



**SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

**City Hall Council Chambers
1000 San Pablo Avenue
July 18, 2012 – 7:30 p.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Cooper at 7:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Jennings, Lieberman, Price, Smith-Heimer, Wei, Cooper

Members Absent: None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3-1. Approve minutes from June 20, 2012 meeting

Approved with minor edit.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

None.

6. REPORTS

6-1. UC Village Project Update

Jeff Bond provided an update – The City Council approved the UC Village/Whole Foods Project at a special meeting on June 9th. They approved the EIR, an ordinance to rezone the property, and a development agreement with UC. They finalized approval of these items at a second meeting on June 16th.

6.2. Pierce St Parcel Project Update

Bond provided an update – The Parks & Rec Commission held a regular meeting on June 12th. They did a site walk, which Committee Member Price attended. They will be developing plans for the park and new maintenance center in the next few months.

6-3. CAP Implementation Update

Claire Griffing provided an update – The City has a Federal Safe Routes to School grant for SRTS non-infrastructure projects. Griffing will be working on the project. There are three years of funding to encourage walking and biking in Albany Schools. They're gearing up now for the programs that start in the fall. The focus is on expanding the program at the middle school and implementing monthly bike-and-walk to school days. This City was also recently awarded an infrastructure SRTS grant for pedestrian improvements at the corner of Marin and Curtis. Chair Cooper suggested adding a rain barrel display to the Arts & Green Festival.

6-4. MTC Parking Workshop Update

Griffing provided an update – There was a recent MTC parking workshop which gave some background on minimum parking requirements, discussed Berkeley's parking management system, and mentioned effective parking policies. Committee members discussed looking more closely at parking and the CAP, mentioned a PDA grant application, and asked to continue the discussion at a future meeting.

7. DISCUSSIONS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

7-1. Presentation and Discussion of Proposed Safeway Remodel

Jeff Bond gave a presentation on the proposed Safeway plans. Committee members expressed concern about the size of the store. Community members expressed concern about new bike racks not having enough spacing and the flow of traffic in the parking garage.

7-2. Presentation on High School Energy Audit

AHS recent graduate Madeleine Dunn gave a presentation on her research findings of several energy audits of School District facilities. She found that AHS accounts for 40% of AUSD's energy bill. She proposed easy solutions to save District money. Committee members were impressed by the presentation and by the amount of potential energy savings, and expressed the desire to continue this conversation with the District to ensure that

some of the proposed projects get done.

7-3. Establishment of Subcommittee in Partnership with the School Board to Focus on Environmental Sustainability in Albany Schools

Chair Cooper explained the 2X2 committee, School Board member Allan Maris said he will discuss the item with the School Board in August. There was some question about who can staff the subcommittee. The City can help support the committee but can't staff the meetings. Committee Member Wei and Chair Cooper volunteers to participate in the proposed subcommittee. Committee Member Lieberman offered to be an alternate.

7-4. Student Member Update and Certificate of Appreciation

The Committee unanimously passed a resolution in appreciation of former student Committee Member Pasang Wangmo.

7-5. Discussion of Participation in Complete Streets Plan for San Pablo Avenue and Buchanan Street

Griffing explained that Nelson/Nygaard Consultants will solicit community input for the Compete Streets design concept for San Pablo and Buchanan in the fall with a walking audit and a week-long charrette process. Price said it was important to include the freeway intersection in the discussion of project plans.

7-6. Update regarding EBMUD Plans for Community Choice Aggregation

Griffing explained that EBMUD decided to continue the feasibility study at a June 26th meeting. A final report is due in December. Board members had some hesitation about increased rates for customers. A meeting is scheduled with the EBMUD management staff and representatives from the cities of Berkeley, Oakland, and Emeryville.

7-7. Update regarding recalculating baseline and current greenhouse gas emissions reductions status in Climate Action Plan

Griffing provided an update – The City is going to receive a free Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Update from StopWaste.Org, in partnership with PG&E, ICLEI, the California Air Resources Board, and The Climate Registry. The update began with a workshop last week. Griffing will be working with a team of 4 interns to gather data and complete the inventory. Stopwaste and ICLEI are working with MTC to secure 2010 VMT data. A final report and presentation will be available in December. Charlie Blanchard spoke over the phone about his findings on the reductions in transportation emissions since 2005. He found a 19% reduction in VMT during this time period. This is consistent with the nationwide trend.

7-8. UUT Correspondence Update

Bond provided an update – The Committee's letter proposing a UUT on the November ballot was received by Council but the item was not agendaized. Committee members had not received any response from Council. The Committee dictated a letter explain their disappointment that the UUT was not agendaized and requesting an explanation and direction on how to address CAP funding measures in the future. The Committee unanimously approved the letter to be sent to Council.

7-9. Review monthly article for Albany Patch

Committee members reviewed the Patch article and decided to hold off on approval until a 3rd draft is brought.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Committee discussed future agenda items including a green building subcommittee update, discussion of parking issues, a draft of the patch article about CAP funding, continued discussion of the Safeway Project, and an Arts & Green Festival update. They'd also like to see a presentation from Janet on sustainable development and a low carbon diet presentation from a San Rafael Sustainability Committee member. They may also want to meet with a Sustainability Committee member from El Cerrito in the future.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 p.m.