



SF Environment

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A Department of the City and County of San Francisco

London N. Breed
Mayor

Deborah O. Raphael
Director

**City and County of San Francisco
Commission on the Environment
Policy Committee***

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

**Monday, March 14, 2022, at 5:00 PM
Remote meeting via web conference**

Due to the COVID-19 health emergency and to protect Commissioners, SFE staff, and members of the public, the Commission on the Environment's Meeting Room (Room 416) is closed.

Please see the information on the next page for remote meeting access.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Commissioners Mike Sullivan (Chair), Elmy Bermejo, and Johanna Wald.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Public comment will be taken before the Committee takes action on any item.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.

The meeting of the Commission on the Environment Policy Committee was convened at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Mike Sullivan, Elmy Bermejo, and Johanna Wald.

2. Review and vote on whether to approve Resolution File 2022-02-COE-PC, Resolution Making Findings to Allow Teleconferenced Meetings Under California Government Code Section 54953(e).

Speaker: Charles Sheehan, Chief Policy Officer (Explanatory Document: Resolution File 2022-02-COE-PC) (Discussion and Action)

Commissioner Wald asked why this action is required every 30 days.

Charles Sheehan confirmed that this requirement is consistent with the current guidance.

Commissioner Sullivan asked whether this may be the last time the Committee will need to do this.

Charles said this will be required at remote meetings for the foreseeable future.

Commissioner Wald asked whether a resolution that applied for a period longer than 30 days would be feasible.

Charles confirmed that this step is required every 30 days.

There was no public comment.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Bermejo and a second by Commissioner Wald, the resolution was approved without objection. (Ayes: Commissioners Sullivan, Bermejo, and Wald; Noes: None; Absent: None)

3. **Approval of minutes of the February 14, 2022, Commission on the Environment Policy Committee meeting.** (Explanatory Document: February 14, 2022, Draft Minutes) (Discussion and Action)

There was no public comment.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Wald and a second by Commissioner Bermejo, the minutes were approved without objection. (Ayes: Commissioners Sullivan, Bermejo, and Wald; Noes: None; Absent: None)

4. **General Public Comment.** Members of the public may address the Committee on matters that are within the Committee's jurisdiction and are not on today's agenda.

Public Comment: David Pilpel confirmed that Commissioners could hear him.

PRESENTATIONS

5. **Presentation on the San Francisco Surplus Building Products Reduction and Redistribution Study.** Sponsor: Deborah Raphael, Director; Speakers: Eden Brukman, Senior Green Building Coordinator, James Slattery, Construction & Demolition Zero Waste Coordinator, and Kaitlin Reese, Civic Spark Green Building Fellow. (Discussion)

Director Raphael introduced the item.

James Slattery, Kaitlin Reese, and Eden Brukman presented findings from the Surplus Building Products Reduction and Redistribution Study.

Commissioner Bermejo asked about the effect of surplus material on the cost of housing.

Eden said that construction waste can have a significant impact on housing costs.

Commissioner Sullivan asked about the experiences of different cities in addressing this issue.

Eden said that cities have responded to this issue in very different ways.

Director Raphael asked about the role of government in promoting communication.

Eden discussed the responsibility of government to promote collaboration through education.

Director Raphael discussed the goal of preventing waste through communication.

Commissioner Sullivan made a comparison to eBay and other e-commerce activities.

Commissioner Wald asked about the challenge of balancing consumers' competing needs.

James described the need for multiple points of intervention to resolve these tensions.

Commissioner Sullivan asked about Build Back Better funding.

Eden described the program's funding prospects.

Public Comment: David Pilpel expressed support for requirements that promote integration and prioritize the functionality of building materials over aesthetics.

6. **Presentation and update on the Electric Vehicles (EV) Communities Grant.** Sponsor: Deborah Raphael, Director; Speaker: Lowell Chu, Energy & Clean Transportation Program Manager (Discussion)

Director Raphael introduced the item.

Lowell Chu presented on the Electric Vehicles Communities Grant.

Commissioner Sullivan thanked Lowell for his presentation.

Commissioner Bermejo described this program as a great start and thanked Lowell for his presentation.

Commissioner Wald commended Lowell on his presentation and said she looks forward to a progress report.

Commissioner Sullivan asked whether the grant's four focus areas were required or were selected by the Department.

Lowell said that the focus areas were selected from a shortlist.

Commissioner Sullivan asked about the use of EV chargers by non-residents commuting through the Bayview neighborhood

Lowell said that the freeway presents several key challenges.

Commissioner Sullivan asked about the project's timeline.

Lowell said that some charging sites have been identified and staff are working to set expectations for the closure of the grant.

Commissioner Sullivan asked about the Climate Action Plan's targets for new EV registrations.

Lowell said that the goals are to increase the rate of new registrations by 50% within three years and by 100% before 2030.

Commissioner Wald said she hopes that the City considers the use of existing physical infrastructure when exploring solutions, even if they are not featured in this grant.

Lowell said that the Department is exploring multiple technologies closely.

