

Meeting Minutes

Mayors' Commission on Climate Change Meeting #7

CalSTRS Board Room
100 Waterfront Place, West Sacramento, CA 95605

February 3rd, 2020

The following Commissioners were present during the meeting:

Alberto Ayala | Executive Director, SMAQMD

Anne Stausboll | Commission Chair

April Wick | Executive Director, Resources for Independent Living

Arlen Orchard | CEO, Sacramento Municipal Utility District

Chris Ledesma | Mayor Pro Tem, City of West Sacramento

Henri Li | CEO, Sacramento Regional Transit

Khaim Morton | VP Public Policy & Economic Development, Metro Chamber

Laurie Litman | President, 350 Sacramento

Meg Arnold | Project Lead & Consultant, Valley Vision

Nailah Pope-Harden | Director, Nailah Outreach Consulting

Robert Nelsen | President, California State University Sacramento

Stephanie Bray | United Way Capital Region

Steve Hansen | Vice Mayor, City of Sacramento

Trish Rodriguez | Senior VP, Kaiser Permanente

Commissioners excused and absent: James Corless, Nikky Mohanna, Dave Tanner, Mike Teel and Mackenzie Wieser.

Also present during the meeting:

Kate Meis | Executive Director, Local Government Commission

Julia Kim | Climate & Energy Program Director, Local Government Commission

Remi Mendoza | Senior Planner, City of Sacramento

David Tilley | Principal Planner, City of West Sacramento

Kathleen Ave | Senior Climate Program Manager, Sacramento Municipal Utility District

Daniel Woo | Health Program and Policy Specialist, California Department of Public Health, Office of Health Equity (for identification purposes only)

Call to Order

Chair Stausboll called the meeting to order at 4:06pm

Opening Remarks

Chair Stausboll welcomed Commissioners to the meeting. She acknowledged the advocates and councilmembers who helped moved forward the City of Sacramento's climate resolution, and noted that the Commission has made significant progress thus far. She also provided an overview of the meeting agenda, which focuses on the foundational principles, final Community Health & Resiliency recommendations, and the preliminary Equity TAC recommendations.

Progress Report

Kate Meis provided an update on the Commission's progress regarding the Finance TAC, Business Roundtables, and community engagement. Kate also provided a review of the updated Commission timeline.

City of Sacramento Community Outreach Activities

Remi Mendoza provided an update on the City of Sacramento's Climate Action Plan update, noting that, at the next Commission meeting, the city will provide an overview of draft strategies and actions to present to communities through citywide workshops. The city is also engaging with youth through the Y-PLAN. In March, the city will conduct three citywide workshops in addition to ten community-based workshops in May and June.

City of West Sacramento Climate Action Plan Update

David Tilley with City of West Sacramento presented an overview of city's timeline for their Climate & Resiliency Action Plan.

Foundational Principles

Julia Kim presented an overview of the overall concept and purpose of the foundational principles, centered around urgency, advocacy, accountability, education, and financial and economic sustainability.

Commissioner Stephanie Bray highlighted the importance of defining equity as a key component of the Commission's work, and thanked Commissioners Laurie Litman, April Wick, Meg Arnold, Chair Stausboll, and Julia Burrows from the City of Sacramento for taking the time to have intentional discussions around equity.

Absent objection from the Commissioners, the Chair reordered the agenda to take Agenda Item 5 on Equity out of order.

Preliminary Equity Strategies

Commissioner April Wick presented an overview of the preliminary equity strategies.

1. Make decisions that ensure the fair and proportional distribution of impacts, opportunities, resources, and costs.
2. Demand inclusivity, the practice of including relevant stakeholders and communities, particularly marginalized communities and groups that have been historically left out, in the policymaking and governance process, in order to ensure fair and equitable outcome.
3. Authentically involve residents, businesses and other key stakeholders, particularly marginalized populations, as co-creators in all phases of planning and implementation.
4. Partner with cultural brokers and community-based organizations that have established relationships with marginalized communities to ensure authentic engagement; leverage existing community engagement efforts when possible.

Commissioner Bray highlighted the need to define marginalized communities and how we prioritize where to start our work.

Public Comment – Equity

Commissioners heard public comments regarding the preliminary equity strategies.

Commission Discussion and Action – Equity

The Commission engaged in a robust discussion focused on equity. Members of the public heard comments from Commissioners Steve Hansen, Khaim Morton, Arlen Orchard, Stephanie Bray, Laurie Litman, April Wick, Nailah Pope-Harden, and Robert Nelsen. Commissioners raised the importance of sufficiently funding equity work to serve as a bedrock for how plans and initiatives are conceived, proper translation of recommendations for each city given differences in distribution of resources, recognizing that there is no one solution that works for all marginalized communities as each have unique needs and assets, and more.

Public Comment – Foundational Principles

Commissioners heard public comments regarding the Foundational Principles.

Commission Discussion and Action – Foundational Principles

Commissioner Chris Ledesma shared that the City of West Sacramento has already started working on the equity piece in recognition of the need for urgency. With regard to accountability, Commissioner Ledesma also recognized that West Sacramento is not as well staffed as Sacramento, and saw the City Manager as a lead for their city.

Commissioner Meg Arnold expressed support for Foundational Principles.

Commissioner Henry Li asked how public agencies can think strategically about integrating Foundational Principles across strategic and annual plans, and suggested holding workshops with organizations to share these foundational principles.

Motion to advance the Foundational Principles for inclusion in the Commission’s Recommendation Report: Moved by Steve Hansen and seconded by Trish Rodriguez.

The Foundational Principles were unanimously adopted by those present.

Community Health & Resiliency (CH&R) Recommendations

CH&R TAC Leads Kathleen Ave and Dan Woo presented on the final CH&R recommendations, which are focused on Urban Greening & Forestry, Sustainable Food Systems, and Community Climate Resilience.

Public Comment – CH&R Recommendations

Commissioners heard public comments regarding the Community Health & Resiliency recommendations.

Commission Discussion and Action – CH&R Recommendations

Commissioners discussed the final CH&R recommendations and highlighted the need for authentic community engagement and community resilience.

Motion to advance the final Community Health & Resiliency Strategies for inclusion in the Commission’s Recommendation Report: Moved by Robert Nelsen and seconded by Arlen Orchard.

The final CH&R strategies were unanimously adopted by those present.

Commissioners Wieser and Corless provided statements of support regarding the proposed action on the Community Health & Resiliency recommendations. Commissioner Teel also supported the Sustainable Food Systems strategy.

Public Comment - General

Commissioners heard general public comments regarding the Commission’s work.

Commission Discussion - General

Commissioners emphasized the critical need to have continuity of the Commission’s work, particularly at the implementation stage. Commissioners also highlighted the need to identify immediate next steps for implementation at the community level.

Next Steps & Closing Remarks

1. Two more meetings. The next meeting, taking place March 11th, 2020 from 4:00-7:30pm will focus on work of the Finance TAC, Equity TAC recommendations, and the preliminary Recommendations Report.
2. Earth Day event with mayors on April 22nd, which is also the date of next Youth Climate Strike.

Adjournment

Chair Stausboll adjourned the meeting at 6:15pm.