



**SF Environment**

**Our home. Our city. Our planet.**

A Department of the City and County of San Francisco

Mark Farrell  
Mayor

Deborah O. Raphael  
Director

**CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT  
POLICY COMMITTEE\***

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES DRAFT**

**MONDAY, MAY 14, 2018, 5:00 P.M.  
CITY HALL, ROOM 421  
ONE DR. CARLTON B. GOODLETT JR. PLACE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Commissioners Johanna Wald (Chair), Elmy Bermejo and Eddie Ahn.

**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 was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Wald, Ahn and Bermejo. Absent: None.

**2. Approval of minutes of the March 12, 2018 Commission on the Environment Policy Committee meeting.** (Explanatory Document: March 12, 2018 Draft Minutes) (Discussion and Action)

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

There was no public comment.

**4. Presentation on the impacts of natural gas on San Francisco's climate action goals and opportunities to eliminate natural gas from buildings.** Sponsor: Deborah Raphael, Director; Speaker: Wendy Goodfriend, Climate Action Program Manager; Silvia Pac, Climate and Sustainability Analyst; Rachel Golden, Senior Campaign Representative, Sierra Club; Nik Kaestner, Director of Sustainability, San Francisco Unified School District (Discussion)

Deborah Raphael, Director, introduced the item.

Wendy Goodfriend, Climate Action Program Manager, discussed a report that was published by the United States Sustainability Directors' Network, key questions, project team and the problem statement.

Silvia Pac, Climate and Sustainability Analyst, discussed methane as a greenhouse gas (GHG), methane's lifespan, impact of methane, leaks and sources, national 2014 inventory, San Francisco 2015 inventory, impact of San Francisco municipal buildings, San Francisco's 2016 emissions inventory, ten priority actions and decarbonization.

Rachel Golden, Senior Campaign Representative, Sierra Club discussed the myGeneration campaign, gas consumption in California, decarbonized fuel as a viable pathway, building electrification, explanation of a heat pump, home emissions, policy action needed to achieve GHG goals, electrification as a clean air strategy, benefits of electrification, hurdles to building electrification, policy landscape, cities and counties leading the way and opportunities for San Francisco leadership.

Nik Kaestner, Director of Sustainability, San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) discussed taking bold action, San Francisco's zero net energy (ZNE) building goals, zero net energy, ZNE schools, why schools, SFUSD building stock, 7x7x7 challenge, how SFUSD is doing, energy modernization projects, performance of new schools, working group, role models, site visits, status quo, costs, transition fuel, the future of design, utility perks, heat pumps, labor issues, funding challenges, opportunities, building strategy, the rules, the first ZNE building, priorities, first ZNE retrofit, smaller projects, road to electrification, challenges, starting small, following the leaders, carbon reduction policies at the SFUSD and key takeaways.

Commissioner Bermejo discussed an education campaign to San Francisco residents.

Commissioner Ahn asked about net job growth with electrification, job types and the cost effectiveness test before the California Public Utilities Commission.

Commissioner Wald discussed potential changes to San Francisco emissions goals and potential building code policies to encourage zero net energy.

Director Raphael asked how the methane leakage rates were developed, at what rate carbon dioxide becomes more damaging than methane, the idea of no new gas boilers at the SFUSD and improvements in gas stoves.

Commissioner Ahn discussed local hire and asked about state funding streams to address the cost of electrification.

Public Comment:

Discussed the use of natural gas and bio gas.

Michelle Pierce discussed the cost of electrification.

Cara Pierce discussed the messaging about electrification and pathways into unions for communities of color.

Jennifer Clary discussed developing goals for the new mayor of San Francisco.

Jed Holtzman discussed the effects of methane and a regional climate strategy.

Commissioner Bermejo discussed having the same presentation come to the full commission and that the Department reach out to diverse communities to be included in the conversation.

Commissioner Ahn discussed the challenges of the jobs and costs of the issue.

Commissioner Wald discussed telling people about the issue.

Director Raphael asked about next steps.

5. **Director's Update.** Deborah Raphael, Director (Discussion)

Deborah Raphael, Director, discussed the Mayor's Earth Day Breakfast, the planting of a tree in honor of Mayor Lee, a campaign for the recycling of batteries, proceedings before the California Public Utilities Commission, upcoming hearings before the Board of Supervisors, moving forward with a new zero waste goal and issues in the Bayview Hunters Point neighborhood.

Public Comment:

Eric Brooks, Our City and the San Francisco Green Party, discussed radiological findings on Treasure Island and the Bayview Hunters Point, the investigation of myriad chemicals and a charter amendment.

Michelle Pierce discussed health issues in the Bayview Hunters Point neighborhood, toxics at the Hunters Point Shipyard and San Francisco's response.

Commissioner Ahn discussed a lack of accountability by stakeholders and the need to continue the conversation.

6. **New Business/Future Agenda Items.** Charles Sheehan, Policy and Communications Director (Discussion)

Charles Sheehan, Policy and Communications Director, discussed potential presentations to the June Policy Committee meeting including one about emerging mobility and an ordinance being introduced by the Department. The July Policy Committee meeting will likely be the annual Commission site visit.

Public Comment:

Unidentified speaker discussed staff response on the Reduced Risk Pesticide List, renewable diesel, coordination on discussions before the California Public Utilities Commission and a discussion on plastics.

7. **Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned 7:18 p.m.

**The next meeting of the Commission on the Environment Policy Committee is scheduled for Monday, June 11, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. in City Hall, Room 421.**

\*\* Copies of explanatory documents are available at (1) the Commission's office, 1455 Market Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, California, 94103 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Photo identification is required for entry to the building. (2) on the Commission's website <http://www.sfenvironment.org/commission>; (3) upon request to the Commission Affairs Manager, at

telephone number 415-355-3709, or via e-mail at Anthony.E.Valdez@sfgov.org. If any materials related to an item on this agenda have been distributed to the Committee after distribution of the agenda packet, those materials are available for public inspection at the Department of the Environment, 1455 Market Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, CA 94103 during normal office hours or will be made available on the Commission's website <http://www.sfenvironment.org/commission> as attachments to the agenda or meeting minutes.

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Posted: May 30, 2018