

MINUTES
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION.
200 N. Spring Street, Room 1050, City Hall
August 16, 2007

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

Absent: Alina Bokde, Vice President
M. Teresa Villegas, Commissioner

Karla Cortez, Commission Secretary – (213) 978-2366

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** President Sanford called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m.
2. **CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:** The minutes of July 19, 2007 will be considered at the September 20, 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.
 - Commissioner Sanford inquired regarding an ad in the L.A. Times from an advisory committee on Keeping LA Green regarding how the City is working with residents. EAD to follow-up regarding who placed the ad.
 - Commissioner Sanford requested to schedule meetings with each EAC members and Beth Jines, Assistant General Manager. Detrich Allen agreed.
 - Commissioner Sanford inquired regarding a Brownfields Program staff that is looking at a G2 parcel at Taylor Yards. There is a large affordable housing development going on in the MTA owned parcel. Is the City coordinating with MTA and any potential development of the City owned parcel. EAD to investigate and follow-up.
 - Commission Perkins inquired regarding Brownfields status on negotiations with the East Wilmington Park and vacant lot inventory. EAD will provide an update at the next EAC meeting.
 - Commission Armoudian suggested EAC to recommend to City Council for LEA to have the authority to fine landfill companies for violations.

- Commissioner Sanford recommended to schedule a meeting with City Attorney's Office, Nicole Bernson, EAD and Commissioner Armoudian to discuss what powers are within the City to give that enforcement to LEA. Detrich Allen suggested to first meet with City Attorney's Office, LEA staff of EAD and Commissioner Armoudian and then schedule a second meeting with Nicole Bernson. Commissioner Sanford agreed.
- Commissioner Armoudian inquired regarding public outreach and educational component of public inquiries. How much does EAD interface with the public? Commissioner Sanford requested to agendaize this item for further discussion at the next EAC meeting.

5. **ITEMS OF DISCUSSION:**

- Environmental Preferable Purchasing (EPP) Status and Next Steps – Karin Christie, Director of Environmental Business and Neighborhood Services updated EAC regarding Environmental Preferable Purchasing. The Renew LA Committee referred EAD report from last November to Budget & Finance Committee and Personnel Committee and requested a CLA and CAO report. CAO report was completed and heard at Personnel Committee on August 1, 2007, which was received and filed at the recommendation of the CAO, which stated that the personnel issues had been handled. EAD working with the CLA Office in an effort to be involved in the process of preparing the report to present to the Budget & Finance Committee. Councilmember Smith's Office moving forward the CLA report to be agendaized after City Council recess.
- Commissioner Sanford recommended EAC and EAD to review and provide input to the task force proposed policy on the CLA report before released to City Council.
- Romel Pascual of the Mayor's Energy and Environment requested EAC to identify the EAC members that the Mayor's Office and EAD can work with on the implementation. Commissioners Bokde and Armoudian to have a discussion with Mayor's Office. Mayor's Office to have a set of questions to present to the various departments which EAD can assist to draft. EAC to review and provide input.
- Commissioner Sanford recommended a meeting with Commissioners Bokde and Armoudian, Alicia Culver and Green LA to review the existing policy and provide recommendations to EAD on changes to the policy.
- Green Business Certification Program Status and Next Steps – Karin Christie, Director of Environmental Business and Neighborhood Services updated EAC regarding Green Business Certification Program. On July 18, 2007, Energy & Environment Committee heard the motion that was introduced by Councilmember Alarcon directing EAD to develop a plan for a City of Los Angeles Green Business Certification Program. EAD met with

- other agencies and areas on July 24, 2007, to gather information on programs that already exist. EAC member also attended meeting. The plan is to draft a report that indicates 3 or 4 levels of programs that the City can do and have the City Council determine what they want to support. Meeting with Alarcon's staff to discuss on how to proceed with plan. The Energy & Environment Committee requested EAD to report back in 60 days.
- Commissioner Armoudian recommended: 1) one coordinator for the Green Business Certification Program; 2) in order for a business to be certified, they first need to be completely compliant with all environmental regulations and laws; and, 3) if a business goes beyond compliance, then can determine what works and what does not work. Also recommended EAD to review the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) criteria list and modify it to fit Los Angeles. Karin Christie stated that EAD plans to review ABAG criteria list and also offer other options in case staffing that one person and resources of materials are not forthcoming.
 - Commissioner Sanford recommended to discuss and review the draft report at the Green LA meeting on August 24, 2007, before reporting back to Energy & Environment Committee. Commissioner Sanford also requested EAD to attend Green LA meeting.
 - Detrich Allen stated that Green LA and EAD to coordinate and work together on similar issues to implement a better program.
 - Jonathan Parfrey, Director of Green LA addressed EAC regarding the Green LA meeting on August 24, 2007. Green LA invited EAD to attend meeting and work together on environmental issues. Green LA's goal is to bring the general public, ngo community and the outside expertise to help the policy formation and move it forward. Detrich Allen agreed.
 - Commissioner Sanford requested EAD to provide updates to her and Commissioner Armoudian regarding the process of the Green Business Certification Program.
 - Green LA Climate Action Plan
 - Public Participation Framework – Discussion to identify the key elements of the public participation scoping plan.
 - Detrich Allen requested EAC member to assist EAD with the public participation scoping plan. Commissioner Armoudian agreed to assist.
 - Commissioner Armoudian inquired regarding the deadline for the departmental action plan. Gretchen Hardison, Director of Air Quality Division responded that there is a range of action deadlines that are immediate, mid-term and long-term to address in the Green LA plan.

- Detrich Allen stated that EAD to establish next steps regarding integrating public participation to the plan. EAD requested EAC support to finalize strategy within the next few weeks.
- Commissioner Armoudian inquired regarding the Climate Registry and the status of the City's emissions. Gretchen Hardison proposed after the completion of the verification process and approval by the Climate Registry can provide EAC a detailed presentation.

6. **ACTION ITEM**

- Recommendations to Board of Recreation & Parks regarding requiring community input on prioritizing projects for the citywide community needs assessment prior to finalizing Mayor's Open Space Plan – Commissioner Sanford requested this action item to be considered at the September 20, 2007 meeting.

7. **COMMISSION OLD BUSINESS:** None

8. **NEW COMMISSION BUSINESS:** Commissioner Armoudian requested that she and Commissioner Perkins report back to EAC regarding their meeting with the Transportation Commission as a future agenda topic. Commissioner Sanford agreed.

- Commissioner Perkins informed EAC regarding her discussion with Lisa Sarno, Executive Director of MillionTree Initiative which Lisa indicated that the program has been restructured. Commissioner Perkins recommended Lisa Sarno to attend EAC meeting to discuss the restructuring of the MillionTree Initiative. Commissioner Armoudian agreed. Commissioner Sanford requested item to be included as a future agenda topic.

9. **FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS:** Green LA Cumulative Impacts Working Group Presentation, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Presentation on Northeast LA Opening Space Plan, Report from Council District 12 regarding Environmental Inspector Position motion and Report from Recreation & Parks regarding Citywide Community Needs Assessment Findings.

10. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 11:00 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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