

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF LOS ANGELES**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION.**  
200 N. Spring Street, Room 1050, City Hall  
January 18, 2007

Present: Misty Sanford, President  
Alina Bokde, Vice President  
Joyce M. Perkins, Commissioner  
Maria Armoudian, Commissioner

Absent: M. Teresa Villegas, Commissioner

Keylaundra McClelland, Acting Commission Secretary –  
(213) 978-2366

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** President Sanford called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.
2. **CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:** Commissioner Bokde approved the minutes of November 9, 2006, Commissioner Sanford second. The minutes of December 21, 2006 will be considered at the February 1, 2007 meeting.
3. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** None.
4. **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:** Detrich B. Allen, General Manager of the Environmental Affairs Department provided the Commission with an update of departmental activities.
5. **ITEMS OF DISCUSSION:**

Status Report on follow-up items to public comment period of October 19, 2006 on Elephant Hill Project and Hope Beautification and Cultural Society Complaint. Gretchen Hardison, Division Director of the Air Quality Division informed the Commission on the status of the Elephant Hill Project, reported that staff from the Planning Department that were involved in the approval process of the project unfortunately were not able to come and address the Commission. It is understood after doing some research that the project was approved in October 2005 by the Planning Department and Planning Commission and the appeal period ended October 17, 2005 Oversight of project has moved over to Building and Safety and Bureau of Engineering for the construction phase of the project. The project may go back to Planning Department to make sure all the elements of the mitigated negative declaration of the CEQA review are satisfied prior to giving a certificate of occupancy, but it is the EAD's understanding that at the current time Planning is not actively

participating in this project. Commissioner Sanford stated that Commissioner Bokde has been working on this issue to sheppard it though on the outside. Reported that there has been movement on issue, a Council Motion was adopted and is currently in the process of looking at a supplemental draft EIR.

Melinda Bartlett, Division Director of the Water and Natural Resources Division gave an update on the Status of the Hope Beautification and Cultural Society Complaint informed the EAC that Dee sent a letter to Rita Robinson, Director of the Bureau of Sanitation, transferring the info about the complaint and request for recycling bins. She spoke with Division Manager for the Citywide Recycling Neil Guglielmo. He offered to come and address the Commission at a future date. Sent a letter to Amira Mohammed stating Neil is the person she should be working with to secure the recycling bins. Neil noted that there are BIDs (Business Improvement Districts) in the area that may be able to help also. Commissioner Sanford expressed that she would like, as a future agenda item having Neil come and give an update to EAC on his work with Amira to make sure the issue is moving forward.

Wayne Tsuda, Division Director of the Materials and Waste Resources Division addressed the Commission on the rodent complaint, stated EAD sent a letter to acting Manager Gail Van Gordon of the Vector Control program with LA County Public Health Department and has not received a call back, got in contact with her and she stated that she had not received the letter, Wayne explained the situation to her and she said she would be dispatching two inspectors over to the site and they will be checking in with Steven Van Zile who is the contact person and will follow-up with whatever needs to be done. The LA County Public Health Department Vector Control Program can apply baits and issue orders to have property owners clean up their rodent harborages. Wayne also added that as the department representative on the Safer City Initiative which is an effort to clean up skid row that has been going for several months at the request of CD 9 had intervned in getting some health inspectors assigned to the task force so there are health inspectors in the area checking out general sanitation conditions working along with the others.

Prop 84 Subcommittees-Commissioners Perkins and Armoudian updated the Commission on its meeting with the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board members on January 17, 2007 in regard to environmental policy issues within the City of Los Angeles.

Erin Walsh of the Mayor's Legislative and Intergovernmental relations team addressed the Commission on Prop 84. She began by proposing other bond measures the Commission might be interested in pursuing such as, Prop 1B, the air quality mitigation funds pertaining to goods movement. Prop 1C, the housing bond, which would allow funding for urban parks, brownfields, etc. And Prop 1E, the flood control bond that could provide funding for the LA River. Informed the Commission on the City's efforts in securing Prop 84 bond monies, stated that the goal is to make sure that the largest chunk of money is given to the City of Los Angeles. Expressed to the Commission that the City is looking to influence legislation on the urban parks portion of the bond measure in terms of need as opposed to population breakdown. Strategy of the Mayor's Office is looking at action in Los Angeles and legislative activity in Sacramento. The local effort is a working group comprised of the CLA, CAO and Mayor's Office pursuant to Council Motion signed by the Mayor. Before the bond was passed the Mayor's Office reached out to affected departments and asked for a

