



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

MEETING MINUTES FINAL

Monday, August 5, 2019

COMMISSION MEMBERS: Elmy Bermejo (President), Heather Stephenson (Vice President), Eddie Ahn, Tiffany Chu, Mike Sullivan, Johanna Wald and Sarah Wan.

9:30 A.M. MEETING AT HERON'S HEAD PARK ECO-CENTER

Location: 32 Jennings Street (cross street: Cargo Way), San Francisco, CA 94124

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 meeting was convened at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Commissioners Ahn, Chu (arrived at 10:00 a.m.), Stephenson, Sullivan, Wald and Wan.

Excused: Commissioner Bermejo.

2. Welcome. Speaker: Deborah Raphael, Director. (Discussion)

Deborah Raphael, Director, welcomed the commissioners and the public and introduced Port Director Elaine Forbes and Recreation and Parks Department Director Phil Ginsburg.

There was no public comment.

3. Discussion of consumption in the City and County of San Francisco. Under the City Charter, the Commission on the Environment conducts public education and outreach to the community on San Francisco's sustainability efforts. Sponsor: Deborah Raphael, Director (Discussion)

Deborah Raphael, Director, introduced the item.

a. Background on consumption. Speaker: Robert Haley, Zero Waste Manager.

Robert Haley, Zero Waste Manager, discussed upstream impacts, the wasteburg, generation, San Francisco's zero waste pledges.

Commissioner Wald asked about having the media communicate about upstream waste.

Commissioner Ahn asked about the closest upstream facilities to San Francisco.

Commissioner Stephenson asked about how much of upstream waste is food waste.

b. **Discussion of greenhouse gas emissions associated with consumption.** Speakers: Jack Macy, Commercial Zero Waste Senior Coordinator and Bryan Reyes, Climate and Sustainability Analyst.

Jack Macy, Commercial Zero Waste Senior Coordinator and Bryan Reyes, Climate and Sustainability Analyst, discussed conventional San Francisco boundary emission inventories, the result of the conventional inventory, a global boundary consumption based inventory, conventional versus consumption based emissions, purchasing data used for consumption based emissions, how to use the consumption based emissions data, target product categories, production lifecycle phase, trends and shift from goods to services industry.

Commissioner Chu asked for an example of a good that has shifted from goods to service.

Commissioner Sullivan asked about the definition of waste in the conventional versus global methodology.

Commissioner Stephenson asked if the global inventory is based on money spent.

Commissioner Wald asked which inventory will be used in trying to achieve the mayor's Global Climate Action Summit goals.

c. **Discussion of what is currently being done in San Francisco to address consumption.** Speaker: Robert Haley, Zero Waste Manager and Hilary Near, Commercial Zero Waste Analyst.

Robert Haley, Zero Waste Manager and Hilary Near, Commercial Zero Waste Analyst discussed producer responsibility, waste generation in San Francisco, initiatives for source reduction, policies to address consumption, outreach and education, reducing food waste, food waste goals and technologies and a grant to address food waste.

Commissioner Sullivan asked about food waste that can be prevented.

Commissioner Wald asked about integrating food waste prevention technology into the LEED accreditation program.

Commissioner Stephenson asked about possible pilot programs around design and storage that can make a difference in food waste.

d. **Discussion of next steps in addressing consumption.** Speaker: Bryan Reyes, Climate and Sustainability Analyst.

Bryan Reyes, Climate and Sustainability Analyst, discussed next steps in address consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, public policy and programs around the world and updates to the San Francisco Environmental Code Chapter 9.

Commissioner Wald asked for staff's opinion of the use of the phrase sustainable consumption.

Commissioner Chu asked about mistakes of other cities that have been instructive to the Department.

Commissioner Ahn asked about equity pitfalls for San Francisco when it comes to addressing consumption.

Public Comment:

Unidentified speaker discussed food waste and an IPPCC report.

