

1. Call to Order/Roll Call and Announcements

The meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m. There were 7 members present at roll call.

Chair Ginger Torres announced the Inflation Reduction Act passed. This will bring awareness for climate issues and major climate legislation.

Subcommittee member Chandler reported that Columba Sainz is no longer with their organization. There will be a recruitment for a part time 20 hour per week Spanish speaking position.

2. Review and approval of August 9, 2022 Minutes

ACTION:

Subcommittee member Chandler made a motion to approve the August 9, 2022 minutes. Subcommittee member Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion carried 7:0.

3. Public Comments

No one spoke.

4. GO Bond Update

Chair Ginger Torres reported the GO Bond Committee is working on prioritizing capital needs projects. The committee is currently evaluating projects for recommendation. The last meeting was held on September 12 and had two public comments. The GO Bond Executive Committee will meet on September 14. Chair Ginger Torres encouraged UHITS Subcommittee participation. Prioritized projects include equipment replacement for energy savings at \$5 million, Fuel and oil tank replacement at \$5,134,753, and HVAC upgrades at \$15 million. The next GO Bond meeting will take place on September 22. Chair Ginger Torres added heat resiliency will be added to the forefront. Fuel tank replacement is not as interesting due to the 30-year life span. Chair Ginger Torres would like for temporary options be looked at instead of 30 years.

Subcommittee member Rodriguez reported she has been attending the GO Bond meetings virtually. She inquired about urban heat and streets in terms of walking and biking in equity-based areas with the least amount of shade. She added that vision zero implementation needs support as well.

Chair Ginger Torres explained that Street Transportation oversees cool corridors and there has been many conversations regarding prioritization of projects.

Subcommittee member Esposito asked about the impact of outreach to communities.

Chair Ginger Torres replied that meeting is open to the public, available in person and virtually.

Nancy Allen explained there are more needs than funding and the most critical needs will be prioritized. She added that fuel tanks are getting a bad rap, however an issue with leaking tanks are very costly resulting in mitigation.

5. Update from the Heat Office

Dr. David Hondula reported that heat resiliency is gaining attention. He added the goal of urban forestry is to plant 460,000 trees to bring equity in public and private land. Currently there are a total of 100k trees located in public land. Five major funding streams have been identified as cool corridors, street tree replacements/parks tree planting, residential trees, and donations.

Subcommittee member Esposito inquired if there is an inventory process.

Dr. David Hondula replied that there is not an inventory for tree losses. However, his office is looking to find a way.

Chair Ginger Torres asked how they arrived at the amount of 460,000.

Dr. David Hondula replied that the number of trees came from Urban Forestry and partners with ASU.

Subcommittee member Esposito inquired how account is taken into when creating space for additional trees.

Dr. David Hondula explained that a mapping tool is used. Also, some locations are consumed by denser areas where more trees are needed.

Subcommittee member Rodriguez inquired about updates on landscape.

Dr. David Hondula replied that both him and Lora Martens are undertaking new programs to learn relevant processes and monitoring specific cases.

Dr Hondula discussed several new positions he would like for his office. A heat response manager working on budget for next year. Use ARPA funds for 2 project manager positions related to trees and shade.

6. Green Infrastructure/Low Impact Development Memo Discussion

Subcommittee member Halperin provided an update to the memo. She added that she was not aware of the Low Impact Development (LID) Conference taking place. Some member comments have been incorporated into the memo and will be circulating amongst the working group. She encouraged others to add in additional comments. She noticed a real struggle upon learning that a variance is needed for low impact development and is very difficult to obtain. Subcommittee member Rodriguez volunteered to investigate it.

Chair Ginger Torres requested for anyone that sees any problems in the memo, highlight it and justify on how to streamline.

Subcommittee member Rodriguez suggested stakeholders come in and present to the committee.

Chair Ginger Torres would like to invite the Planning and Development Department to the next committee meeting.

Subcommittee member Bettis also volunteered to investigate the variance for low impact development and ways to streamline the process. She added that The Nature Conservancy is happy to provide information.

Chair Ginger Torres asked Subcommittee member Bettis to work with Subcommittee member Halperin on the variance.

Lora Martens suggested Tricia Balluff with Environmental Programs as a point of contact.

Subcommittee member Halperin stated the Street Transportation Department is removing in the downtown area - curb extensions, (or rebuilding them) and storm water capture planters. Neither is being embraced in right of way.

Lora Martens explained she has just started working with Bloomberg Industries green infrastructure committee.

Nancy Allen reported that Tricia Balluff helped put together the OEP Green Infrastructure Handbook. She added that the Street Transportation Department cited good engineering reasons and the high cost of maintenance in city owned right of way for some of the proposed options are not used. Planning and Development is checking with Zoning with regards to curb cuts. Nancy will also reach out to PDD regarding why variances are needed on approved design green infrastructure from the handbook.

Subcommittee member Rodriguez replied that she meets with Planning and Development on a regular basis and recommended Josh Benarek as a good resource on code related questions.

7. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anita Ponce, Administrative Assistant I