



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
**COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT**  
December 3, 2013

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**1. ADMINISTRATION/GENERAL**

NEW HIRES

- Biodiversity: Hired two unpaid interns, Sheffield Hale and Anne Barbillon.
- Clean Transportation: Hired Helen Whitkin as temporary replacement for Sue-Ellen Atkinson (on maternity leave) for implementing Commuter Benefits Ordinance.
- Outreach (Environment Now): Hired 10 new 9916 staff:
  - Aaron Siladi
  - Veronica Carrillo
  - Christine Iribe
  - Vernon Haney
  - Lily Zeng
  - Camea Davis
  - Sergey Ratnikov
  - Jack Chow
  - Nasan Snell
  - Penelope Gomez
- Toxics: Hired Anya Deepak as the new Commercial Toxics Reduction Associate.

**2. LEGISLATION/POLICY**

- Budget and Finance Committee (Wednesday, December 4, 10:30AM)
  - Resolution urging the restart of GreenFinanceSF and supporting the Mayor, the Department of the Environment, and the Office of Public Finance to enable City residents to finance the costs of energy efficiency and renewable energy capital improvements and to take such other actions necessary there for. (Mayor; Farrell, Chiu, Wiener, Kim, Tang, Mar, Yee and Cohen)
- Board of Supervisors – Items of Note (Tuesday, October 29, 2:00PM)
  - Ordinance enacting a 2013 San Francisco Green Building Code consisting of the 2013 California Green Building Standards Code, as amended by San Francisco; adopting environmental findings and findings required by the California Health and Safety Code, California Public Resources Code, and Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations; providing for an operative date of January 1, 2014; and directing the Clerk of the Board to forward the legislation to the State Building Standards Commission, as required by State law. (Building Inspection Commission)
- Biodiversity: Butterfly release ban discussed at SFE Commission Policy Committee for resolution.
- Toxics: Staff participated in and presented at two stakeholder meetings arranged by the Senate EQ Committee on SB727 (mandatory medicine take back program development by manufacturers).
- Toxics: Staff completed a public hearing on green purchasing regulations and will officially adopt them by December 6, 2013.
- Zero Waste: Staffed worked with our lobbyists and others to successfully get California's first product stewardship bill for mattresses (SB 254) signed into law. Zero Waste: Staff attended District Court of Appeals hearing of industry appeal on SF bag ordinance. Decision to be handed down by February.

### 3. COMMUNITY EVENTS/OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

#### PRESS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

##### BIODIVERSITY

- Produced SF Urban Biodiversity Summit with 5 separate well-attended events.
- Staff spoke at the World Wilderness Congress (Wild10) in Salamanca, Spain, and contributed to the Wild Cities forum.
- Staff attended and spoke at the Biophilic Cities Launch in Charlottesville, VA.

##### CLEAN TRANSPORTATION

- Staff organized, with SFCTA, a PARK(ing) Day informational booth on Polk Street in front of City Hall to provide information about CommuteSmart opportunities to the public.
- Co-sponsored and participated in EV Week (technology display on Justin Herman Plaza and public EV ride-and-drives on the Embarcadero); Mayor Lee keynote speaker, introduced by Director Nutter.
- Held CommuteSmart evening open house to acquaint City/County employees with CommuteSmart programs; 200+ city employees attended.

##### DIRECTOR NUTTER'S ACTIVITIES

- Director Nutter and the Environment Now team joined Senator Mark Leno and other City Departments to make this year's Safe Routes to School-International Walk and Roll to School Day event a huge success. A record 13,000 students walked or rolled to school with their families in San Francisco at 76 schools across the city, nearly a 40% increase from last year. As a result of this success, the Safe Routes to School program will expand from its current 15 participating schools to 40 next year.
- Director Nutter participated in a Recology tour with the Consul General of the Netherlands.
- Director Nutter represented San Francisco at the Urban Sustainability Directors Network Annual Meeting in Memphis TN.
- Director Nutter and Barry Hooper (Green Building Staff) represented San Francisco at the Expert Meeting on Building Energy Benchmarking Meeting in Vancouver, BC.
- Director Nutter presented on a webinar: Tracking Local Leadership on Energy Efficiency: The Inaugural Edition of ACEEE's *City Energy Efficiency Scorecard*.
- Director Nutter presented on a Resiliency Panel at the 2013 SF VERGE Conference.
- Director Nutter hosted a high level reception for Sadhu Johnston, Deputy City Manager for the City of Vancouver, Canada, co-founder of the Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN), and author of the new book *The Guide to Greening Cities*.
- Director Nutter participated in a video interview for the Goldman Prize 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.
- Director Nutter participated in an America's Cup Legacy Interview. .
- Director Nutter moderated a special panel organized by the Asia Society and NRDC in honor of Goldman Prize Winner, Ma Jun's visit to the US.
- Director Nutter gave welcoming remarks at the Clean Tech Futures Conference on behalf of the City and Mayor Lee.
- Director Nutter spoke at a Sierra Club Press Conference re: climate change.
- Director Nutter spoke on our Zero Waste program at Parks: The New Climate Classroom.
- Director Nutter spoke at an EPA Press Conference re: safe graffiti removal.
- Director Nutter spoke on a panel at the Governing Future Structure Summit.
- Director Nutter represented San Francisco and spoke at the Smart Cities World Congress in Barcelona.

