

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

April 19, 2017  
2:00 p.m.

**Call to Order & Roll Call**

Council Member Eriksson called the meeting of the Sustainability Subcommittee of the City Council to order at 2:00 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  
Joe Susca, Senior Management Analyst  
Kim Braun, Environmental Programs and  
Operations Manager  
Helen Chin, Management Analyst

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

Council Member Eriksson invited public comment.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

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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 March 1, 2017 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 MARCH 1, 2017 MEETING.

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Item A-2

**Discussion of Regulating Leaf Blower Use in Culver City**

Patrick Reynolds, Parks Manager, provided background on himself; discussed research on leaf blowers; and he provided a presentation on leaf blowers including benefits, concerns and misconceptions, noise levels, technological advances, national standards, gas vs. electric, challenges of a ban, enforcement, alternatives and amendments to the City ordinance.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding ongoing increased costs associated with using electric blowers; existing regulations; educating the public on regulations; empowering the public; code enforcement; business licenses; helping encourage good practices in the private sector; standards and conditions of approval for large developments; outreach; the current upgrade replacement program; and usage restrictions.

Council Member Eriksson invited public comment.

The following members of the audience addressed the Subcommittee:

Robert Hirschhorn discussed allergies; toxic air pollution; noise pollution; engine fumes; materials that are blown around by leaf blowers; findings of the California Air Resources Board; carcinogens; putting residents at risk of increased illness; leaf blower use in residential areas; experiments conducted by the Department of Water and Power;

manual leaf cleaning machines; information from the City of Santa Monica website; the case against leaf blowers; views of Sustainability Subcommittee Members; City maintenance constraints; and bans in other cities.

Steve Rose suggested places to buy leaf blowers; discussed impacts of a ban on car dealerships and other businesses; increased costs associated with a ban on leaf blowers; higher rents; affordable housing; concern with enforcement; professional maintenance companies; and the agreement between Westfield and the Redevelopment Agency.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding sharing best practices with Home Owner Associations; outreach; training; educational materials for those taking care of common areas; air quality issues; consideration of bans within Home Owner Associations; encouragement, education and empowerment; helping underpaid commercial gardeners; the Southern California Air Quality Management District Exchange Program; lawnmowers; noise regulations; staff development of guidelines to train residents; setting landscape best practices within Conditions of Approval for new projects; adding to the existing ordinance; conditions in the current ordinance; City Council consideration; whether to ban sales in Culver City stores; next steps in the process; the transition timeline; reasonable standards; the annual certification of leaf blowers in San Marino; regulations on what can be sold and what can be used; and additional opportunities for public input.

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Item A-3

**Discussion of Progress Report on Education and Outreach Plans for Polystyrene Ban**

Kim Braun, Environmental Programs and Operations Manager, provided a summary of the material of record.

The following member of the audience addressed the Committee:

Craig Cadwallader, Surfrider Foundation, thanked staff and Council Members for moving forward with the ordinance; discussed helping businesses move forward in a logical and

efficient manner; creation of the Approved Polystyrene Food Service Item List; and the number of cities that have adopted a ban in the state of California.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding adding items on an as needed basis; research; and staff generation of recommendations.

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Item A-4

**Continued Discussion About Progress Report on Questions  
from the December 12, 2016 City Council Meeting**

Kim Braun, Environmental Programs and Operations Manager, reported receipt of 20 new trash/recycling containers for installation on the Bike Path with implementation expected by the end of May; she discussed cost analysis and feasibility of adding additional containers at the bus stops; the volunteer worker program; signage for drop off locations; and businesses added to the commercial organics program.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding a request for an update at the second reading of the Polystyrene Ban on May 8; making changes that are aligned with providers; ways to eliminate confusion; and items for consideration by the Subcommittee.

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

Council Member Eriksson invited public participation.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

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**Items from Subcommittee Members**

None.

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**Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 4:43 p.m., the Sustainability Subcommittee of the City Council adjourned its meeting to July 19, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

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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