



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2011
5:00 P.M. - SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING
Council Chambers, Los Altos City Hall
One North San Antonio Road, Los Altos, California

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Environmental Commission regarding any item on this agenda are available to the public on the counter in the main lobby located at One North San Antonio Road, Los Altos CA 94022 during business hours.

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the audience may bring to the Commission's attention any item that is not on the agenda. Please complete a "Request to Speak" form and submit it to the staff liaison. Speakers are generally given two or three minutes, at the discretion of the Chair. State law prohibits the Commission from acting on items that do not appear on the agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR

These items will be considered by one motion unless any member of the Commission or audience wishes to remove an item for discussion. Any item removed from the Consent Calendar for discussion will be handled at the discretion of the Chair.

1. Commission Minutes
Approval of minutes – Regular Meeting of January 10, 2011

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Salinity of Water Report to Council on February 22, 2011
Review of report from Engineering Department staff
3. Mission Trail Waste Systems (MTWS)
Presentation by MTWS representative and discussion regarding:
 - A. Diversion and recycling practices and success under the new franchise;
 - B. Ideas how to provide public education to the community for foster diversion and recycling; and
 - C. Programs for e-waste disposal and recycling for residents and businesses
4. Environmental Commission Annual Report to City Council – April 5, 2011, 5pm
Review and discussion of items on the 2011 Work Plan based on goals presented to City Council at the Joint Meeting with the Environmental Commission on October 19, 2010.
5. Environment Commission Website
Review and discussion by Environmental Commission for possible revisions to the website
6. Community Greenhouse Gas Inventory
Review and discussion by Environmental Commission Subcommittee
7. Plastic Bag review and discussion
8. Items for Information
 - A. April 5, 2011 at 5pm is the Joint Meeting with City Council to review 2011 Goals and Work Plan

- B. Acterra Workshop February 5, 2011
- C. Schedule of Environmental Commissioners assigned to attend Regular 2011 Council Meetings

COMMISSION REPORTS AND DIRECTIONS ON FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City will make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the staff liaison 24 hours prior to the meeting at (650) 947-2610. A sound enhancement system is available in the City Council Chamber. You may check out headsets, which boost the public address signal during the meeting. Please ask for assistance PRIOR to the start of the meeting or during a break in the meeting.



CANCELED DUE TO CHANGE OF TIME FROM 7 PM TO 5 PM
ON FEBRUARY 14, 2011

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2011

7:00 P.M. - REGULAR ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 28, 2011
TO: Mission Trail Waste Systems
FROM: J. Logan, Assistant City Manager
SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION FEBUARY 14, 2011

Thanks for your willingness to meet with the Environmental Commission pursuant to their request.

The topics for discussion:

1. To understand any data or info on diversion and recycling practices and success under the new franchise.
2. Commissioners also would like ideas on how to provide public education to the community to foster diversion and recycling.

I would like to better understand recycling and disposal of e-waste and computers and how to guide the public when they call.

The Environmental Commission meeting will be in Council Chambers at 5pm.

Los Altos Environmental Commission

Approved Projects 2010-2011

Goals Approved by City Council Oct 19, 2010	Deliverables established by EC Nov 2010 -- Progress Updates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects 2010-2011 	<p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p>Continue to provide approved community education and outreach activities to achieve natural resource conservation for Los Altos. (Steve Anderson, Linda DeMichiel)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver updated web site that is visually pleasing, navigates well, has relevant, current content, and ties into city look and feel. (Owner: Linda) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By Jan 2011: Confirmation that we are in alignment with City web direction. Overall architecture established, initial review of content and links completed. Specific proposal re how best to link to the City of Los Altos main site. – Nov 2010: Subcommittee established (Linda, John, Patty). Commission reviewed initial prototype from Linda. Agreed to (a) change title on home page to "Environment, City of Los Altos," (b) add "About the Environmental Commission" as a subcategory, and (c) add "What's New" page. By Apr 2011: Ownership and process for content/updates established. Content updates complete, including Acterra presentation on Redwood Grove. By Jul 2011: Architecture implemented and tested. New site is live. By Oct 2011: • Provide approved public information forums for topics of interest to the public. (e.g Packard Building, Solar) (Owner: Steve) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By Jan 2011: (a) Documentation re our unique value-add in public forums. (What is the role of the EC vs. GTLA? How would we evaluate potential topics in that context? How do we work with other LA groups with similar interests?) (b) ongoing list for potential topics. (Note: Is Creek Cleanup a good topic?) By Apr 2011: With City approval, public forum on Waste Contract based on first 6 months results (see Goal #2 below) By Jul 2011: Plan for garbage stuffer. With City approval, waste metrics published on City web site. By Oct 2011:

2 Explore enhancements to further improve waste management in Los Altos. (Don Bray, Steve Anderson, Ron Labetich)

- Monitor MTWS waste diversion rate for both regularly scheduled pickups and event waste management. Look for ways to meet and exceed contracted diversion rate. (Owner: Don)
- Make results available to community, along with education on how they can help improve outcomes. (Owner: Steve)

By Jan 2011:

By Apr 2011: **Update from MTWS** to LAEC re Waste Contract: How is it going? Diversion rate? Lessons learned? Customer Satisfaction? Guidance re best practices from MTWS? Results of public event waste management (Festival of Lights)?