##### SCHOOL EDUCATION

- Staff gave 30 Assemblies. Reached 7,087 Students.
- Staff attended 2 tabling events. Reached 2,150 Students.
- Staff gave 38 Presentations and Trainings. Reached 1,119 Students.

- Staff gave 2 Teacher Workshops. Reached 60 Teachers.

#### TOXICS

- Staff organized a 10 year Precautionary Principle Anniversary Event on 11/19. Over 80 members including Federal, State and local government, academia, advocacy groups and businesses were in attendance. Many opportunities were identified for future partnerships and actions were identified as next steps to advance the precautionary principle.
- Staff presented on learning in the Used Oil program and Safe Medicine Disposal program at the Annual Household Hazardous Waste conference in October 2013.
- Used Oil team conducted outreach at the Jimmy's car show that had over 100 attendees that fall under the DIY oil change demographic.

#### URBAN AG / URBAN FOREST

- Urban Ag: Staff coordinated a meet and greet for urban ag focused city staff with the new UCCE Alameda & Contra Costa County Director/Bay Area Urban Agriculture Advisor Robert Bennaton.

#### ZERO WASTE

- Staff presented on zero waste to Gast Architects and new students at Community Housing Partnership Recycling & Environmental Awareness Program.
- Staff presented at High Diversion Rates and Compensation workshop in Oakland.
- Staff did radio interviews on our zero waste goal and bag policy with KPBS San Diego, where they are considering both.
- Staff participated in California Organics Recycling Council annual retreat as Board member. Presented on zero waste at World Resources Forum in Davos, Switzerland and at events, meetings and interviews in Milan, Parma, Florence, Rome and Copenhagen. Toured anaerobic digestion facilities in Belgium, Netherlands and Germany.
- Staff attended grand opening of San Jose Zero Waste Energy anaerobic digestion facility.
- Staff presented at San Jose Trash Summit to over 300 people on our bag, food ware and bottled water policies.
- Staff coordinated visit by San Jose City staff to discuss zero waste compliance and enforcement. Presented on zero waste to CA Institute of Integral Studies graduate students. Provided comments and skyped with Concepcion, Chile staff on revising their current solid waste system. Hosted zero waste NGO representative from Brazil.
- Helped coordinate and lead delegation of 15 Chinese foundation leaders on zero waste tour and discussion. Participated in C40 webinar on zero waste systems with 2 US and 2 international cities, and facilitated our participation in C40 conference in Vienna on mitigating short climate pollutants from solid waste.

#### TRAININGS

##### ZERO WASTE

- Staff trained 172 Laguna Honda Hospital, DPH Mental Health Clinic, SFMTA, City Fellows and SFE new staff, interns and volunteers on zero waste.
- Staff conducted training with Chinese translation at Ping Yuen Housing Authority community meeting.
- Staff organized Zero Waste Event Training and presented to 19 attendees.

#### **4. PROGRAM MILESTONES/ACHIEVEMENTS**

##### BIODIVERSITY

- Created and hosted two Interagency Biodiversity Working Group meetings.
- Facilitated first USDN group call on Biodiversity.

##### CLEAN AIR/CLEAN TRANSPORTATION

- Conducted, through SF Clean Cities Coalition, Telematics workshops for Bay Area private and public fleets to acquaint them with increase fleet fuel efficiency and reduce emissions.

- Worked with BAAQMD on coordinating enforcement of the City's Commuter Benefits Ordinance with the new regional CB Ordinance that the Air District is preparing to implement.
- Initiated this fiscal year's implementation of HACTO with a briefing for all DepCAP Liaisons and department fleet managers, and started the departments' reporting process.

#### CLIMATE

- The Climate Action Strategy was delivered to partner agencies and is planned for public release in the near term.
- Staff has selected the seven grant recipients for the SF Carbon Fund. These will be presented to the Commission.
- Climate Adaptation: Mayor's Office has clarified the scope of work to include public and private stakeholders and address the broad issues of adaptation, not simply sea level rise. Developing an adaptation work plan with participating departments.
- Climate Inventories: Looking for resources to utilize the City's new license for the N4 data system.
- Department Climate Action Plans: Responding to Dept of Real Estate request for assistance.

