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

MEETING MINUTES FINAL

Wednesday, April 21, 2021 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 Sarah Wan (Chair) and Elmy Bermejo.

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

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.

The Commission on the Environment Operations Committee meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Bermejo and Wan.


Upon a motion by Commissioner Bermejo, and a second by Chair Wan, the minutes were approved without objection. (Ayes: Commissioners Bermejo and Wan. Noes: None)

There was no public comment.

3. 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 received via telephone:
John Goldsmith called to express his appreciation for the Department’s work and asked the Committee to approve the Ramaytush Ohlone land acknowledgement. He asked the Committee to add an agenda item for the Memorial at Harvey Milk Plaza. He expressed concern regarding the 2400 block of Market Street and the work being done at the Castro MUNI station which includes
replacing the brickwork with concrete, removing the palm trees in the LGBT Veteran’s Grove, and removing plants that contribute significant environmental benefits. He asked other to visit saveharveymilkplaza.org or sign the petition to save Harvey’s Gardens.

4. **Presentation on the Department’s Work with the Treasure Island Development Authority to Implement the Yerba Buena Island Habitat Management Plan and Create a Nature-rich Treasure Island.** Speakers: Peter Brastow, SF Environment, and Peter Summerville, Treasure Island Development Authority. (Discussion)

Peter Brastow presented on the history of the project and progress that has been made.

Peter Summerville elaborated on the partnership between TIDA and SF Environment and the work being done on natural areas.

Chair Wan asked about the stewardship program and why types of community partnerships have been developed. She then asked about the timeline for project completion.

Peter Brastow said that it has been difficult because of all the construction and geography of the islands.

Peter Summerville said that events are promoted on their website and posted in the area. There will be more programmatic analysis to see how communities are being engaged. He added that the final stage of the project is expected in 15 to 20 years.

Commissioner Bermejo asked about the workforce development programs and asked about the plan for the job corps.

Peter Summerville said that the workforce development is tied to the projects that are needed, and there will be increased opportunities when there is more retail and dining. He added that there has been work done with the Job Corps Urban Farm Program.

Chair Wan invited the speakers to a future Operations Committee meeting to provide another update on the project.

There was no public comment.

5. **Presentation on updated web app SFRecycles.org.** Speaker: Zoey Kroll, Internet Communications Coordinator, SF Environment. (Discussion)

Asia Meshack, Program Manager, Communications & Community Engagement, presented the item because Zoey was unable to attend.

Chair Wan asked if Tagalog will be included on the web app as well.

Asia said that new languages can be added as needed and that this will be looked at in the next steps to improve the app.

Chair Wan asked if the user experience survey was also shared with Spanish and Chinese speaking audiences.

Asia confirmed that it was.
Commissioner Bermejo asked about next steps to raise awareness of the app and how to make updates more seamless.

Chair Wan brought up the idea of being able to take a picture of an item to solve for literacy and typing issues.

Asia said that she would add that idea to the list of potential updates.

Commissioner Bermejo said that this type of app exists for plants.

Asia said that this is why the app focuses on the use of images.

Chair Wan asked about strategies to promote the tool to different communities.

Asia said that outreach efforts are ongoing to business and property owners. The app has been promoted on Department materials and additional promotion of the app is a current priority.

There was no public comment.

6. **Discussion on Adapted Ramaytush Ohlone Land Acknowledgement for Operations Committee meetings.** Speaker: Sarah Wan, Commissioner. (Discussion)

Chair Wan introduced the item and asked for feedback on the adapted resolution.

Commissioner Bermejo said that she thinks the adapted statement captures the spirit behind the acknowledgement.

Chair Wan agreed with Commissioner Bermejo and stated that this statement would be read at future Operations Committee meetings.

There was no public comment.

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

Charles said that the next meeting of the Operations Committee is July 21st, Policy Committee is May 10th, and Commission is May 25th. He mentioned potential upcoming agenda items including the racial equity action plan, safer cleaning products, and Department branding.

