



Energy Commission

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE COMMISSION

Wednesday, February 26, 2025, 6:00 PM
North Berkeley Senior Center
1901 Hearst Avenue

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The City of Berkeley recognizes that the community we live in was built on the territory of xučyun (Huchiun (Hooch-yoon)), the ancestral and unceded land of the Chochenyo (Cho-chen-yo)-speaking Ohlone (Oh-low-nee) people, the ancestors and descendants of the sovereign Verona Band of Alameda County. This land was and continues to be of great importance to all of the Ohlone Tribes and descendants of the Verona Band. As we begin our meeting tonight, we acknowledge and honor the original inhabitants of Berkeley, the documented 5,000-year history of a vibrant community at the West Berkeley Shellmound, and the Ohlone people who continue to reside in the East Bay. We recognize that Berkeley’s residents have and continue to benefit from the use and occupation of this unceded stolen land since the City of Berkeley’s incorporation in 1878. As stewards of the laws regulating the City of Berkeley, it is not only vital that we recognize the history of this land, but also recognize that the Ohlone people are present members of Berkeley and other East Bay communities today. The City of Berkeley will continue to build relationships with the Lisjan Tribe and to create meaningful actions that uphold the intention of this land acknowledgement.

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Commissioner	Appointed by	District
vacant	Ishii	Mayor
Ranney, Sarah	Kesarwani	District 1
LaBonte, Alison	Taplin	District 2
McGuire, Brianna	Bartlett	District 3
Tahara, Daniel	Tregub	District 4
vacant	O’Keefe	District 5
Guliasi, Les	Blackaby	District 6
Kessleman, Misha	Lunaparra	District 7
Binns, Kera	Humbert	District 8
Athanasiou, Mabel	Youth Commissioner	
Syed, Shanza	Youth Commissioner	

2. **Public Comment:** Comments on subjects not included on the agenda (3-minute limit per individual)
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Approval of Minutes from last meeting (January 22, 2025)
4. **Agenda Check:** Commissioners may rearrange items on the agenda
5. **Update from Chair** (Brianna McGuire)
6. **Update from Staff** (Sarah Moore, Rebecca Milliken)

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

7. **Discussion and Action:** Annual election of officers
8. **Discussion and Action:** Finalize Draft 2025 Environment & Climate Commission Workplan
9. **Discussion and Action: Workplan Subcommittee Updates:** Expiration of 2024 Subcommittees and formation of 2025 Subcommittees based on 2025 Workplan
 - a. Electrification Equity and Access (LaBonte, Kesselman, Tahara, Guliasi)
 - b. Water Conservation and Management (Ranney, Syed)
10. **Commission Liaison Reports**
 - a. Planning Commission (Alison LaBonte)
 - b. Transportation and Infrastructure Commission (vacant)
 - c. Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission (vacant)
 - d. Zero Waste Commission (Sarah Ranney and Mabel Athanasiou)
 - e. Disaster and Fire Safety Commission (Les Guliasi)
 - f. Housing Advisory Commission (Kera Binns)
 - g. Council Policy Subcommittees (Brianna McGuire)
11. **Potential Items for Future Agenda**
 - a. [Measure FF Safe Streets](#) Oversight Committee (March)
 - b. Annual Climate Action and Resilience Update (April)
 - c. Reach Codes
 - d. [Green New Deal Council Referral](#)
 - e. Cesar Chavez Landfill
 - f. Transfer Station

INFORMATION ITEMS

12. **Communications**
13. **Announcements from Commissioners**

ADJOURNMENT

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*This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54953. Any member of the public may attend this meeting. Questions regarding this matter may be addressed to Sarah Moore, 510-981-7494, [smoore@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:smoore@berkeleyca.gov).*

*Communications to Berkeley boards, commissions or committees are public record and will become part of the City's electronic records, which are accessible through the City's website. Please note: E-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required but, if included in any communication to a City board, commission, or committee, will become part of the public record. If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission, or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the secretary to the relevant board, commission, or committee for further information.*

*Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the Planning Department located at 1947 Center Street.*

**COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION:**

This meeting is being held in a wheelchair-accessible location. To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.

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 I hereby certify that the agenda for this regular/special meeting of the Berkeley City Commission on Commissions was posted at the display case located near the walkway in front of the Maudelle Shirek Building, 2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, as well as on the City's website.
 Sarah Moore, Commission Secretary



Environment & Climate Commission

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE COMMISSION DRAFT MINUTES
Wednesday, January 22, 2025

Commissioner	Appointed by	District
vacant	Ishii	Mayor
Ranney, Sarah	Kesarwani	District 1
LaBonte, Alison	Taplin	District 2
McGuire, Brianna	Bartlett	District 3
Tahara, Daniel	Tregub	District 4
vacant	O'Keefe	District 5
Guliasi, Les	Blackaby	District 6
Kesselman, Misha	Lunaparra	District 7
Binns, Kera	Humbert	District 8
Athanasίου, Mabel	Youth Commissioner	
Syed, Shanza	Youth Commissioner	

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm

Commissioners Present: Ranney, LaBonte, McGuire, Tahara, Guliasi, Kesselman, Binns, Athanasίου

Commissioner Leave of Absence: None

Commissioner Absent: Syed

Staff: Sarah Moore, Rebecca Milliken

2. Public Comments (Non-Agenda Items):

2 member(s) of the Public

2 comment(s)

