**

[18-0732](#) Proposed Study Issue: Require New Non-Residential Construction to Achieve Significant Improvements in Building Energy Performance

[18-0733](#) Proposed Study Issue: Encourage Adoption of Electric Vehicles

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.