



ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE COMMISSION MINUTES April 22, 2026

OPENING ITEMS

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Sarah Ranney, *District 1*, Councilmember Kesarwani

Alison LaBonte (Vice Chair), *District 2*, Councilmember Taplin

Brianna McGuire (Chair), *District 3*, Councilmember Bartlett

Daniel Tahara, *District 4*, Councilmember Tregub

Yasmin Mahmoudian, *District 5*, Councilmember O'Keefe

vacant, *District 6*, Councilmember Blackaby

Misha Kesselman, *District 7*, Councilmember Lunaparra

Kera Binns, *District 8*, Councilmember Humbert

Gwendy Brown, *Mayor*, Mayor Ishii

Mabel Athanasiou, *Youth Commissioner*

Shanza Syed, *Youth Commissioner*

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM

Commissioners Present: Ranney, LaBonte, McGuire, Mahmoudian, Binns, Athanasiou, Syed

Commissioner Leave of Absence: Brown

Commissioner Absent: Tahara, Kesselman

Staff: Sarah Moore, Marna Schwartz

2. Land Acknowledgement

3. Public comment (Non-Agenda Items):

3 member(s) of the Public

1 comment(s)

4. Approval of Minutes: Approval of Minutes from last meeting (March 25, 2026)

Motion/second to approve the March 25, 2026 Minutes (Binns, Mahmoudian). The motion carried: 6-0-1-3; **Ayes:** Ranney, LaBonte, Mahmoudian, Binns, Athanasiou, Syed. **Noes:** None. **Abstain:** McGuire. **Absent:** Tahara, Brown, Kesselman.

5. Update from Chair (Alison LaBonte)

Commissioner Kesselman joined the meeting at 6:18 PM

6. Update from Staff (Sarah Moore, Marna Schwartz)

Commissioner Tahara joined the meeting at 6:39 PM

DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

- 7. Discussion:** Presentation from Ava Community Energy on programs such as [Critical Municipal Facilities Solar + Storage](#) and [Ava Charge](#) (Zac Thompson and Lori Bilella)
[Public Comments: 0]

COMMITTEE UPDATES & REPORTS

- 8. Workplan Ad Hoc Committee Updates** [Public Comments: 0]
- a. Building Decarbonization (Ranney, McGuire, Tahara, Binns)
 - b. Community Outreach (Ranney, Binns, Athanasiou)
 - c. Climate Emergency Preparedness (Ranney, Mahmoudian, Kesselman, Brown, Syed)
 - d. Data (LaBonte, McGuire, Mahmoudian, Kesselman, Syed)
- 9. Commission Liaison Reports** [Public Comments: 0]
- a. Planning Commission (Alison LaBonte)
 - b. Transportation and Infrastructure Commission (Yasmin Mahmoudian)
 - c. Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission (Gwendy Brown)
 - d. Zero Waste Commission (Mabel Athanasiou)
 - e. Disaster and Fire Safety Commission (vacant)
 - f. Housing Advisory Commission (Kera Binns)
 - g. Council Policy Subcommittees (Brianna McGuire)
 - h. Measure FF (Misha Kesselman)

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- 10. Potential Items for Future Agenda** [Public Comments: 0]
- a. Transportation equity
 - b. Resilience efforts
 - c. [General Plan](#): Disaster Preparedness & Safety Element, Environmental Justice Element, and climate metrics update
 - d. Reach Codes
 - e. Sacramento legislative tracker
 - f. Transfer Station
 - g. Vision 2050+
 - h. Cesar Chavez Landfill
 - i. Efforts to develop and support relationships with Indigenous community
 - j. Bicycle Infrastructure: Hopkins Bike Lane and Bicycle Boulevards
 - k. Sun Day 2026 planning
 - l. Zonal/Neighborhood Decarbonization Pilots (SB 1221)

Following polling of the commissioners, the Chair canceled the May 20, 2026, ECC meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS

11. Public Communications

- e. Friends of Five Creeks Hopkins Green Infrastructure Letter to FITES
- f. Friends of Five Creeks Hopkins Letters (2023-2024)

12. Commissioner Announcements

ADJOURNMENT

Motion/second to adjourn at 7:55 PM (McGuire, Kesselman). The motion carried: 9-0-0-1;

Ayes: Ranney, LaBonte, McGuire, Tahara, Mahmoudian, Kesselman, Binns, Athanasiou, Syed. **Noes:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Brown.

Minutes Approved:

Sarah Moore, Berkeley Environment & Climate Commission Secretary