By Jul 2011: **Content** for community information forum and web posting related to waste management results.

By Oct 2011:

- Work with MTWS to provide recycling and composting services for downtown shoppers. (Owner: Ron)
- Help educate citizens as soon as new services are available. (Owner: Steve)

By Jan 2011:

Meeting with City and MTWS to determine (a) current status of efforts, including barriers to implementation, and (b) status of compactor donation from MTWS.

By Apr 2011: **Plan from city** on implementation.

By Jul 2011: **Implementation** according to plan.

By Oct 2011:

<p>3</p>	<p>Provide modeling and analysis of ways to reduce environmental impact in the community. (Subcommittee: Don Bray, John Reed, Patty Rosewater)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use CAPP A tool to model the impact of various behaviors (i.e. change to fluorescent bulbs, use energy star appliances, use cold water in washing clothes...). (Owner: John) • Pick a limited number to pursue; with Council approval, develop education and outreach activities to educate community. (Owners: Don, John, Patty) 	<p>By Jan 2011: First pass at CAPP A tool for Los Altos specific opportunities reviewed by EC. Develop draft dashboard for key opportunities to monitor progress from last 5 years going forward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nov 2010: John has identified ~20 elements to examine more closely. Will meet with Don to get data to complete analysis and have specific items to review at Dec meeting. <p>By Apr 2011: Meeting with City staff to review results of CAPP A tool modeling. General agreement on which programs to pursue</p> <p>By Jul 2011: First draft at plan to implement programs presented to City staff.</p> <p>By Oct 2011: Clarity on how these programs fit in with Sustainability Element to General Plan (tie with Goal #4 below). Presentation to City Council re results of CAPP A modeling, recommended programs for implementation, and tie to Sustainability Element to General Plan (tie with Goal #4 below.)</p>
<p>4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Planning Services Manager to develop Sustainability element to Los Altos General Plan. (Ron Labetich, Chris Keller, Linda DeMichiel) • The 2011 CIP includes funds for this project in July 2011. The EC will serve in an advisory and review role. (Owners: Ron, Chris, Linda) 	<p>By Jan 2011:</p> <p>By Apr 2011:</p> <p>By Jul 2011: Update from Staff regarding consulting/funds engagement for development of Sustainability element to General Plan. Invite City Planning Manager and Consultant to EC meeting to discuss outcomes and roles and responsibilities. Clarity and documentation on how Resource Plan/CAPP A modeling fit with City Sustainability Element to General Plan.</p> <p>By Oct 2011: Update on progress of Sustainability Element to General Plan</p>

5.	<p>Implement approved education program regarding re-useable bags in Los Altos. (Patty Rosewater)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to partner with Chamber of Commerce in visits with CVS Pharmacy and Walgreens to inquire about their re-useable bag programs. (Owner: Patty) Publicize results of reusable bag survey as appropriate. (Owner: Patty) 	<p>By Jan 2011: EC Member and ED of Los Altos Chamber of Commerce visit Drug stores in Los Altos to inquire about re-useable bags program. Report published on web site; article in LATC. Article to include information about bacteria, wash-ability, and durability.</p> <p>By Apr 2011: TBD based on any new legislation regarding reusable bags</p> <p>By Jul 2011:</p> <p>By Oct 2011:</p>
6.	<p>Continue to work to foster water conservation in Los Altos. (Linda DeMichiel, Chris Keller)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work with Cal Water to develop Los Altos specific baseline. (Owner: Chris) 	<p>By Jan 2011: Baseline of trends over 5 years established, and incorporated into dashboard (see Goal #3).</p> <p>By Apr 2011: Updated baseline with most current information published on web site.</p> <p>By Jul 2011: Article re water usage in LATC.</p> <p>By Oct 2011:</p>
7.	<p>Other Council goals as directed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate state requirements and funding opportunities for creek-clean up. (Owner: j) 	<p>By Jan 2011: Meeting with staff held to tie program into Sustainability Element; prepare for presentation to Council.</p> <p>By Oct 2011: Program presented to Council as part of Sustainability Element.</p> <p>By Jan 2011: Report on any state requirements that require Los Altos to sponsor/participate in an annual creek cleanup</p> <p>General Comment from Council: If any programs require funding, case must be presented in time for annual budget cycle.</p>



MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 7, 2011

TO: Environmental Commission

FROM: J. Logan, Assistant City Manager, Staff Liaison to Environmental Commission