4. **Discussion of the history of the Heron's Head Eco Center.** Speakers: Carol Bach, Environmental Affairs Manager, Port of San Francisco; Vanessa Cabrera, San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department; Elizabeth Koch, San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department. (Discussion)

Carol Bach, Environmental Affairs Manager, Port of San Francisco, discussed the history of the Heron's Head Eco Center.

Brenda Cartagena, San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department, Vanessa Cabrera, San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department and Elizabeth Koch, San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department gave walking tour of the Heron's Head Eco Center.

There was no public comment.

5. **Discussion of the future priorities of the San Francisco Commission on the Environment.** Speaker: Deborah Raphael, Director. (Discussion and Possible Action)

The meeting went into recess at 12:12 p.m. and reconvened at 12:34 p.m.

Deborah Raphael, Director, facilitated a discussion about takeaways from the staff presentations on consumption and the future priorities of the Commission.

Director Raphael asked about green purchasing and the impacts of meat.

Commissioner Wald asked about the disclosure requirement in the law regarding antibiotics in meat.

Director Raphael asked about a City taskforce to develop amendments to Chapter 9 of the San Francisco Environmental Code.

Commissioner Stephenson asked what success would look like.

Commissioner Wald asked discussing ways to present the consumption issue to San Francisco residents.

Commissioner Sullivan asked if there are other cities around the world that have best practices in addressing consumption.

Commissioner Wald asked about funding possibilities for addressing consumption.

Commissioner Wan asked about investment in sustainability issues.

Commissioner Chu asked about considering zoning and density in addressing consumption.

Public Comment:

Denise Louis discussed existing vegetation in San Francisco.

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

Denise Louis discussed waste reduction and motion sensors.

Unidentified speaker discussed native plants and trees in San Francisco.

1:30 P.M. MEET AT HERON'S HEAD PARK ECO-CENTER (32 Jennings Street) FOR TOUR OF RECOLOGY RECYCLE CENTRAL AT PIER 96

Location: 32 Jennings Street (cross street: Cargo Way) AND Recology Recycle Central/Pier 96, San Francisco, CA 94124. Tour begins with a presentation at 1:30 p.m. at Heron's Head Park Eco-Center, 32 Jennings Street (cross street: Cargo Way), San Francisco, CA 94124, and then will depart to Recology Recycle Central/Pier 96, San Francisco, CA 94124

7. **Presentation on Recycle Central at Pier 96.** Speaker: Paul Giusti, Government Affairs, Recology. (Discussion)

The meeting went into recess at 1:40 p.m. and reconvened at 1:53 p.m. at Pier 96.

Paul Giusti, Government Affairs, Recology, discussed the history of Pier 96 and improvements to the facilities.

Commissioner Sullivan asked about the metric that is used to determine contamination.

Robert Reed, Public Relations Manager, Recology, discussed the history of Recycle Central, the three bin system, the market place for recycled goods and modernizing the equipment.

Director Raphael asked why there is still human sorting since there is still optical equipment.

Commissioner Wald asked about local hiring initiatives and the future of jobs with the new optical equipment.

The commissioners toured Recycle Central.

Director Raphael asked Recology to discuss the weekly meetings between the Department and Recology.

Unidentified member of the public asked if items in the black bin get recycled.

Commissioner Sullivan asked about plastic tape on cardboard boxes and how broken glass is dealt with.

Commissioner Wald asked if caps can be left on bottles and whether cardboard can be collected separately.

Commissioner Chu asked about the sale of materials to China.

Commissioner Stephenson asked if San Francisco is sending all materials to be recycled and how film plastic is being collected.

Commissioner Ahn asked if Recology does tours of Recycle Central to school groups.

Commissioner Wan asked if it was possible to have both the parents and the students to come on a tour together.

Director Raphael asked when the public can tour the facilities.

Public Comment:

Unidentified member of the public thanked Recology and the Department of the Environment for the tour.

Unidentified member of the public asked about waste chutes in multifamily buildings and solar panels on Recology facilities.

8. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

** 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 Commission 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: August 22, 2019