



Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

May 10, 2023

AGENDA

LOCATION: City Hall 6ES & Webex

CHAIR KATHRYN BAZAN PRESIDING

PRESENT: [12]

* ** Mark Wootton, District 2	Andrew Siegel, District 10
Candace Thompson, District 4	Colleen Murray, District 11
Esther Villarreal, District 6	Barry Lachman, District 12
* Temeckia Derrough, District 7	Charlie Dankert, District 13
Renee Roberson, District 8	Paula Day, District 14
Kathryn Bazan, District 9	Julie Hiromoto, District 15

ABSENT: [2]

Philip Hiatt Haigh, District 1
Tracy Wallace, District 5

**Note: Members of the Environmental Commission participated in this meeting by video conference.*

***Note: Indicates arrival time after meeting called to order/reconvened*

The meeting was called to order at 5:35PM with a quorum of the Environmental Commission present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Bazan provided opening announcements.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

There were no public speakers registered for this meeting.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chair Villarreal moved to adopt the April 12, 2023 Environmental Commission meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thompson and unanimously adopted.

BRIEFING ITEMS

I) Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability Stormwater Team Overview

[Kevin Hurley, Superintendent, Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability]

Attachment: Presentation (see agenda)

a) The speaker briefed the Commission on an overview of the City's Stormwater team, as well as their coordination with other City groups and external agencies.

b) Questions/Comments

i) Alan Hoffmann

(1) Do you have statistical data indicating we have a greater frequency of storms and how that impacts water treatment plants?

(a) Will defer to Dallas Water Utilities – we can check with them and get back on that.

ii) Commissioner Lachman

(1) Is 311 available in Spanish?

(a) Yes.

(2) Do you deal with landlords in multifamily housing?

(a) Yes.

(3) This may be an area for which to consider making reports anonymous (there are circumstances where people have been illegally evicted because they've made 311 complaints).

iii) Commissioner Hiromoto

(1) Regarding risks associated with increased frequency of flooding and given historical and predicted rainfall due to climate change, is there a target ratio of forest vs. impervious surface to mitigate this?

(a) This is driving the CECAP goal of increasing green space.

(b) The U.S. Geologic Survey, FEMA, and the Army Corp of Engineers are analyzing frequency and magnitude of storm events.

(2) Do we have an existing benchmark of pervious vs. impervious surfaces and a specific goal of what we want that to shift to?

(a) Yes. We use infrared broadband coverage to update and measure this. This is how we bill for stormwater fees.

iv) Vice Chair Villarreal

(1) Another question for DWU: Best trash capture mechanism for lakes?

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- (a) Trash collection device at Bachman has been challenging over the years. PKR and DWU may be involved and can answer further questions.
- (2) Do you provide manpower or just materials for stream cleanups?
 - (a) We provide training, materials, and are available to support neighborhood events.
- (3) David Marquis
 - (a) The Army Corp of Engineers build infrastructure for storm levels predicted 50-100 years out. We've exceeded that 20 times in the past 10 years.
- (4) Commissioner Thompson
 - (a) Stream Team assists communities in cleaning creeks in Dallas parks?
 - (i) Yes.
 - (b) What does this look like?
 - (i) Saturday morning basic training. There are several types of kits. Reach out to kevin.hurley@dallas.gov if you want to coordinate.
 - (c) Who handles litter that gets into streams?
 - (i) We may come out of a stream team event with several service requests needed.
 - (ii) Regarding construction sites and industrial facilities, there are air complaints/issues, but there is also a stormwater factor. This is where Kevin's team comes in.
- (5) Commissioner Murray
 - (a) Are these inspections surprise visits or scheduled?
 - (i) Construction site inspections aren't scheduled. We have a timeframe, but they won't know the exact time. We have to go to every large site (over 5 acres) every 13 days.
 - (ii) On the industrial side, it is scheduled, since there are security protocols.
 - (b) Do you have enough crews?
 - (i) We always need more people. This is a place we need advocacy from in the budget.
 - (c) What is your budget?
 - (i) 4 million; 38 staff members.
 - (ii) Would like to see growth in industrial inspection program.
- (6) Dr. Boccalandro
 - (a) Could we do water quality testing service learning with Dallas College students?
 - (i) Opportunity for them to get involved in the Texas Stream Team. This may provide an opportunity to integrate equity.
 - (b) Could you do a presentation for Dallas College?
 - (i) Yes.
- (7) Michael Martin
 - (a) As next budget season comes up, what kind of expansion are you needing?
 - (i) Don't want to get ahead of the process.

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(8) Chair Bazan

- (a) Number of industrial stormwater permittees in the MSGP in the City – 3,000?
 - (i) 3,000 potentially regulated businesses.
- (b) There's not a requirement under the MSGP for annual inspection, as for the construction permit?
 - (i) Both permits require inspection but there's no regulatory requirement.
- (c) Of the 3,000, we're inspecting 1,000 a year. Are those complaint-driven?
 - (i) We have service requests for industrial sites and an annual plan we go through.
- (d) Is there a specific industry where we focus more heavily?
 - (i) We have certain facilities we have to inspect every year. After that, we have a list in our procedure, based on language in 30 CFR setting the definition of a high-risk facility. We try to target these first.
- (e) Lack of availability of the service request in the 311 app may cause a delay. How many delayed or misrouted complaints do we get through 311? I've found it gets closed and nothing happens. Should set something up in 311 that tells residents to call 311 instead if this is a stormwater complaint.
 - (i) May be able to get a number for this.
- (f) We have groups very focused on reducing litter in/around lakes. How can we be proactive to prevent pollution in the first place? The commission is available to help with outreach/engagement/education.
 - (i) We are continuing to do outreach (online and in-person). The challenge lies with getting people to do the right thing all the time.