SUBJECT: City Council Meeting Attendance Assignments – 2011 Schedule

Please sign up for City Council Attendance Assignments for this year:

Regular Council Meeting Date:	Attendance by:
January 11, 2011	John Reed
January 25, 2011	Staff attended
February 8, 2011	John Reed
February 22, 2011	John Reed
March 8, 2011	Patty Rosewater
March 22, 2011	Linda DeMichiel
April 5, 2011 Joint meeting with all EC at 5pm	Special joint commission meetings
April 12, 2011	
April 26, 2011	Steve Anderson
May 10, 2011	Patty Rosewater
May 24, 2011	Patty Rosewater
June 14, 2011	
June 28, 2011	
July 26, 2011	
August 23, 2011	Steve Anderson
September 13, 2011	Don Bray
September 27, 2011	
October 11, 2011	Ron Labetich
October 25, 2011	Linda DeMichiel
November 8, 2011	
November 22, 2011	<u>reorganize dais and reception</u>
December 13, 2011	<u>Linda DeMichiel</u>
→ (only one regular meeting scheduled in July, August and December)	

→ These meetings deviate from the regular 2nd and 4th Tuesday meeting schedule.

- ❖ **Regular Council meeting are scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m. and are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month.** If you are unable to attend one of the City Council meeting to which you are assigned, please make arrangements for another commissioner to attend in your place. Also, please notify Susan Kitchens at 947-2611, of the changes so the City Council agendas will accurately reflect the Environmental Commission representative.

J Logan

From: J Logan
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 10:42 PM
To: Myra & Carl Orta
Subject: Re: your meeting on Feb. 14

The time is up to the Chair. We have a lengthy agenda. Council Public Comments are usually 3 minutes.

Sent from my iPhone
 J. Logan

On Feb 2, 2011, at 6:54 PM, "Myra & Carl Orta" <mee-maa@sbcglobal.net> wrote:

Hello,

Thank you, I will be at the meeting on Feb. 14 at 5pm prepared to speak. Will you please let me know how much time I am allowed for a presentation. Thank you

Sincerely,
 Myra Orta
 email mee-maa@sbcglobal.net

From: J Logan <jlogan@losaltosca.gov>
To: "mee-maa@sbcglobal.net" <mee-maa@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Wed, February 2, 2011 6:24:23 PM
Subject: FW: your meeting on Feb. 14

Hello Myra Orta,

Please be advise that you can speak to the Environmental Commission regarding this topic at the next Environmental Commission meeting on Feb. 14 at 5pm under the agenda item of Public Comments. The comments from the public are limited in time. The Commission will not be able to discuss or act on you comments but may take it under advisement.

Thanks,

J. Logan



Assistant City Manager
 One North San Antonio Road
 Los Altos, CA 94022
 650-947-2610 (desk)
 650-947-2731 (fax)
j.logan@ci.los-altos.ca.us
www.ci.los-altos.ca.us

From: Myra & Carl Orta [<mailto:mee-maa@sbcglobal.net>]
Sent: Sunday, January 30, 2011 12:27 PM

2/7/2011

To: environmental
Subject: Fw: your meeting on Feb. 14

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Myra & Carl Orta <mee-maa@sbcglobal.net>
To: enviromental@losaltosca.gov
Sent: Sun, January 30, 2011 12:24:30 PM
Subject: Fw: your meeting on Feb. 14

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Myra & Carl Orta <mee-maa@sbcglobal.net>
To: environmental @losaltosca.gov
Sent: Sun, January 30, 2011 12:15:57 PM
Subject: your meeting on Feb. 14

Dear Environmental Committee chair,

I would like to be placed on the agenda of your next meeting on Feb. 14 to present the issue of the Gas Power Leaf Blower as it relates our environment in Los Altos .

The issue is coming up for discussion at the next city council meet on Feb. 8 and hopefully no action will be taken at that time. I believe the community needs to be informed concerning the harmful effects caused by this machine and input from your committee would be relevant.

Please contact me to discuss this further. Thank you.

Myra Orta
650 968 8476, fax 650 967 0250, cell 415 999 4049
email mee-maa@sbcglobal.net

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J Logan

From: Rosewater Patricia [rosewater@me.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 5:06 PM
To: J Logan
Subject: Fwd: Question for LA Env. Comm.

J - are you aware of any efforts in this regard? I am not.

Patty

Begin forwarded message:

From: Dave Backs <dbacks@mindspring.com>
Date: February 1, 2011 10:38:08 AM PST
To: rosewater@me.com
Subject: Question for LA Env. Comm.

Patricia,

I understand the Los Altos Environmental Commission has approached the City of Los Altos about the possibility of rebates for the cost of installing a rain harvesting system.

I attended an Acterra workshop last weekend on the construction of a rain harvesting system and found that Palo Alto offers rebates for the purchase of rain barrels.

What can you tell me about the prospects for similar rebates for residents of Los Altos?

Dave