



Community Environmental Advisory Commission

## INFORMATION CALENDAR

July 16, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
 From: Community Environmental Advisory Commission (CEAC)  
 Submitted by: Ben Gould, Chairperson, CEAC  
 Subject: Community Environmental Advisory Commission 2019 Work Plan

### INTRODUCTION

The Community Environmental Advisory Commission (CEAC) is responsible for developing a plan, prioritizing strategies, and making recommendations for environmental protection, hazardous materials and reduction, with outreach to and education of the public, small businesses and industry.

The members of CEAC also consider climate adaptation and environmental justice to fall under the scope of the commission.

CEAC has historically worked on a wide range of topics. Past projects include a proposed ordinance requiring CO<sub>2</sub> warning labels on gas station pumps, a cigarette butt recycling receptacle pilot program in Downtown Berkeley, a community pamphlet on gardening and lead-safe practices, recommendations on mitigating stormwater and lead paint hazards, policies to address indoor air quality hazards, and more.

CEAC commissioners bring a wide range of expertise in federal, state, and local government, as well as academia, nonprofit, and private sector environmental work. These backgrounds inform CEAC's work and help it to consider diverse and equitable approaches to addressing the City's environmental challenges.

This work plan is intended to provide a guide to the work CEAC plans to take on in 2019. As additional items or issues arise, or are referred to the Commission from Council, CEAC will adjust this plan accordingly.

At its May 21, 2019 meeting, the Commission approved the 2019 Work Plan. M/S/C (Ticconi/Hetzel). Ayes: Simmons, Ticconi, Hetzel, Goldhaber, Gould. Noes: None. Absent: Varnhagen, De Leon, Gonzales. Abstained: None.

### CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Currently, there are numerous City commissions dealing with a range of environmental issues. Because of the specialized expertise available on those commissions, and the

broad scope of its mission of “environmental protection”, CEAC frequently serves as a catch-all for environmental issues.

As a result, CEAC has identified the following projects as goals for 2019:

<b>Project</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Target Date</b>	<b>Lead</b>
Cigarette Butt Receptacles	Evaluate pilot program and provide recommendations	Commission report and recommendation to Council	July 2019	Varnhagen
Gas Station CO <sub>2</sub> Labeling	Request Council elevate priority of item	Letter to Council	July 2019	Goldhaber
Green Stormwater Infrastructure	Work with Council and Staff to improve recommendations on GSI	Recommendation to Council	September 2019	Hetzel
Community Reporting of Pollutants	Develop a booklet on community reporting of pollutants	Booklet for distribution	June 2019	Gonzales
Vegetation & Fire Safety	Develop a booklet on fire-safe vegetation and plant management approaches	Booklet for distribution	September 2019	Simmons
Environmental Legislation Literacy	Develop strategies and guidance for enhancing community understanding of environmental legislation	TBD	December 2019	Simmons
Electric Vehicles	Request hotels and Airbnb to provide information on EV charging availability at time of booking	Draft letter for Council to send to hotels and Airbnb	June 2019	Gould

Green Open Space	Provide recommendations to Council on strategies to increase and enhance green open space in Berkeley	Recommendation to Council	December 2019	Gould
Lead Paint	Support Council and Staff in developing a robust lead paint education and enforcement program	Staff produce an interim report	December 2019	Goldhaber
Bee City	Provide recommendations to Council on strategies for supporting bee habitats in Berkeley	Recommendation to Council	July 2019	Ticconi
Bird Safety	Provide draft ordinance for Council to adopt to require bird safety practices for new construction	Recommendation to Council	May 2019	Goldhaber
Sustainable Built Environment	Provide recommendations to Council on strategies to enhance sustainability and reduce carbon footprints in the built environment	Recommendation to Council	December 2019	Gould
Departmental Coordination for Environmental Protection	Analyze City interdepartmental environmental coordination efforts, e.g. managing firefighting foam runoff, and provide an analysis and recommendations	Report for Council, the City Auditor, and the City Manager	December 2019	Hetzel

**BACKGROUND**

Cigarette Butt Receptacles: CEAC is evaluating the Downtown Berkeley pilot project and providing recommendations on expanding, including to other parts of Berkeley.

Gas Station CO<sub>2</sub> Labeling: In 2015 a referral was passed to require gas stations to label pumps with a CO<sub>2</sub> warning.

Green Stormwater Infrastructure: A recommendation was sent to Council in 2018. Council referred discussion to subcommittee. Staff are developing stormwater management plan.

Community Reporting of Pollutants: Creating a booklet to assist community members in reporting pollutants.

Vegetation & Fire Safety: Developing recommendations around vegetation management and fire safety.

Environmental Legislation Literacy: Developing strategies to enhance community awareness and understanding of environmental legislation.

Electric Vehicles: Researching and recommending strategies to drive EV uptake in Berkeley.

Green Open Space: Working to identify and recommend strategies to increase and enhance green open space in Berkeley, ensure it is healthy and safe to use, and provide habitat and nourishment for desirable flora and fauna.

Lead Paint: A recommendation was sent to Council in 2018. Council adopted city manager's recommendations.

Bee City: CEAC is supporting and coordinating with CalPERS students.

Bird Safety: CEAC is drafting an ordinance for Council.

Sustainable Built Environment: Researching and recommending strategies to ensure a sustainable built environment.

Departmental Coordination for Environmental Protection: CEAC is concerned that environmental protection may not be effectively trained across City departments, after firefighting foams made their way into Cordonices Creek during firefighting operations. CEAC is going to request information from City staff on existing policies, practices, and procedures and provide a report on findings regarding opportunities to ensure a culture of environmental protection exists throughout City departments.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The projects which CEAC is working on will improve environmental sustainability through a wide variety of methods.

#### FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

Future action items that CEAC may send to City Council could require staff time to develop, finalize, and/or implement. CEAC strives to ensure proposals provide

significant net triple bottom line benefits to the City when evaluating total costs and benefits across environmental, equity, and economic impacts.

CONTACT PERSON

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