



City of Berkeley ZERO WASTE COMMISSION Regular Meeting

Thursday, March 20 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
City of Berkeley Corporation Yard (Ratcliff Building, Willow Room)
1326 Allston Way, Berkeley, CA, 94702

MEETING AGENDA

PRELIMINARY MATTERS:

- 5:30 pm 1. Call to Order by Chair and Roll Call by Secretary
- **Steven Sherman**, appointed by CM Rashi Kesarwani, District 1
 - **Christienne de Tournay (Chair)**, appointed by CM Shoshana O'Keefe, District 5
 - **VACANT**, appointed by Mayor Adena Ishii
 - **Layla Dargahi (Vice Chair)**, appointed by CM Terry Taplin, District 2
 - **Dennis Uyat**, appointed by CM Ben Bartlett, District 3
 - **Philip Monrad**, appointed by CM Igor Tregub, District 4
 - **Sandra Curtis**, appointed by CM Brent Blackaby, District 6
 - **Swasti Johri**, appointed by CM Cecilia Lunaparra, District 7
 - **Barun Singh**, appointed by CM Mark Humbert, District 8
- 5:35 pm 2. Approve Meeting Agenda and Order of Agenda Items
- 5:40 pm 3. Approve Draft Action Minutes:
- February 20, 2025 Regular Meeting*
- 5:45 pm 4. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda
Speakers are allotted up to two minutes. Speakers may be allotted less time at the discretion of the Chair.
- 5:55 pm 5. Commissioner Announcements
Commissioners may make general announcements; no action will be taken.
- 6:00 pm 6. Staff Updates

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

Members of the public may provide comments at the end of each discussion item and prior to the vote of the Commission on any action items. Speakers are allotted up to 2 minutes.

- 6:15 pm 1. Update by Abbe & Associates about the City of Berkeley Zero Waste Strategic Plan
- 6:40 pm 2. Update by the Ecology Center about their Operations

Internal

- 7:00 pm 3. Report outs from the Special Events Subcommittee and Green Building Subcommittee
- 7:20 pm 4. Discuss Future Agenda Items
- 7:30 pm 5. Adjournment

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Information items may be moved to discussion but no action will be taken

COMMUNICATIONS:

Communications from the public are included as links or attachments in the agenda packet.

[*Article about Reusable Cup Pilot In California City | BioCycle](#)

***Indicates material included in the agenda packet**

**** Indicates material to be available at the meeting**



ADA Disclaimer: 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.

SB 343 Disclaimer:

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 Public Works Department located at the address below.

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Commission Secretary:

Julia A. Heath, Recycling Program Manager,
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MINUTES

The meeting was convened at 5:32p.m. with Chrise de Tournay presiding as temporary Chair.

ROLL CALL

Present: Layla Dargahi, Swasti Johri, Philip Monrad, Chrise de Tournay, Steven Sherman, Dennis Uyat, Jamie Ruth (Alternate for Sandra Curtis), Barun Singh

LOA: Sandra Curtis

Absent:

STAFF PRESENT: Julia A. Heath

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT: 1

PUBLIC COMMENTS (on non-agenda items): 1

ACTION MINUTES:

- **Approval of the February 20, 2025 Regular Meeting Agenda**
Action Taken: M/S/C (Monrad/Ruth) to approve the February 20, 2025 meeting agenda.
Ayes: Unanimous; Abstain: None; Absent: Sandra Curtis
- **Approval of the January 16, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes**
Action Taken: M/S/C (Johri/Dargahi) to approve the January 16, 2025 meeting minutes.
Ayes: Unanimous; Abstain: None; Absent: Sandra Curtis
- **Public Comment**
1 public comment. No Action Taken.
- **Commissioner Announcements**
Discussion only. No Action Taken.
- **Staff Updates**
Discussion only. No Action Taken.
- **Commissioner Elections for Chair and Vice Chair**
M/S/C (Sherman/Monrad) to nominate and elect Chrise de Tournay as Commission Chair.
Ayes: Unanimous; Abstain: None; Absent: Sandra Curtis
M/S/C (Dargahi/de Tournay) to nominate and elect Layla Dargahi as Commission Vice Chair.
Ayes: Unanimous; Abstain: None; Absent: Sandra Curtis

Public Comment: 0

- **Decide on Commission Meeting Calendar for 2025**
Discussion only. No Action Taken.

Public Comment: 0

- **Report out from the Special Events Subcommittee and Green Building Subcommittee**
Discussion only. No Action Taken.
Public Comment: 0
- **Discuss Future Agenda Items**
Public Comment: 0
 - Ecology Center Update
 - Presentation by Susan Collins, president of the Container Recycling Institute, on Bottle Bills
 - Discuss including an informational Zero Waste insert in all City of Berkeley issued residential leases.
 - Presentation about History of Plastics and Copenhagen by Commissioner Sandra Curtis
- **Adjournment at 7:27 p.m.**
M/S/C (de Tournay/Uyat) to adjourn the meeting.
Ayes: Unanimous; Abstain: None; Absent: Sandra Curtis

The next regular meeting of the Zero Waste Commission will be held on Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. in person at City of Berkeley Corporation Yard (Ratcliff Building, Willow Room) 1326 Allston Way, Berkeley.

Respectfully Submitted

Julia A. Heath, Secretary

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Reusable Cup Pilot In California City

Top: Purple reusable to-go cups were offered in 12- and 16-ounce sizes for hot and cold beverages, and 22-ounce cups for fountain drinks. Photo courtesy Closed Loop Partners

In August 2024, more than 30 restaurants in the City of Petaluma, California, swapped their single-use cups for to-go reusable cups for all customers at no cost. The Petaluma Reusable Cup Project was led by Closed Loop Partners' Center for the Circular Economy's NextGen Consortium. Most restaurants and coffee shops in the [Project](#) used multi-brand purple cups, offered in 12- and 16-ounce sizes for hot

and cold beverages as well as a 22-ounce cup for fountain drinks. Starbucks activated special branded cups with purple elements and program communications on reusable tall, grande and venti cups. Outdoor, indoor and drive-thru return bins were set up (total of 60) and the service provider (Muuse) regularly collected, washed, sanitized, inspected, repacked then delivered ready-to use cups to businesses.

Over 220,000 reusable cups (51% of those distributed) were successfully returned during the 12-week project, with minimal bin contamination; 79% were returned to a different location from where they were purchased. Non-returners often placed cups in recycling bins, notes the NextGen Consortium, which arranged with the local recycler to have those cups recovered (24,000 cups were recovered). A survey of consumers participating in the project found that 82% (613 respondents) were aware their cup was intended to be reused and 81% of local residents who were given a reusable cup reported returning at least one.

In other reusable foodservice container news, Eco-Products® and OZZI® have partnered on a new multiprong initiative to increase reusables accessibility to businesses, colleges, hospitals and other institutions. Veda™, introduced by EcoProducts in October 2024, is a line of durable and reusable containers equipped with OZZI's tracking and collection technology. OZZI markets a machine that fully automates collection of reusable containers. More than 300 colleges and universities across the country, including Notre Dame, Florida State and the UC San Diego, have installed the OZZI machine. Diners receive their meals in reusable containers and return them to OZZI Collection Stations — either a manual Drop N' GO™ box or an automated machine. The containers are then washed, sanitized and prepared for their next use.



OZZI markets a machine that fully automates collection of reusable containers. Photo courtesy Eco-Products

TAGS: CIRCULAR ECONOMY, ZERO WASTE