



## SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING

City Hall Conference Room, 1000 San Pablo Avenue  
Wednesday, May 20, 2015 – 7:30 p.m.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Wei at 7:30pm.

### 2. ROLL CALL

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

Members Absent: Committee Member Howard

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### A. Approve minutes from April 15, 2015 meeting

Approved with minor edit.

### 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Katherine Sutton discussed the Every Drop Counts events and said they'd be showing a film on Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>.

### 5. ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

Claire Griffing said the new student member Sophia Howard will begin serving on the Committee next month.

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

#### A. Adopt a Resolution of Appreciation for former Committee Member Faustine Yiu

*Recommendation: Adopt resolution.*

**Motion:** Moved by Committee Member Cooper, seconded by Committee Member Smith-Heimer to adopt a resolution of appreciation for former Committee Member Faustine Yiu

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

NOES: None

Absent: Committee Member Howard

#### B. Discussion of joining additional property assessed clean energy (PACE) financing programs and presentation regarding Open PACE Program

*Recommendation: Recommend that City Council approve joining the Open PACE Platform.*

Griselda Blackburn gave a presentation regarding the Open PACE Program. Staff outlined which programs nearby cities have joined. The Committee asked questions about the JPA and how it compares to other PACE programs. The Committee decided to join Open PACE because it does not require joining an additional JPA, and elected to reconsider joining additional programs in six months.

Public comment from Preston Jordan, who agreed with the approach and sees AllianceNRG as a good program. Seismic retrofits are a key sustainability issue because they minimize the need to rebuild after a disaster.

**Motion:** Moved by Committee Member Smith-Heimer, seconded by Vice Chair Golem to recommend to Council to pass a resolution to join the Open PACE Program and for staff to update the Committee in six months on whether the available PACE programs meet the needs of the City.

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

NOES: None

Absent: Committee Member Howard

### **C. Review of draft Building Energy Savings Ordinance (BESO)**

*Recommendation: The Committee should discuss potential thresholds and timelines.*

Committee Member Smith-Heimer asked for more information on what percentage of households are actually in need of major upgrades. They also asked about how to expedite changes in rental properties. They also discussed possible incentives, like Berkeley's transfer tax. They discussed possible modifications to Berkeley's ordinance, including changing the schedule to every 10 years for all sectors for a more streamlined program. Chair Wei said the assessment may not have a big impact. The committee asked for a modified matrix with options for compliance schedules and a sample audit report.

Public comment was received from Preston Jordan, who cautioned against changing the schedule because it won't be worth the political pressure, but agreed that a date certain requirement makes sense for rental single-family homes. He encouraged the Committee to think about where staff resources for administering this program will come from. He asked how this will apply to condominiums, which use way less energy per unit than single-families even though they're in a "large" building. How will reports address on site solar generation? He also encouraged them to rename the ordinance to an audit ordinance rather than a savings ordinance.

Public comment from Naomi Roht-Arriaza, who encouraged the committee to figure out when they should bring in political opposition, and said they may want to save the fight for the RECO ordinance.

### **D. Discussion of water conservation practices at City Facilities**

*Recommendation: Information only. No action required.*

Staff shared information on current water conservation efforts in the City and discussed EBMUD's reclaimed water project. The Committee talked about ways to encourage EBMUD to extend the project to Albany. Committee Member Hartley said there are portions of grass on the Ohlone Greenway that are not used and should be taken out.

Public comment from Preston Jordan, who asked if funding for the project could be a part of the new EBMUD rate increase, and suggested putting up a sign showing where Albany is with its water reduction efforts.

**Motion:** Moved by Committee Member Cooper, seconded by Chair Wei to recommend that City Council pass a resolution expressing its strong desire that EBMUD complete its recycled water project to Albany.

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

NOES: None

Absent: Committee Member Howard

**E. Update on outreach activities**

*Recommendation: Information only. No action required.*

Chair Wei provided an update – he met with Peggy McQuaid to discuss reaching the 2020 CAP goal, and she said the Committee needs to make a more compelling case and have a better plan for using the revenues. Committee Member Smith-Heimer scheduled a meeting and will report back at the next meeting.

Public comment from Preston Jordan, who suggested taking the inventory to Council.

The Committee deferred conversations regarding the Arts & Green Festival and the ACRAT event to the next meeting.

**F. Parking Study Update**

*Recommendation: The Committee should establish a subcommittee to attend meetings regarding the upcoming parking study.*

Jeff Bond provided an update – the City has a grant from ACTC and has hired a consultant to conduct a parking study for residential and commercial areas. The City is in the data collection phase.

Public comment from Preston Jordan, who said we don't know the parking ramifications for self-driving vehicles.

**G. CCA Steering Committee Update**

*Recommendation: Information only. No action required.*

The Committee deferred this conversation to the next meeting.

**H. Report on California Building Standards Code Requirements for Gray Water Systems**

*Recommendation: Information only. No action required.*

The Committee deferred this conversation to the next meeting.

**7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The Committee discussed future agenda items, including a continued discussion of BESO, CAP funding at CAP targets, as well as updates on outreach, water usage and the parking study. Staff will bring back items that were deferred to the next meeting.

**A. Next regular meeting – June 17, 2015**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:17 pm.