#### ENERGY

- Bay Area Regional Energy Network:
  - Held training for DBI.
  - Singlefamily: small uptake among Home Performance contractors, zero among single trade contractors.
  - Multifamily has 800 units committed of a total goal of 1200.
- EcoDistricts:
  - CEC Central Corridor community-integrated renewable energy (CIRE) grant: Task 2 draft reports submitted to CEC.
  - Reviewed Arup/CH2Ms district energy report for EPA Smart Communities grant; final version expected in December.
  - Central SOMA EcoDistrict report reviewed, released by Planning.
- Energy Watch: 2013-14. First month of program activity in 2013 was in April; therefore behind in goals: kW – 34%; kWh – 17% as of end of October (AK)
- Refrigeration Pilot: Survey results on 300 refrigeration units; 50 units have been, or are being monitored; 10 businesses scheduled to purchase new equipment.
- Solar data received from PG&E through August: 4,024 solar installs in SF, totaling 25.85 MW.
- Working with SF Port on solar assessment and wind anemometer installations for Pier 27.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- EJ program staff is administering an IPM pilot project at Plaza East and Westside Courts, with funding provided by the Mayor's office. EJ program and Environment Now staff are also providing IPM training for tenants and outreach workers and supporting HOPE SF's peer education program.
- EJ program is preparing an inventory of brownfield sites in the Bayview area. This is part of the EPA-funded brownfields communitywide assessment project, to identify and evaluate underutilized parcels that can be cleaned up and transformed into recreational areas, as part of a larger effort to help build green open spaces to link with the Blue Greenway waterfront corridor.

#### ENVIRONMENT NOW

- Nathan Duran, a former Environment Now participant, was hired by the San Francisco Conservation Corps in a full-time benefitted position and is looking to recruit other EN participants to fill vacant positions.

#### GREEN BUILDING

- The City's Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program, called GreenFinance SF, is expanding. Earlier this year, GreenFinance SF became a financing option for multi-family building owners to cover soft story retrofits. Supervisor Mark Farrell introduced legislation on November 26<sup>th</sup> for GreenFinance SF to cover residential buildings. SF Environment will work with City officials and Public Finance to develop the residential PACE program.

- The U.S. Green Building Council elected Mark Palmer of SF Environment to the 2013 class of LEED Fellows. The LEED Fellow Program is the green building industry's most prestigious professional designation. The LEED Fellow designation recognizes exceptional contributions to green building and significant professional achievement within the rapidly growing community of LEED Professionals.
- Green Building's Barry Hooper is participating in two benchmarking initiatives on the national level. On December 3<sup>rd</sup> Barry is attending a conference convened by U.S. Department of Energy and the White House in Washington, D.C., to focus on increasing access to whole building energy use data by building owners for benchmarking. Barry will also participate in a working group to develop the Building Energy Data Exchange Specification (BEDES), a common schema for describing buildings' assets and energy use. This BEDES working group is likely to inform private sector efforts coalescing around a common standard

#### TOXICS REDUCTION/GREEN BUSINESS

- Residential Toxics program launched the Healthy Homes campaign that includes steps residents can take to reduce exposure to toxic chemicals

#### URBAN AGRICULTURE/ URBAN FOREST

- SFE and the UFC published the Annual Urban Forest Report for fiscal year 2012-2013 the first week in October. (UF)
- SFE and RPD published the Autumn 2013 edition of the community garden post, the Compost the last week in October. (UA)
- The UFC completed a two year strategic planning effort. Outcomes include the creation of a new Funding Committee. Next steps are completion and adoption of a two year work plan, expected in mid-December. (UF)

#### ZERO WASTE

- Diverted 95% and 77% (528 and 66 tons) at 1201 8<sup>th</sup> St. and 838 Kansas demolitions. Conducted annual inspection at Blue Line Transfer, a registered debris facility.
- Met with architects of public safety building under construction to finalize loading dock design and refuse services.
- Met with Reprographics to discuss City department compliance with Chapter 5 of the Resource Conservation Ordinance.
- Configured new refuse rates for residential units at Treasure Island Development Authority to soon transition them to citywide services and rates.
- SF Conservation Corps exceeded their zero waste grant goal, diverting 285 tons from events.
- Got commitment from West Coast Properties to work with all 130 of their apartment buildings to improve composting. Sent enforcement letters to last 26 apartment buildings without composting.
- Started 13 apartment buildings composting (413 units, including a Housing Authority building), 1 recycling (29 units) and conducted additional outreach at 34 (2,367 units) with the help of Environment Now staff.
- Brought 360 of the most challenging commercial accounts, requiring numerous follow up visits, into mandatory compliance with the help of Environment Now staff.

### **5. GRANTS/FUNDRAISING**

- Biodiversity staff submitted 250K grant proposal with Planning Department to Strategic Growth Council for Biodiversity Plan.
- The Biodiversity Program awarded 15K from Campbell Foundation.
- Clean Transportation staff coordinated development, and submitted a USDN grant application for developing a tool kit for implementation of bike infrastructure programs in cities, jointly with Columbia, MO, Evanston, IL and Houston, TX.
- The 11th Hour Foundation's \$23000 investment in the Carbon Fund to mitigate the emissions associated with its recent conference.
- Director Nutter coordinated and submitted a USDN grant application for Smart Cities development and support with 10 other cities.