

THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL  
UNTIL APPROVED BY THE  
CULVER CITY  
SUSTAINABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CULVER CITY SUSTAINABILITY  
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

October 19, 2016  
3:00 p.m.

**Call to Order & Roll Call**

Council Member Eriksson called the meeting of the Sustainability Subcommittee of the City Council to order at 3:00 p.m. in the Mike Balkman Chambers at City Hall.

Present:           Göran Eriksson, Council Member  
                  Meghan Sahli-Wells, Council Member

Staff Present: Charles Herbertson, Public Works Director  
                  Kim Braun, Environmental Programs Operations  
  Manager  
                  Helen Chin, Management Analyst  
                  Joe Susca, Senior Management Analyst

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**Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda**

Council Member Eriksson invited public comment.

The following members of the audience addressed the Subcommittee:

Sandrine Cassidy, Ballona Creek Renaissance, thanked the Subcommittee for their discussion on polystyrene at the last meeting; she urged the Subcommittee to consider a full ban of polystyrene; discussed the actions of other cities; the volatile recycling market; the burden on the businesses; alternatives; the number of businesses affected; the hardship burden in the ordinance; education; litter control; cities in California that have already

adopted the ban; actions necessary to be a green City; the problems that occur before the recycling process; and she indicated that Ballona Creek Renaissance was committed to helping.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding staff efforts and continued consideration of the matter.

Deborah Gregory, Ballona Creek Renaissance, echoed comments made by Sandrine Cassidy.

Craig Cadwallader, Surfrider Foundation, reported that Pasadena had moved to ban polystyrene; discussed the lack of a market for polystyrene; costs for the recycling program in Pasadena; the pilot program; costs to the City; the result for the environment; fiscal responsibility; tangible financial results; different types of polystyrene; health issues; hardship clauses; recycling options; and he urged the City to enact a ban.

Charles Herbertson, Public Works Director, introduced two new staff members: Helen Chin and Kim Braun.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding changes made to the draft survey; outreach; next steps in the process; survey results; and timing.

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### **Order of the Agenda**

No changes were made.

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### **Agenda Items**

Item A-1

### **Approval of Minutes from the September 14, 2016 Meeting**

MOVED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SAHLI-WELLS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ERIKSSON AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE SUSTAINABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2016 MEETING.

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Item A-2

**Discussion of Best Practices for Waste Collection,  
Processing and Recycling with the Aim to Reach a 75%  
Diversion Rate Within a Few Years; and Eventually, Zero  
Waste**

Council Member Eriksson discussed food waste; diversion rates; the test with the secondary Materials Recovery Facility (MRF); education; consideration of adding a second recycling center in the City; pricing as a control mechanism to encourage businesses to start using blue bins and green waste bins; diversion rates in Sweden; recycling instructions on packaging; putting stickers on the bins to educate; continued reminders and education; and the short-term goal of 75% with a long-term goal of 99%.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding the current diversion rate; information from the state; state-wide standards; composting; food waste; logistical issues; restaurants and schools; clean food waste and clean recycling; expanding hazardous waste programs; dirty MRFing; commercial waste; the Climate Action Plan in the General Plan; setting the tone for all City policy; redesigning commercial and restaurant spaces; troubleshooting issues to consider the consequences of changes; partnering with businesses; deadlines to meet goals; actions of other cities; opportunities for new businesses; outreach opportunities; new technologies; space constraints; available options; using a two-can system; wet/dry waste; behavioral changes; digester use; and small textile recycling.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding the amount of organic material in the black bin; subcommittee input; next steps in the process; and the Sustainability Plan and the General Plan.

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Item A-3

**Study the Addition of a Second Recycling Center**

Catherine Vargas reported that David Voncannon had requested examination of adding an additional recycling facility in the City; she discussed previous experiences the City has had working with recycling facilities on grocery store property; and resident concerns with proximity to recycling facilities.

Discussion ensued between Subcommittee Members and staff regarding publishing the location of nearby recycling facilities to encourage use on the City website; concern with losing revenue to other facilities; CRV value; sustainability goals; the volatility of the market; the effects of recycling facilities on surrounding areas; and homeless services.

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Item A-4

**Set a Date to Tour CR&R's Anaerobic Digestion Facility in Perris, CA**

Catherine Vargas, Public Works, discussed time required for the tour; distance to the facility; transportation; and potential dates.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding agreement to tour the facility on December 13; availability of the tour to staff and Council Members; transportation; publicizing the event to the public; and Brown Act issues.

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Item A-5

**Next Meeting Date**

Discussion ensued between Subcommittee Members and staff regarding the proposed meeting `dates for 2017; holding additional meetings as needed; the Climate Action Plan; using the Subcommittee to help convene public outreach; holding workshops; topics for the next meeting; previously

addressed items; and encouragement to contact staff with items of interest.

The Sustainability Subcommittee agreed upon the following schedule of meeting dates in 2017:

January 18, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.  
April 19, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.  
July 19, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.  
October 18, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

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**Public Comment for Items NOT on the Agenda**

Council Member Eriksson invited public participation.

The following member of the audience addressed the Subcommittee.

Michelle Weiner, Transition Culver City, indicated her interest in a polystyrene ordinance; she discussed the Manhattan Beach ordinance; the time frame for compliance; she reported on her research visiting coffee houses in Manhattan Beach; discussed materials used by Starbucks; and she expressed support for an ordinance.

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**Items from Subcommittee Members**

Council Member Sahli-Wells expressed support for the new City website but reported that the Sustainability page is now gone; she wanted to ensure that the Sustainability work being done is communicated to residents; and she noted that Culver City has often been at the forefront of sustainability and that should be publicized.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding reinstatement of the page on the website; highlighting sustainability issues; and ease of access to information.

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**Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 4:12 p.m., the Sustainability Subcommittee of the City Council adjourned its meeting to January 18, 2016.

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Jeremy Green  
SECRETARY of the Culver City Sustainability Subcommittee of  
the City Council Culver City, California

APPROVED

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Göran Eriksson  
Council Member, Sustainability Subcommittee of the City  
Council Culver City, California