Chair Wan said that she is looking forward to seeing the Department’s new branding.

There was no public comment.

8. **Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

The next meeting of the Commission on the Environment Operations Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, July 21, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. In compliance with the San Francisco Health Officer’s Order No. C19-07c, directing all individuals to “shelter in place”, Public meetings, panels and other advisory bodies will continue on a remote conferencing basis only.
Find out about upcoming deadlines, public hearings and meetings. Search the SFEnvironment.org website archived minutes and agenda

*If a quorum of the Commission on the Environment is present, it will constitute a Special Meeting of the Commission on the Environment. The Commission Affairs Manager shall make a note of it in the minutes, and discussion shall be limited to items noticed on this 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=ec89eed6f375014bce0339da34292cf38

- 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);
- If you are able to watch via your smart mobile device: i) Download the Webex Meetings application; ii) Click on the link above; iii) Click “Join”; iv) Enter your name and email; v) Click “Ready to Join”.

Option 2: Join the meeting by phone if you do not have access to a computer or smart device.
Dial: 415-655-0001 and then enter the Access Code: 187 605 8136

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: 187 605 8136

1) 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.

In accordance with Governor Gavin Newsom’s statewide order for all residents to “Stay at Home” - and the numerous local and state proclamations, orders and supplemental directions - aggressive directives have been issued to slow down and reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Copies of explanatory documents are available at 1) on the Commission’s website
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 agendized 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 agendized 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)).

Disability Access

Commission on the Environment Committee meetings will be held at City Hall, Room 421 in the Civic Center Area. City Hall is accessible to persons using wheelchairs and other assistive mobility devices. Ramps are available at the Grove, Van Ness and McAllister entrances. The closest accessible BART station is the Civic Center Station at United Nations Plaza and Market Street. Accessible MUNI lines serving this location are: #71 Haight/Noriega and the F Line to Market and Van Ness and the Metro Stations at Van Ness and Market and at Civic Center. For information about MUNI accessible services call (415) 923-6142. There is accessible curbside parking adjacent to City Hall on Grove Street and Van Ness Avenue and in the vicinity of the Veterans Building at 401 Van Ness Avenue adjacent to Davies Hall and the War Memorial Complex.

In order to assist the City’s efforts to accommodate persons with severe allergies, environmental illnesses, multiple chemical sensitivity or related disabilities, attendees at public meetings are reminded that other attendees may be sensitive to various chemical based products. Please help the City accommodate these individuals. Individuals with chemical sensitivity or related disabilities
should call the Mayor’s Office on Disability at (415) 554-6789 or (415) 554-6799 (TTY) for additional information.

The following services are available on request 72 hours prior to the meeting; except for Monday meetings, for which the deadline shall be 4:00 p.m. of the last business day of the preceding week: For 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 Katie Chansler at (415) 355-3709 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 Commission Affairs Officer at 415-355-3709 or katie.chansler@sfgov.org at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing. Late requests will be honored if possible.

**Access 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 (tagalog) estarán disponibles de ser requeridos. Las minutos 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 415-355-3709, o katie.chansler@sfgov.org por lo menos 48 horas antes de la reunión. Las solicitudes tardías serán consideradas de ser posible.

**Access Sa Wika**


**Know your Rights under the Sunshine Ordinance**

(Kapítulo 67 ng San Francisco Administrative Code)

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.
Lobbyist Registration and Reporting Requirements

Individuals and entities that influence or attempt to influence local legislative or administrative action may be required by the San Francisco Lobbyist Ordinance [SF Campaign & Governmental Conduct Code §2.100, et. seq] to register and report lobbying activity. For more information about the Lobbyist Ordinance, please contact the Ethics Commission at: 25 Van Ness Avenue, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94102; telephone (415) 252-3100, fax (415) 252-3112, web site at www.sfgov.org/ethics.

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