Public Comment: David Pilpel expressed concern about the impact of PG&E interconnection issues on this program's rollout. David also recommended that the Committee clarify that it is recommending that the full Commission approve the resolution on EV charging. David also identified an error in the agenda concerning the approval of draft minutes.

- 7. Review and vote on whether to recommend to the Commission on the Environment that they approve Resolution File No. 2022-03-COE-PC Mayor Breed's legislation on Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Plaza Ordinance.** Sponsor: Deborah Raphael, Director; Speakers: Lowell Chu, Energy & Clean Transportation Program Manager, and Aaron Starr, SF Planning Manager of Legislative Affairs. (Explanatory Document: Ordinance Board of Supervisors File No. 220036 Leg. Digest 1, and Draft Resolution File No. 2022-03-COE-PC) (Discussion and Possible Action)

Director Raphael introduced the item.

Lowell Chu presented on updates to the Planning Code related to EV charging.

Commissioner Wald described this update as an elegant solution to a difficult challenge.

Commissioner Bermejo said that this change will have a tangible impact on the City's climate goals.

Commissioner Sullivan praised the new focus on facilities other than gas stations and asked about the application of a "by right" designation.

Lowell said that a location does not need to be zoned for both production, distribution, and repair (PDR) and existing automotive use in order for the by right designation to apply.

Aaron Starr said that a goal is to prioritize existing auto infrastructure before creating new infrastructure.

Commissioner Sullivan asked whether there is pent-up demand for this change among providers.

Lowell said there is evidence of strong demand from different types of charging providers.

Commissioner Sullivan said that everyone concerned about the climate crisis should be excited about this change.

Director Raphael asked Aaron to speak more about his experience on this project.

Aaron said that working on this program has been a positive and collaborative experience.

Director Raphael said that the opportunity to learn from other departments is always gratifying.

There was no public comment.

Charles Sheehan clarified that the Committee would be voting to recommend that the Commission vote to approve the resolution.

Commissioner Wald said that the final sentence in the resolution states that the resolution is being adopted by the Policy Committee, and recommended changing this sentence.

Charles confirmed that the sentence could be revised by a vote.

Commissioner Sullivan asked Charles to summarize what is being asked of the Committee.

Charles recommended changing the final sentence to make it clear that the resolution would be adopted by the Commission at its meeting on March 22, 2022.

Commissioner Wald said that the Committee is not voting to approve the resolution.

Charles confirmed that that is correct and said that the Committee can vote to amend the final sentence to make it clear that the resolution would be adopted by the Commission at its meeting on March 22, 2022.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Bermejo and a second by Commissioner Wald, the amendment to the resolution was approved without objection. (Ayes: Commissioners Sullivan, Bermejo, and Wald; Noes: None; Absent: None)

Charles said that a separate vote is required to recommend that the Commission approve the amended resolution.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Bermejo and a second by Commissioner Wald, the Committee voted to recommend that the Commission approve the resolution without objection. (Ayes: Commissioners Sullivan, Bermejo, and Wald; Noes: None; Absent: None)

8. **Director's Update.** Speaker: Deborah Raphael, Director (Discussion)

Director Raphael introduced Kyle Wehner as the new Commission Affairs Officer.

Kyle introduced himself to the Committee.

Director Raphael gave an update on the final phase of the Essential Worker Ride Home program. Director Raphael also gave an update on plans for Climate Action Month. Director Raphael also confirmed that the Department submitted its budget and is hopeful about next steps.

There was no public comment.

9. **New Business/Future Agenda Items.** Speaker: Charles Sheehan, Chief Policy and Public Affairs Officer (Discussion)

Charles Sheehan described upcoming meetings and potential future topics.

There was no public comment.

10. **Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

The next meeting of the Commission on the Environment Policy Committee is scheduled for Monday April 11, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

Find out about upcoming deadlines, public hearings, and meetings. Search the SFEnvironment.org website archived minutes and agenda.

Remote Access to Information and Participation

This meeting will be held remotely using video conferencing, through the WebEx Meetings platform, and by telephone for members of the public who are unable to attend using computers or smart devices.

Attending the Meeting: Watch or Listen

Members of the public have the following options for attending the meeting:

Option 1: Watch the meeting using a computer or smart device by clicking on the following link:

<https://ccsf.webex.com/ccsf/onstage/g.php?MTID=ea63cfaf184e339c237bd6893de866ca5>

- If you are able to and would like to watch via your computer, please follow these instructions: (i) Click on the link above; (ii) Enter your first name, last name, and email address if desired; (iii) Click "Join by Browser" (directly beneath the "Join Now" button)
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Dial **415-655-0001** and then enter Access Code **2484 035 5265**.

Participating During Public Comment

Members of the public will have opportunities to participate during public comment. The public is asked to wait for the particular agenda item before making a comment on that item. Comments will be addressed in the order they are received. When the moderator announces that the Committee is taking public comment, members of the public can:

Dial: **415-655-0001** and then enter the Access Code: **2484 035 5265**

- Participate over the phone by pressing ***3** (this step is very important, as it will activate the "Raise Hand" icon in the Participant window).

