



**SF Environment**

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

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\***

**MEETING MINUTES FINAL**

**Monday, September 14, 2020 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 Eddie Ahn (Chair), Mike Sullivan 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 Commission on the Environment Policy Committee meeting was convened at 5:02 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Eddie Ahn, Mike Sullivan, and Johanna Wald.

**2. Approval of minutes of the March 9, 2020 Commission on the Environment Policy Committee meeting.** (Explanatory Document: March 9, 2020 Draft Minutes) (Discussion and Action)

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sullivan and a second by Commissioner Wald the minutes were approved without objection. (Ayes: Commissioners Ahn, Sullivan, and Wald; 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. Consider Whether to Recommend That the Commission on the Environment Approve the Proposed 2020 Reduced Risk Pesticide List for City properties.** Under the Environment Code, the Department maintains a Reduced Risk Pesticide List identifying those pesticides that may be used on City

property, subject to restrictions. Sponsor: Deborah Raphael, Director; Speaker Dr. Chris Geiger, Integrated Pest Management Program Manager (Explanatory Documents: Staff Memo, Resolution File No. 2020-03-COE, 2020 Reduced Risk Pesticide List) (Discussion and Possible Action)

Director Raphael introduced this agenda item.

Chris Geiger, Integrated Pest Management Program Manager, presented on the background of the integrated pest management program and ordinance, pesticide use trends for 2019, and recommendations to the Commission on the reduced risk pesticide list.

Luis Agurto, Pestec, spoke about the impacts from the pandemic on staff and services as well as device upgrades that are currently in progress.

Kevin Woolen, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, gave an overview of common pest issues, impacts of COVID-19 on activities, and wildfire monitoring.

Matt Pruitt, San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department, spoke about pandemic impacts on indoor facilities, decreased labor forces, and persistent pest challenges. He also spoke about the Department's pesticide reduction trends.

Chris Geiger gave a summary of the proposed changes to the reduced risk pesticide list and the reasoning behind the changes.

Commissioner Ahn thanked the speakers for joining the meeting.

Commissioner Sullivan asked what Weedslayer would be used for and which products it would be replacing.

Matt Pruitt said that Weedslayer could replace Roundup because it treats weeds that have storage, but Weedslayer is still experimental.

Commissioner Sullivan asked what the timeline is for using Weedslayer to replace some chemicals.

Matt Pruitt said that his department will look for opportunities to substitute glyphosate and other tier 2 herbicides.

Commissioner Sullivan mentioned that he would be supportive of a Commission letter in support of dry ice as a rat control product.

Commissioner Wald mentioned that the pesticide use trends are very commendable and San Francisco residents should feel proud. She thanked Matt Pruitt for addressing the maintenance loop issue. Commissioner Wald then asked if there will be an increase in pesticide use next year because of COVID-19 impacts on services.

Chris Geiger stated that he assumes there will be an increase in pesticide use due to reductions in staff and other impacts.

Matt Pruitt agreed that there will most likely be an increase due to reductions in volunteers.

Luis Agurto mentioned that they received an exemption for a rodenticide, but that work was affected by the pandemic.

Commissioner Wald asked Chris Geiger to mention this potential increase due to reasons beyond our control in comments to the Commission. She added that she would also support a letter regarding dry ice as a rat control product.

Commissioner Ahn stated that he would also be in support of a letter regarding dry ice as a rat control product and that it should be brought up before the full Commission.

Commissioner Wald recommended that two letters be sent to Bell Laboratories and the EPA. She would also like to potentially work with other California cities and other states to show Bell that there is a market for this product.

Chris Geiger agreed that this would be a good strategy and mentioned that the Department has partners who would be likely to sign on as well.

Commissioner Ahn asked if there are additional questions.

Director Raphael asked if the Public Utilities Commission has seen increases in herbicide use after fires.

Kevin Woolen responded that it is hard to know what the impacts will be because the focus has been on emergency response.

Director Raphael added that there should be a way to indicate any impacts from COVID-19 or wildfires on next year's dataset. She then asked what had caused the reduction in Pestec's time spent at affordable housing sites.

Luis Agurto stated that this was due to COVID-19 and restrictions on non-emergency services.

Commissioner Wald asked to hear from members of the public before continuing any discussion.

There was no public comment.

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

Commissioner Ahn mentioned that the letters in support of dry ice as a rat control product should be brought up at the full Commission meeting.

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

Director Raphael gave an update on the Commission letter sent to Supervisor Mandelman's office regarding the all-electric new construction ordinance. She also mentioned the budget hearing before the Board of Supervisors, the W Challenge celebrating the ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, and a presentation to Department staff from Jeff Tumlin, Director of SFMTA. Looking ahead, Director Raphael mentioned upcoming topics for the Commission meetings including the Department's racial equity, the City's economic recovery plans, and the impending office move.

Commissioner Sullivan asked if the Department would be saving money by not having an office for a few months.

Director Raphael confirmed that the Department's lease in the new office building will begin immediately.

Commissioner Ahn mentioned that engagement on transit issues will be very important.

There was no public comment.

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

Charles Sheehan mentioned the upcoming Commission meeting on September 22, Operations Committee meeting on October 21, and the Policy Committee Meeting on October 26. He also mentioned the sustainable consumption report which will be brought before either the Policy Committee or the full Commission.

**7. Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

**The next meeting of the Commission on the Environment Policy Committee is scheduled for Monday October 26, 2020, 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=e1a2bb401d9a46b80c6fb30b70741fe4b>

- 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: **146 845 9749**

## **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: **146 845 9749**

- 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 <http://www.sfenvironment.org/commission>; (2) upon request to the Commission Affairs Officer, at telephone number 415-355-3709, or via e-mail at [katie.chansler@sfgov.org](mailto:katie.chansler@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, 1455 Market Street, Suite 1200, 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).)

### **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](mailto:katie.chansler@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 415-355-3709或電郵至[katie.chansler@sfgov.org](mailto:katie.chansler@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 415-355-3709, o [katie.chansler@sfgov.org](mailto:katie.chansler@sfgov.org) por lo menos 48 horas antes de la reunión. Las solicitudes tardías serán consideradas de ser posible.

### **Access Sa Wika**

Ayon sa Language Access Ordinance (Chapter 91 ng San Francisco Administrative Code), maaaring mag-request ng mga tagapagsalin sa wikang Tsino, Espanyol, at/o Filipino (Tagalog). Kapag hiniling, ang mga kaganapan ng miting ay maaring isalin sa ibang wika matapos ito ay aprobahan ng komisyon. Maari din magkaroon ng tulong sa ibang wika. Sa mga ganitong uri ng kahilingan, mangyaring tumawag sa Clerk ng Commission sa 415-355-3709, o [katie.chansler@sfgov.org](mailto:katie.chansler@sfgov.org) sa hindi bababa sa 48 oras bago mag miting. Kung maari, ang mga late na hiling ay posibleng pagbibigyan.

### **Know your Rights under the Sunshine Ordinance (Chapter 67 of the 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, 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](mailto: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](http://www.sfgov.org).

### **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](http://www.sfgov.org/ethics).

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