3. Approval of Minutes:

Motion/second to approve the December 4, 2024 Minutes (LaBonte, Kesselman). The motion carried: 7-0-1-1; **Ayes:** Ranney, LaBonte, McGuire, Guliasi, Kesselman, Binns, Athanasίου. **Noes:** None. **Abstain:** Tahara. **Absent:** Syed

4. Agenda Check

5. Update from Chair

6. Update from Staff

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

7. **Discussion:** Annual election of officers at February 26, 2025 meeting
[Public Comments: 0]
8. **Discussion:** 2025 Environment & Climate Commission Workplan [Public Comments: 1]
9. **Commission Liaisons Reports**
 - a. Planning Commission (LaBonte)
 - b. Transportation and Infrastructure Commission (vacant)
 - c. Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission (vacant)
 - d. Zero Waste Commission (Ranney and Athanasiou)
 - e. Disaster and Fire Safety Commission (Guliasi)
 - f. Housing Advisory Commission (Binns)
 - g. Council Policy Subcommittees (McGuire)
10. **Workplan Subcommittee Updates**
 - a. Electrification Equity and Access (LaBonte, Kesselman, Tahara, Guliasi)
 - b. Water Conservation and Management (Ranney, Syed)
11. **Potential Items for Future Agenda**
 - a. Officer Election (February)
 - b. Workplan (February)
 - c. [Green New Deal Council Referral](#)
 - d. [Measure FF Safe Streets](#) Oversight Committee
 - e. Cesar Chavez Landfill
 - f. Transfer Station

[Public Comments: 0]

INFORMATION ITEMS

12. Communications

13. Announcements from Commissioners

ADJOURNMENT

Motion/second to adjourn at 7:47 pm (Binns, Ranney)

Minutes Approved:

/S/ Sarah Moore, Berkeley Environment & Climate Commission Secretary



Environment and Climate Commission

INFORMATION CALENDAR
XXXXX, 2025

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Environment and Climate Commission (ECC)
Submitted by: Brianna McGuire, Chairperson, ECC
Subject: Environment and Climate Commission 2025 Work Plan

INTRODUCTION

The Environment and Climate Commission (ECC) is responsible for advising the City Council on matters related to environmental sustainability and climate change. ECC's scope includes work to advance the goals of: advancing green buildings and resource efficiency; decarbonizing buildings and transportation; engaging and educating the community; addressing the impacts and welfare of all species, including animals, insects, and plants; reducing greenhouse gas emissions; reducing toxics and preventing pollution; and supporting environmental justice. The ECC works closely with the City of Berkeley's Office of Energy & Sustainable Development (OESD).

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The ECC has a broad scope and a responsibility to support and work closely with OESD staff. The ECC created subcommittees to work on the following projects:

Project	Status	Description
Building Decarbonization	In Committee	Support OESD staff with feedback on building electrification programs, including Building Emissions Saving Ordinance (BESO), Berkeley Existing Buildings Electrification Strategy, Climate Equity Fund, Just Transition Fund, REACH Codes, and Building Performance Standards. Collaboration with Housing Advisory Committee as needed.
Community-informed Environmental Justice & Climate Metrics	In Committee	Support and participate in 2025 efforts to develop an Environmental Justice Element for the General Plan and track the city's climate goals using community-driven benchmarks (health-focused, emissions-based, qualitative measure, etc.).
Principles of Just Transition, Vehicle Miles Traveled, and Workforce Development	In Committee	Perform research and give feedback on the Just Transition principles, Vehicle Miles Traveled reduction, and development of a Workforce Development Board to suggest as amendments to the City's General Plan.

Community Outreach	In Committee	In collaboration with OESD, plan community outreach campaigns, create materials, and support events that raise awareness of City activities, public programs, and local climate action opportunities. Make suggestions about possible website improvements. Raise awareness of climate activities/resources to Councilmembers.
Climate Emergency Preparedness	In Committee	In coordination with the Office of Emergency Services, support the City with engagement on climate emergency education and resources including at resiliency hubs.
OESD Input & Support	Ongoing	Support OESD staff with feedback on programs, standards, and other initiatives, including the Climate Equity Fund, Climate Action planning, etc. Forward viable grant opportunities when appropriate.

BACKGROUND

First established in 2022, the ECC was formed by merging the Community Environmental Advisory Commission and the Energy Commission. ECC commissioners bring a wide range of expertise, with backgrounds in government, academia, nonprofit, and private sector environmental work, and include youth perspectives. These backgrounds inform the ECC’s work and help it to consider diverse and equitable approaches to addressing the City’s environmental challenges.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

The ECC’s initiatives will improve environmental sustainability, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and support a just transition.

POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

This work plan is intended to provide a guide to the work the ECC plans to take on in 2025. As additional items or issues arise, or are referred to the Commission from Council, the ECC will adjust this plan accordingly.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

Future action items that the ECC may send to City Council could require staff time to develop, finalize, and/or implement. The ECC strives to ensure proposals provide significant net triple bottom line benefits to the City when evaluating total costs and benefits across environmental, social, and economic impacts.

CONTACT PERSON

Sarah Moore, Secretary, Environment and Climate Commission, smoore@berkeleyca.gov