PHOENIX ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY and SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION MINUTES

May 12, 2022

Phoenix City Hall Online Using Webex

Commission Members Present	City Staff Present
Barr, Kelly via phone	Nancy Allen, Office of Environmental Programs (OEP)
Franquist, Tim via phone	Mark Hartman, Office of Sustainability, (OSS)
Groman, Kevin via phone	Dave Hondula, Office of Heat Response and Mitigation
	(OHRM)
LaSlavic, Nicole via phone	Willa Altman-Kaough, Mayor's Office
Lobo, Caroline via phone	Chris Ewell, Street Transportation Department
Odegard-Begay, Andrea via phone	Amanda Jordan, Public Works
Porter, Sarah via phone	Alexis Yaple, PW
Sandweg, Bill via phone	Lora Martens, OHRM
Allee Taylor, Penny via phone	Matthew Potzler, OEP
Torres, Ginger via phone	Katrina Gerster, OEP
Tetreault, Colin via phone	Anita Ponce, OEP
Commission Members Not Present	Community Members Present
Chapman, Darren	None
Knoop, Kathy	
Sax, Kim	
Sainz, Columba	

1. Call to Order/Roll Call and Announcements:

The meeting of the Environmental Quality and Sustainability Commission (EQSC) was called to order with a roll call at 3:06 p.m. There were 10 members present at roll call. The following commissioner arrived after the initial roll call:

• Kelly Barr at 3:15 p.m.

2. Review and approval of April 14, 2022, Minutes ACTION:

Commissioner Tim Franquist made a motion to approve the April 14, 2022, minutes. Commissioner Kevin Groman seconded the motion and it carried 10:0.

3. Public Comment - No speakers.

There were no speakers.

- 4. Urban Heat Island and Tree and Shade Subcommittee (UHITS) Update Vice Chair Torres, Chair of the Subcommittee, informed the Commission that at the last meeting scheduled on May 10, 2022, there were insufficient members for quorum. The meeting has been rescheduled on June 7, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.
- Updates on the Resource Innovation Campus and Circular Economy Efforts 5. Amanda Jordan, Circular Economy Project Manager spoke about the C40 Re-Inventing Cities Competition and provided a presentation on the Resource Innovation Campus. C40 is network of global economy cities contributing to deliver urgent action to climate change. The Reinventing Cities Competition are seeking proposals which are aimed at transforming unused areas through communityfocused and sustainable projects. New national standards have been established to mobilize, train, and motivate. Twenty cities are taking part, including Phoenix. C40 and the participating cities and site owners are inviting architects, developers, entrepreneurs, environmentalists, innovators, community associations, and others to collaborate and submit suggestions that can serve as a model for future municipal monuments. Ten climate issues and proposals are included in the competition structure. The program started on May 5, 2022, and the deadline to apply is September 15, 2022. The announcement of finalists will be in November. The deadline to submit a final project proposal is April 2023, with an announcement of the winning project in June 2023. Following the competition, each city/site owner finalizes an agreement with the winning team, who then implements their concept. Circular Economy Project Manager Amanda Jordan also provided information on the Resource Innovation Campus that was approved by City Council in 2015. The campus is located five miles south of downtown Phoenix close to the transfer station and compost facility. A total of 40 acres has been allocated, with 20 acres dedicated for development and a long-term lease. Commissioner Caroline Lobo inquired if a solicitation process had occurred. Circular Economy Project Manager Amanda Jordan indicated the project was not a traditional Request for Proposal (RFP) process. Chair Colin Tetreault then asked about economic opportunities with regards to other circular economies. Circular Economy Project Manager Amanda Jordan indicated they are looking at lab spaces, along with an RFP for site solutions to other recycling matters and testing of innovative solutions to implement other ways to reduce waste. Circular Economy Project Manager Amanda Jordan has met with the Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC) to gain support in the process. There has also been an interest from those involved in circular economy solutions.

6. Street Transportation Cool Corridors Update

Chris Ewell, Street Transportation Deputy Director reported that Phase I is well underway and will be completed by October 2022. Final decisions on locations have been completed except for the Mayor's Office which will be decided soon. Welcomed Lora Martens to the City of Phoenix. Chris Ewell, Street Transportation Deputy Director also presented on the Cool Corridors Program Kick-Off Event held on April 16, 2022. The event was held at Cesar Chavez Park located at Baseline Road from 39th to 36th Avenue. The event was attended by Mayor Kate Gallego, Councilwoman Ansari's Office, American Forests, iHeart Radio IMPACT, Cesar Chavez High School ARCH Program, Office of Heat Response and Mitigation, Michelle Litwin coordinated the effort, Parks and Recreation, Public Works Department, Street Transportation Department, Neighborhood Services, Public Information Office. Aspiration and Salesforce. Around 75 total people attended. Trees have been planted along the sidewalk near Baseline Road and Central Avenue as part of Phase I in Council District 8. Construction in Council District 3 at 42nd Street north of Cactus Road will commence sometime soon (an exact date was not given). Council District 5 from Camelback to Indian School Road and close to Grand Avenue will have trees planted along with canal designs. Chris Ewell, Street Transportation Deputy Director also reported that a cool corridors website is coming soon. Commissioner Tim Franquist inquired about the tree selection process and whether they are of a diverse species, non-invasive and are nonnative to the location. Chris Ewell, Street Transportation Deputy Director responded was that there are a variety of trees which are non-invasive, even though he is not an expert and will investigate the tree selection made by the Parks Department. Chair Colin Tetreault inquired about Greenhouse Gas Inventories. Office of Heat Response and Mitigation Director Dr. Dave Hondula indicated there are additional projects and federal investments. Chief Sustainability Officer Mark Hartman reported that a second ARPA allocation will occur in June and will be going forth at the next Policy Subcommittee meeting. Environmental Programs Administrator Nancy Allen indicated that City Council will make a decision the following week regarding ARPA funding, with the budget being adopted in June.

7. Announcements and Review of Future Agenda Items

There were no requests submitted for future agenda items. Chair Colin Tetreault announced his last day serving as Chair and will remain as Commissioner. Furthermore, Chair Colin Tetreault expressed appreciation to Mayor Gallego, City Council members, Subcommittee / Commission Members, and city staff. Chair Colin Tetreault announced that City Council approved Commissioner Caroline Lobo as the new Chair of the Environmental Quality and Sustainability Commission. Commissioner Caroline Lobo indicated that she is looking forward to the Chair position and working with the team.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Anita Ponce, Administrative Assistant I