



ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE COMMISSION DRAFT MINUTES September 23, 2026

OPENING ITEMS

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Sarah Ranney, *District 1*, Councilmember Kesarwani
Alison LaBonte (Chair), *District 2*, Councilmember Taplin
Vacant, *District 3*, Councilmember Bartlett
Daniel Tahara, *District 4*, Councilmember Tregub
Yasmin Mahmoudian (Vice Chair), *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 6:01 PM

Commissioners Present: LaBonte, Tahara (arrived 6:04 PM), Mahmoudian, Kesselman, Binns, Brown, Athanasiou, Syed,

Commissioner Leave of Absence: Ranney

Commissioner Absent: None

Staff: Sarah Moore, Rebecca Milliken, Katie Van Dyke

2. Land Acknowledgement

3. Public comment (Non-Agenda Items):

1 member(s) of the Public
0 comment(s)

4. Approval of Minutes: Approval of Minutes from last meeting (July 22, 2026)

Motion/second to approve the July 22, 2026 Minutes (Mahmoudian, Kesselman). The motion carried: 7-0-1-1; **Ayes:** LaBonte, Tahara, Mahmoudian, Kesselman, Binns, Brown, Athanasiou. **Noes:** None. **Abstain** Syed. **Absent:** Ranney

5. Update from Chair (Alison LaBonte)

6. Update from Staff (Sarah Moore)

DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

- 7. Discussion:** Receive Presentation on the Draft Environmental Justice and Safety General Plan Elements (Katie Van Dyke) [Public Comments: 0]

Commissioner Brown left the meeting at 6:57 PM

COMMITTEE UPDATES & REPORTS

- 8. Workplan Ad Hoc Committee Updates** [Public Comments: 0]

- a. Building Decarbonization (Ranney, Tahara, Binns)
- b. Community Outreach (Ranney, Binns, Athanasiou)
- c. Climate Emergency Preparedness (Ranney, Mahmoudian, Kesselman, Brown, Syed)
- d. Data (LaBonte, 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 (Yasmin Mahmoudian)
- h. Measure FF (Misha Kesselman)

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- 10. Potential Items for Future Agenda** [Public Comments: 0]

- a. BESO Time of Sale
- b. Reach Codes
- c. Resilience efforts
- d. Microgrids
- e. Annual Climate Action & Resilience update
- f. Transportation equity
- g. Sacramento legislative tracker
- h. Transfer Station
- i. Former City landfill at the Berkeley Marina
- j. Efforts to develop and support relationships with Indigenous community

COMMUNICATIONS

- 11. Public Communications**

- 12. Commissioner Announcements**

ADJOURNMENT

Motion/second to adjourn at 7:10 PM (Binns, Kesselman). The motion carried: 7-0-0-2;

Ayes: LaBonte, Tahara, Mahmoudian, Kesselman, Binns, Athanasiou, Syed. **Noes:** None.

Abstain: None. **Absent:** Ranney, Brown.

Minutes Approved:

Sarah Moore, Berkeley Environment & Climate Commission Secretary

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