Depending on the number of people also in line ahead of you, you may have to wait before it is your opportunity to speak. When it is your turn, you will be notified that your line has been unmuted, and it will be your opportunity to speak. Your line will be muted again when your allotted time expires.

Copies of explanatory documents are available at (1) on the Commission's website <http://www.sfenvironment.org/commission>; (2) upon request to the Public Affairs Asst. Coordinator, at telephone number 415-255-5870, or via e-mail at diedre.tanenberg@sfgov.org.

Important Information

The ringing of and use of cell phones, pagers and similar sound-producing electronic devices are prohibited at this meeting. Please be advised that the Chair may order the removal from the meeting room of any person(s) responsible for the ringing or use of a cell phone, pager, or other similar sound-producing electronic devices.

NOTE: Persons unable to attend the meeting may submit to the Committee, by the time the proceedings begin, written comments regarding the agenda items above. These comments will be made a part of the official public record and shall be brought to the attention of Committee Members. Any written comments should be sent to: Commission Affairs Officer, Department of the Environment, 1155 Market Street, 3rd floor, San Francisco, CA 94103 by 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to the hearing. Comments that cannot be delivered to the Commission Affairs Officer by that time may be taken directly to the hearing at the location above. When bringing handouts to meetings, please photocopy on both sides of the paper and try to use post-consumer recycled or tree-free paper. Also, please bring sufficient copies of handouts for the Committee, the Commission Affairs Officer and the public.

Public Comment

At this time, members of the public may address the Committee on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee but are not on today's agenda. Public comment will be taken following each agenda item. Each member of the public may address the Committee for up to three minutes, unless otherwise announced by the President. If it is demonstrated that the comments by the public will exceed 15 minutes, the President may continue Public Comment to another time during the meeting.

The Brown Act forbids the Committee from taking action or discussing any item or issue not appearing on the posted agenda. This rule applies to issues raised in public comment as well. In response to public comment, not on an agenda item, the Committee is limited to:

1. Briefly responding to statements made or questions posed by members of the public, or
2. Request staff to report back on a matter at a subsequent meeting, or
3. Directing staff to place the item or issue on a future agenda (Government Code Section 54954.2(a).)

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American sign language interpreters or the use of a reader during a meeting, a sound enhancement system, and/or alternative formats of the agenda and minutes, please contact Diedre Tanenberg at (415) 255-5870 to make arrangements for the accommodation. Late requests will be honored, if possible.

Language Access

Per the Language Access Ordinance (Chapter 91 of the San Francisco Administrative Code), Chinese, Spanish and or Filipino (Tagalog) interpreters will be available upon requests. Meeting Minutes may be translated, if requested, after they have been adopted by the Commission. Assistance in additional languages may be honored whenever possible. To request assistance with these services please contact the Public Affairs Assistant Coordinator at 415-255-5870 or diedre.tanenberg@sfgov.org at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing. Late requests will be honored if possible.

語言服務

根據語言服務條例(三藩市行政法典第91章)·中文·西班牙語和/或菲律賓語(泰加洛語)傳譯人員在收到要求後將會提供傳譯服務。翻譯版本的會議記錄可在委員會通過後透過要求而提供。其他語言協助在可能的情況下也將可提供。上述的要求·請於會議前最少48小時致電 415-255-5870 或電郵至 diedre.tanenberg@sfgov.org 向委員會秘書提出。逾期提出的請求·若可能的話·亦會被考慮接納。

Acceso A Idioma

De acuerdo con la Ordenanza de Acceso a Idiomas "Language Access Ordinance" (Capítulo 91 del Código Administrativo de San Francisco "Chapter 91 of the San Francisco Administrative Code") intérpretes de chino, español y/o filipino (tagalo) estarán disponibles de ser requeridos. Las minutas podrán ser traducidas, de ser requeridas, luego de ser aprobadas por la Comisión. La asistencia en idiomas adicionales se tomará en cuenta siempre que sea posible. Para solicitar asistencia con estos servicios favor comunicarse con el Secretario de la Comisión al 415-255-5870, o diedre.tanenberg@sfgov.org por lo menos 48 horas antes de la reunión. Las solicitudes tardías serán consideradas de ser posible.

Access Sa Wika

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Government's duty is to serve the public, reaching its decisions in full view of the public. Commissions, boards, councils, and other agencies of the City and County exist to conduct the people's business. This ordinance assures that deliberations are conducted before the people and that City operations are open to the people's review. For more information on your rights under the Sunshine Ordinance or to report a violation of the ordinance, contact the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force, City Hall, Room 244, One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102-4683 at Phone No.: (415) 554-7724; Fax No.: (415) 554-5163; E-mail: soff@sfgov.org. Copies of the Sunshine Ordinance can be obtained from

the Clerk of the Sunshine Task Force, the San Francisco Public Library and on the City's website at www.sfgov.org.

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Posted: March 24, 2022