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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

November 28, 2017  
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  
Joe Susca, Senior Management Analyst  
Kim Braun, Environmental Programs and  
Operations Manager  
Helen Chin, Management Analyst  
Jane Leonard, Transportation Management Analyst

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**Order of the Agenda**

No changes were made.

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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.

Council Member Sahli-Wells distributed informational fliers on the Inglewood Oil Field with a timeline for public comment.

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**Agenda Items**

Item A-1

**Approval of Minutes for the July 13, 2017 Sustainability Subcommittee Meeting**

THE SUSTAINABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
APPROVED MINUTES FOR THE JULY 13, 2017 MEETING.

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Item A-2

**Loyola Marymount University (LMU) Presentation on Rain Garden Efficiency of the Culver City Rain Garden**

John Dorsey, LMU, introduced graduate student Jamie Burkhardt.

Jamie Burkhardt provided a presentation on water infiltration and pollutant sequestration in the Ballona Creek Rain Garden; discussed water quality issues; polluted runoff; dry vs. wet weather in Ballona Creek; run off contaminants; low impact development; infiltrating water into the ground; ecosystem services; biofiltration systems; sliding scale implementation; the Bay Foundation; construction costs for the commercial and residential rain gardens; measuring the flow for the inlets and outlets; pollutants measured; sampling and lab work for the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 seasons; samples per storm event; bacteria samples; calculating pollutant loads; flow measurements; average pollutant concentration; pollutant removal efficiency; infiltration capacity; pollution retention rate within the garden; and the finding that the gardens are doing a very good job.

John Dorsey, LMU, discussed long range climate predictions; natural groundwater; enhancing biodiversity; measuring concentrations; retention rates; the importance of monitoring the flow and the concentration; and studying

metals sequestered in the soils of the rain gardens and in plant species.

Discussion ensued between Committee Members and LMU presenters regarding filtration; where the water is going; soil remediation; measuring the saturation point; effectiveness; fungi; compost; opportunities for the City to work with LMU; policy solutions; best practices; keeping communication open; deepening research; the intent for gardens along Ballona Creek; connecting the watershed to Santa Monica Bay; the timeframe for taking soil and plant samples; work with Cal State Los Angeles; solar powered waste water wheels; and floating wetlands.

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Item A-3

**SCE Presentation of their New Tesla Battery Storage System Located in Ontario, CA**

Brent Buffington, Southern California Edison (SCE), discussed the Mira Loma battery project; generalized energy trends in storage; asset optimization and performance reporting; hydro operations planning; capital upgrades to power plants; greenhouse gas reduction goals; renewable energy goals; hydroelectric; the amount of renewable electric consumption in California; demand fluctuation; the Duck Curve; demand response; energy efficiency; offsetting big capital infrastructure costs; energy storage targets; AB 2514; Mira Loma; power packs; inverters; and Aliso Canyon.

Discussion ensued between Mr. Buffington and Committee Members regarding environmental concerns; demonstration sites; solar troughs; life expectancy for the batteries; the degradation curve; proper discharge of batteries; mobile energy storage; potential applications; the process for charging; renewable classifications for hydro power above and below 30 megawatts; disincentivizing new dams; existing hydro resources; Hoover Dam; gas storage in Playa del Rey; customer incentives; Stem; and Behind the Meter Battery Storage.

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Item A-4

**Presentation of Culver City's Sustainable Business  
Certification Program Progress**

Joe Susca, Senior Management Analyst, provided background information on Shea Cunningham and the City's Sustainable Business Certification program.

Shea Cunningham, Balanced Approach, discussed the scope of work for the Sustainable Business Certification program; progress to date; program elements; partners; benefits for participating businesses; efforts by Akasha to become a Zero Waste business; annual savings for LED lighting retrofits; Culver Works; the amount of water savings annually; and she announced a celebration for the certified businesses on February 22 at Akasha with a presentation of certificates by the Mayor.

Joe Susca, Senior Management Analyst, reported that all businesses that have obtained certifications would be recognized at the February 12, 2018 City Council meeting.

Discussion ensued between Ms. Cunningham, staff and Subcommittee Members regarding lessons learned in the process; increased outreach; interest from businesses; schools and daycare centers; going beyond the original three sectors considered; concern with 5-6 businesses that dropped out of the process; the work of Loyola Marymount University; work with businesses outside of the program; reducing food waste; the food recovery pyramid; AB 1826; coordination with the City; bike racks; work with Rush Street; increased efficiency; renewals; implementation of the polystyrene ban; outreach and information provided; and the Bay Foundations Clean Restaurants Program.

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Item A-5

**Discussion of MSRC's Clean Transportation Funding Through  
SCAQMD**

Jane Leonard, Transportation Management Analyst, provided background on the Mobile Source Reduction Committee (MSRC) program and the association with AB 2766; discussed

quantifiable projects; emission reductions; MSRC projects; competitive voluntary grant processes; funding; how funds can be spent; Zero or Near Zero Emission purchases; historical use; identifying needs; replacement of CNG front loaders for sanitation; the process; and educational presentations on how to reduce emissions.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding renewable CNG; electric vehicle funding; increasing the number of charging stations; government funding; cost differences for private vs. public access; Culver City Transit; infrastructure for electric bus charging; the carbon footprint with Renewable Natural Gas; electric buses; sanitation trucks; wear and tear on the roads; fuel sources; negative greenhouse gas values; the California Air Resources Board; fuel sources; battery technology; how electricity is produced; micro transit; autonomous vehicles; and the importance of communication and identifying opportunities.

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Item A-6

**Proposed Future Sustainability Subcommittee Meetings, to Occur on the Third Wednesday of Each Quarter**

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding scheduling and room access; future topics for discussion; Roundup; the Energy Coalition partnership; GHG inventory; development of the Climate Action Plan; grant opportunities; lead plumbing; the Culver City School District; water sampling; food waste; initial volumes; commercial and residential; recycling markets; and mandated diversion.

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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**

Council Member Sahli-Wells noted that when the Climate Action Plan is considered, meetings would be scheduled at a more accessible time for the public.

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**Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 5:08 p.m., the Sustainability Subcommittee of the City Council adjourned its meeting to January 17, 2018 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