detailed list of projects that may qualify for any bond funding. The working group is taking an in depth look at all projects submitted by departments. Erin gave an update on the legislative strategy that is happening in Sacramento, still trying to identify legislators who are interested in implementing legislation for the bond. Categories of funding for Prop 84 are a perfect example, some categories are for preexisting programs that do not need legislation. Then there are categories that are completely new and undefined and cannot be allocated unless there is legislation that defines them. Interest now is identifying people from the Los Angeles delegation who are interested in being leaders and carrying legislation that will advance the City. Legislators from other areas such as Senator Torlakson of Concord, CA and Senator Prata of Oakland, CA are working with staff to come up with criteria that is beneficial to Los Angeles. Informed the Commission that the legislative deadline is approaching but there is not a lot of substance as to what people want. There is a deadline of January 26, 2007 to get language into Legislative Council and a Bill Introduction deadline of February 23, 2007. Commissioner Sanford added that the Mayor's Office is asking for EAC's help in the undefined implementation areas of Prop 84 as well as assistance with the internal process that is happening within the City. Erin encouraged the Commission to submit a list of projects over the next month she also stated that the projects should be the most competitive, thinking creatively and innovatively. The Commission asked Erin for a copy of the lists of projects submitted by City departments for review.

Green LA Presentation - Terry O'Day, Executive Director of Environment Now, Michele Prichard, Director of Special Projects for the Liberty Hill Foundation and Jim Stewart, Executive Director of People for Parks along with other organizations form Green LA -The Working Group for a Justice and Sustainable Future. Green LA, a collaboration of environmental and community-based organizations came together over the last year to draw up a plan to address the Mayor's goal of transforming L.A. into the cleanest greenest big city in the country. The report makes recommendations that address: protecting the global climate, adopting environmentally-friendly modes of transportation developing high quality and sustainable water supplies, improving health in communities of color, greening the port of Los Angeles, and using nature's own processes to improve the urban environment.

Terry O'Day informed the EAC of Green LA's history, accomplishments and commitment to the Mayor's goal of L.A. becoming the "greenest city" in America and how Green LA could assist in those efforts. For Green LA that meant collaborating with City government, Non-governmental organizations (NGOs), City leaders and involving the necessary communities in L.A. to provide a detail of expertise for the platform and decision of becoming the "greenest city" in the U.S. This process lead to the development of a set of eighteen recommendations amounting to 60 pages detailing what Los Angeles must do in order to accomplish its goal. Commissioners requested to view the 60 page detailed report.

Michele Prichard, Director of Special Projects for the Liberty Hill Foundation proposed three points on moving forward with the recommendations. Stated first priority is how to implement change and would like to work with EAC to continue efforts in implementing the 18 recommendations made by Green LA. Second priority would be working with the constituency that is represented by the 60 plus community

and environmental organizations and voters to promote a public education campaign around key objectives of the recommendations. There has been discussion of a town hall meeting in the summer inviting all community members and business leaders that want to participate. Third priority is securing additional foundation partners over the next several months to help support the workload in hiring staff and help with building the website. Looking forward to a collaborative partnership with EAC to make the Mayor's vision a reality and with Commissions efforts toward Prop 84, providing expertise in shaping the urban greening definition of Prop 84. Michele also addressed the issue of cumulative impacts, updated the EAC of the working group formed to address cumulative impacts of environmental hazards in the most vulnerable parts of the City. Used the expertise of UC Santa Cruz and Occidental College for data collection and mapping, there efforts have produced data that show where the most cumulative impacts are to address the problem. Offered three policy recommendations to EAC that she believes are bold and innovative: develop standards measuring cumulative impacts; establishing statewide standards; and implementation.

Jim Stewart, Executive Director of People for Parks expressed his concerns to the Commission on the City's Climate Action Registry failure to report on its emissions. Would like the city to come up with recommendations to protect the global climate, and to adopt the recommendation in the Green LA report and incorporate them into the Mayor's plan of becoming the "greenest city" in America. Suggested that EAD hire a consultant to help foster Green LA report so that EAD and the City are on record with the guidelines of the Climate Registry. Commissioner Sanford asked that staff of EAD report back on what EAC should do to be supportive internally of the Climate Action Registry.

Verde Coalition Presentation-Stephanie Taylor and David Marquez of Verde Coalition discussed its goal of working with EAC to develop recommendations on how the City can create more urban parks within the most park poor areas of Los Angeles. Verde Coalition identifies that disparities of access to open spaces are often in the low income areas, to address this issue Verde Coalition facilitates solutions through public policy reform, program creation, community organizing, and advocacy to make parks more accessible in urban communities. Proposed three recommendations 1) identify problems in the creation of small accessible urban parks and identify solutions, recommendations, and policies; 2) Create a 10-point Plan for the EAC with concrete policy changes necessary for institutional change; 3) bring together groups through existing Verde network to develop 12-18 month campaign effort geared towards implementing key policy recommendations.


**6. COMMISSION OLD BUSINESS:**

**7. NEW COMMISSION BUSINESS:**

**8. FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS:** Green Agenda, Bay Area Green Business Program, report from EAD staff on Climate Action Registry. EAD to compile a list of ideas for future program projects.

**9. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

AN AUDIO RECORDING OF THIS MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIRTY (30) DAYS BY CONTACTING THE COMMISSION SECRETARY AT (213) 978-2366.

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