(9) Rita Beving

- (a) Regarding self-inspections, is this information going to TCEQ or to you?
 - (i) Facilities are required to do those and store in binder. It's a self-policing system.
- (b) Do you go through it during inspections?
 - 1. Yes.

(10) Vice Chair Villarreal

- (a) Have found issues related to City of Dallas employees in other departments not knowing about the CECAP. Executives do, but the information isn't passed down to those who report to them. Is everyone in the Stormwater team aware of the CECAP goals?
 - (i) We are involved in initiatives related to the CECAP (Try Parking It and actions related to the Water Resources goal of the CECAP). We will still do more "inreach" and do more to tie Stormwater team's work to the CECAP.

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BRIEFING MEMORANDUMS

I) Government Affairs Update

[Lillian Mauldin, Senior Government Affairs Coordinator, Office of Government Affairs]

Attachment: Memo (see agenda)

- a) The speaker briefed the commission on a summary of the City's legislative priorities related to environment and sustainability, as well as status of relevant filed bills.
- b) Questions/Comments
 - i) Chair Bazan
 - (1) HB 2127 is eligible for floor vote in Senate on 5/11. Please email/call in on this bill!
 - ii) Rita Beving
 - (1) Seconding Chair Bazan's comments on HB 2127.
 - (2) HB 4830 was on House floor yesterday. There will be a vote on 5/11.
 - (3) HB 2211 on the floor today.
 - (4) SB 1017 headed to Governor's desk.
 - iii) Commissioner Lachman
 - (1) Would HB 2127 violate the constitution?
 - (a) It is argued that the bill is so vague, broad, and ambiguous that it is unconstitutional.
 - iv) David Marquis
 - (1) Seconding the above. This may invite lawsuits.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

I) Environmental Health Committee Vaping Policy Recommendations

Attachment: Memo (see agenda)

- a) Chair Thompson provided a summary of the Environmental Health Committee's recommendations.
- b) Questions/Comments
 - i) Commissioner Lachman
 - (1) All other major cities in Texas have added vaping to their smoking ordinances.

II) Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability Recommendations for Appointment of Members to the Technical Panel

Attachment: Memo (see agenda)

- a) Susan Alvarez (OEQS) elaborated on the process for filling vacancies on the Technical Panel.
- b) Questions/Comments
 - i) Commissioner Hiromoto
 - (1) Goal would be to appoint one person to each position?
 - (a) Correct.

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- ii) Michael Martin
 - (1) Anything we can do to assist you in selection, Chair Bazan?
 - (a) Chair will contact each candidate and speak to them first.
- iii) Vice Chair Villarreal
 - (1) Total number of applicants?
 - (a) There were three.

III) Strategic Partnerships & Innovation Subcommittee Recommendations on Performance Specifications for 2024 Bond Program

Attachment: Memo (see agenda)

- a) Chair Hiromoto elaborated on the subcommittee's recommendations.
- b) Question/Comments
 - i) Alan Hoffmann
 - (1) Potential to stretch goals for existing built environment more.
 - ii) Commissioner Dankert
 - (1) Based on the conversations you've had; do you think the pilot project will happen?
 - (a) Yes.

VOTING ITEM

- I) **Consideration of Approval of Strategic Partnerships & Innovation Subcommittee Recommendations on Performance Specifications for 2024 Bond Program**
 - a) Commissioner Hiromoto moved to adopt the item.
 - b) Seconded by Commissioner Lachman.
 - c) Chair Bazan opened for discussion.
 - d) Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

I) Monthly Subcommittee Updates

- a) The Environmental Health, Environmental Justice, Implementation, Outreach & Engagement, and Strategic Partnerships & Innovation Committees provided monthly updates.

II) Monthly District Updates from Commissioners

Attachment: [Outreach & Engagement Form](#)

- a) The Commission provided updates on events and meetings they've attended in their districts.

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III) Upcoming Meetings

- a) Environment & Sustainability Council Committee: Tuesday, June 6, 2023, 9AM – 11AM
- b) Environmental Commission: Wednesday, June 14, 2023, 5:30PM – 7:30PM

ADJOURNMENT

After all business of the Environmental Commission had been considered, Vice Chair Villarreal moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thompson and unanimously accepted. The Environmental Commission meeting was adjourned at 7:29PM.

Erin Diehl

Drafted by:

Erin Diehl, Board Coordinator

Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability

6/7/23

Date

Kathryn Bazan

Approved by:

Kathryn Bazan, Chair

Environmental Commission

Jun 20, 2023

Date

Attachments:

[Meeting Recording](#)