



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***

MEETING MINUTES DRAFT

**Monday, October 4, 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 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 5:01 p.m.
Present: Commissioners Mike Sullivan, Elmy Bermejo, and Johanna Wald

2. Approval of minutes of the September 13, 2021 Commission on the Environment Policy Committee meeting. (Explanatory Document: September 13, 2021 Draft Minutes) (Discussion and Action)

There was no public comment.

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

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. Review and vote on whether to approve Resolution File 2021-05-COE-PC, Resolution Making Findings to Allow Teleconferenced Meetings Under California Government Code Section 54953(e).
Speaker: Katie Chansler, Commission Affairs Officer (Explanatory Document: Resolution File 2021-05-COE-PC) (Discussion and Action)

The Committee will consider adoption of a resolution making findings that newly-enacted Government Code Section 54953(e) requires in order to allow the Committee to hold meetings remotely, as currently required under local law, without complying with infeasible Brown Act requirements.

Katie gave an overview of the new legislation and next steps.

Commissioner Wald expressed support for the resolution but asked that staff think of ways to streamline the process for reviewing similar resolutions moving forward.

Commissioner Bermejo agreed with Commissioner Wald.

There was no public comment.

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

5. Overview of State Level Policy on Food Waste and Update on City Progress. Sponsor: Deborah Raphael, Director; Speaker: Alexa Kielty, Residential Zero Waste Senior Coordinator. (Discussion)

Director Raphael introduced the item.

Alexa Kielty presented on SB 1383 and the City's progress towards food waste goals.

Lisa Barr, Replate, spoke about their collaboration with the Department and their initiatives.

Commissioner Sullivan thanked the speakers.

Commissioner Bermejo asked if there is any funding attached to SB 1383 for other municipalities and asked if outreach is being done in other languages.

Alexa said that outreach is being done in Chinese and Spanish. She added that there is not a lot of funding attached to this bill, so many cities believe it will be costly for them.

Commissioner Wald asked if funding for SB 1383 implementation could be secured through additional funding for the climate program.

Director Raphael said that this would need to go before the voters and added support for the technological tools being used to address food waste. Director Raphael asked when SB 1383 was passed.

Alexa said that it was passed by Governor Brown in 2014.

Commissioner Wald also expressed support for the technology being used and hopes that it will inspire San Francisco residents. Commissioner Wald also expressed shock at the amount of food waste generated by restaurants. She also asked if there are neighborhood programs that could help with implementation.

Lisa Barr spoke about working with caterers and the hierarchy of food waste.

Director Raphael asked about food waste generated by restaurants.

Alexa said that there are several issues and referenced company cafeterias that generate too much food.

Lisa Barr added that the pandemic has led to a lot of office spaces ordering enough food for all employees despite some working remotely.

Director Raphael asked what is the biggest disconnect between the food supply and demand.

Lisa Barr said that bread and foods that are not nutritionally dense are not desirable.

Commissioner Wald asked if San Francisco knows what the optimal list of incentives would be.

Alexa said that we need to think about how to create more incentives and get others to invest in the technology.

Commissioner Sullivan mentioned a mobile application that connects restaurants and stores that have unsold surplus with consumers.

Alexa agreed that this would be a useful tool.

Commissioner Sullivan asked if there is anything to be done at the state or local level to encourage eating the right foods with regards to climate impacts.

Alexa mentioned that there is action in the Netherlands around low carbon food options.

There was no public comment.

6. Presentation on Reusable Foodware Campaigns. Sponsor: Deborah Raphael, Director; Speaker: Kelly Gaherty, Commercial Zero Waste Assistant Coordinator, and Jack Macy, Commercial Zero Waste Senior Coordinator. (Discussion)

Director Raphael introduced this item.

Kelly presented on the Department's reusable foodware efforts.

Grace Lee, ReThink Disposable, spoke about their organization initiatives and experience working with the Department.

Jack spoke about policy opportunities for reusable foodware.

Commissioner Wald thanked the speakers and asked about the development of a program for businesses to promote their reusable products. She also asked about programs that could involve residents talking to businesses about their reusables and ways to encourage residents to bring their own reusables.

Kelly said that there is an anonymous report form on SFE's website and said that consumer engagement would be helpful. Kelly added that it will take a while for businesses to become comfortable with reusables again after the pandemic.

Jack added that some cities are banning all plastic foodware.

Commissioner Bermejo added that it can be difficult to find necessary products at restaurant supply stores and looks forward to the outreach being done to reach different communities.

Director Raphael spoke about her experience at the Emergency Operations Center and using compostable catering materials. She then asked about the work with the restaurant associations.

Kelly spoke about her partnership with the Golden Gate Restaurant Association.

Commissioner Sullivan expressed support for reusables but was wary of reusable containers to go. He also asked about policy options to ensure that only truly compostable products are put in the green bin.

Jack said that there are bills on the Governor's desk regarding labeling recyclable and compostable products.

Kelly added that working in the reuse sector will be critical.

Jack added that there needs to be a focus on reverse logistics and picking up reusables from restaurants.

There was no public comment.

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

Director Raphael gave updates on returning to the office and the Climate Action Plan.

There was no public comment.

8. **New Business/Future Agenda Items.** Katie Chansler, Commission Affairs Officer (Discussion)

Katie reviewed the upcoming Commission meeting dates and potential topics.

There was no public comment.

9. **Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

The next meeting of the Commission on the Environment Policy Committee is scheduled for Monday November 8, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. In compliance with the San Francisco Health Officer's Order No. C19-07 directing all individuals to "shelter in place," and in compliance with the Mayor's emergency orders regarding the conduct of City meetings, public meetings of the Commission on the Environment and its committees will continue on a remote conferencing basis only at this time.

Find out about upcoming deadlines, public hearings and meetings. Search the [SFEnvironment.org](https://www.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=eb941294fcbb8c06c792195187154767f>

- 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".

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Dial: **415-655-0001** and then enter the Access Code: **2497 044 1160**

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: **2497 044 1160**

- 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.

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 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 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 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: sof@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.

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.

Katie Chansler, Commission Affairs Officer
TEL: (415) 355-3709; FAX: (415) 554-6393