



## SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING

City Hall Council Chambers, 1000 San Pablo Avenue  
Wednesday, January 21, 2015 – 7:30 p.m.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Wei at 7:31pm.

### 2. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Committee Member Cooper, Committee Member Golem, Committee Member Hartley, Committee Member Smith-Heimer, Committee Member Uhrhammer, Committee Member Yiu, Chair Wei

Members Absent: None.

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### A. Approve minutes from December 17, 2014 meeting

Approved.

### 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

### 5. ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

#### Introduce New Committee Member

New Committee Member Ruskin Hartley introduced himself and was welcomed by the Committee.

#### Background Information on City Use of Local Agency Investment Fund

Claire Griffing provided an update – City investments are chosen by the City Treasurer. Currently, all funds are invested in the Local Agency Investment Fund, which offers local agencies the opportunity to participate in a large, diversified portfolio where funds can be deposited or withdrawn on a daily basis. The majority of the funds are invested in the US treasury and other public agency securities. From what we can tell, it doesn't look like they invest in petroleum, but I could not find detailed information on their website beyond what we've shown you here.

Griffing provided an update on the County CCA program – they will be bringing a proposal for community outreach to their Board soon. Cities will be able to appoint someone to a technical advisory committee.

Committee Member Uhrhammer mentioned that the lecture on the impact man has had on the planet is not available online but the Earth Institute has a great website. He also emailed an article about the environmental impacts of artificial holiday trees.

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

A. **Adopt a Resolution of Appreciation for former Committee Member Charles Blanchard**  
**Motion:** Moved by Committee Member Smith-Heimer, seconded by Committee Member Cooper to adopt a Resolution of Appreciation for former Committee Member Charles Blanchard.

AYES: Members Present: Committee Member Cooper, Committee Member Golem, Committee Member Hartley, Committee Member Smith-Heimer, Committee Member Uhrhammer, Committee Member Yiu, Chair Wei

NOES: None

Absent: None

### **B. Arts & Green Festival Subcommittee Update**

Committee Member Cooper provided an update – The subcommittee is working to add more electric vehicles. There was discussion about the purpose of the festival and how to reach more people.

Public comment from Catherine Sutton, who encouraged promoting simple ways to help people live more sustainably. Public comment from Matt Petrofsky, who encouraged less focus on cars and more on bikes and public transportation.

**Motion:** Moved by Committee Member Smith-Heimer, seconded by Committee Member Cooper to establish a subcommittee consisting of Committee Members Smith-Heimer, Hartley, and Yiu to create materials for the Committee booth at the festival.

AYES: Members Present: Committee Member Cooper, Committee Member Golem, Committee Member Hartley, Committee Member Smith-Heimer, Committee Member Uhrhammer, Committee Member Yiu, Chair Wei

NOES: None

Absent: None

### **C. Outreach Meeting Update**

Chair Wei provided an update – Twelve members of the Green Coalition met on December 23<sup>rd</sup> and discussed developing a more cohesive communication network and boosting advocacy efforts. The next meeting will be held on January 28<sup>th</sup> at St. Alban's. Committee Member Smith-Heimer asked staff to agendize a discussion of how to incorporate outreach into regular committee meetings.

Public comment from Catherine Sutton: Transition Streets is starting a pilot and is looking for support from the Sustainability Committee.

### **D. Discuss 2015 Work Plan**

The committee suggested several edits to the work plan, including eliminating a duplicative line about outreach and use the term “recommend” rather than “explore” for the RECO policy.

Public comment from Ed Fields and Catherine Sutton.

**Motion:** Moved by Committee Member Smith-Heimer, seconded by Committee Member Cooper to approve the work plan with edits and bring to Council for review.

AYES: Members Present: Committee Member Cooper, Committee Member Golem, Committee Member Hartley, Committee Member Smith-Heimer, Committee Member Uhrhammer, Committee Member Yiu, Chair Wei

NOES: None

Absent: None

### **E. Discuss Possibility of Drafting a Residential Energy Conservation Ordinance (RECO) or Building Energy Saving Ordinance (BESO)**

Griffing provided an update – The RECO/BESO update has still not passed in the City of Berkeley and will go to Council for discussion again in late January. The committee asked for clarification on the proposed policy in Berkeley. Committee Member Golem said it would be helpful to see what audits PG&E offers and the cost and suggested using the term assessment instead. Committee Member Hartley inquired as to how this fits with current City green building codes and asked how to address the high percentage of rental units which have low renovation

and turnover rates. Chair Wei asked how many homes are retrofitted in Albany. Committee Member Hartley suggested setting a policy of required upgrades up to a certain point, and providing incentives for anything above that. Staff will research questions and provide more information next month.

#### **F. CAP Target Subcommittee Update**

Staff provided a suggested timeline leading ultimately to a recommendation to City Council. Committee Member Smith-Heimer asked to be removed from the subcommittee and Committee Member Hartley volunteered to be added. The committee discussed adding a goal in the General Plan in the next couple of months. They will first draft a goal and broad vision statement and then look further into details after that point.

Public comment from Preston Jordan and Catherine Sutton, who urged the Committee to not take credit in the greenhouse gas inventory for businesses leaving Albany.

#### **Update on Senior Housing Portion of the UC Village Development Project**

Jeff Bond provided an update on the project and the committee expressed discontent with the proposed sustainability features of the project. Bond said that legally the City cannot impose further requirements on the developer.

Public Comment from Ed Fields, Catherine Sutton and Preston Jordan, who all said LEED Gold was not enough.

#### **G. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair for 2015**

**Motion:** Moved by Committee Member Cooper, seconded by Committee Member Smith-Heimer to reelect Chair Wei.

AYES: Members Present: Committee Member Cooper, Committee Member Golem, Committee Member Hartley, Committee Member Smith-Heimer, Committee Member Uhrhammer, Committee Member Yiu, Chair Wei

NOES: None

Absent: None

**Motion:** Moved by Chair Wei, seconded by Committee Member Cooper to elect Committee Member Golem as Vice Chair.

AYES: Members Present: Committee Member Cooper, Committee Member Golem, Committee Member Hartley, Committee Member Smith-Heimer, Committee Member Uhrhammer, Committee Member Yiu, Chair Wei

NOES: None

Absent: None

### **7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The Committee discussed future agenda items, including future outreach meetings, revisiting the green building code, continued discussion of RECO/BESO, the UC Village Senior Housing Project and how to work more effectively with Council, as well as updates on the Arts & Green Festival, and the CAP target.

#### **A. Next regular meeting – February 18, 2015**

### **8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 pm.