City of Capitola
Commission on the Environment Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, October 28, 2026 – 6:00 PM

City Hall Community Room
420 Capitola Avenue, Capitola, CA 95010

Chair: Michelle Beritzhoff-Law
Vice Chair: Michael Maroney
Commissioners: Council Member Clarke, Dennis Norton, Scott Rohlf
Staff Representative: Erika Senyk

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1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
2. **Additions and Deletions to the Agenda**
3. **Public Oral and Written Communications**
   The Chair may announce and set time limits at the beginning of each agenda item. The Committee Members may not discuss Oral Communications to any significant degree but may request issues be placed on a future agenda.
4. **Staff Comments**
5. **Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting of the Commission on the Environment, September 16, 2026**
6. **General Business**
   - **A. El Niño Storm Season Preparations**
     Recommended Action: Receive a staff update on the City's preparations for potential El Niño storm season impacts and identify opportunities to enhance community awareness and preparedness.
   - **B. Climate Action Plan Community Survey**
     Recommended Action: Discuss and identify strategies to increase public awareness of and participation in the active community survey for the Climate Action Plan Update project.
   - **C. Climate Action Plan Workshop Scheduling**
     Recommended Action: Select a date for the upcoming Commission on the Environment workshop with the Climate Action Plan Update project consultant team.
   - **D. Community Outreach**
     Recommended Action: Discuss and identify potential community outreach topics for Fall 2026, and select a priority theme and appropriate communication channel.
7. **Items for Future Agenda**
8. **Adjournment -** The next regular Commission on the Environment meeting is on November 18, 2026.

Agenda and Agenda Packet Materials: *The Commission on the Environment Agenda is available on the City's website: www.cityofcapitola.gov on the Friday prior to the Wednesday meeting. If you need additional information, please contact the City Hall Department at (831) 475-7300.*

Americans with Disabilities Act*: Disability-related aids or services are available to enable persons with a disability to participate in this meeting consistent with the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Assisted listening devices are available for individuals with hearing impairments at the meeting in the City Council Chambers. Should you require special accommodations to participate in the meeting due to a disability, please contact the City Clerk Department at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting at (831) 475-7300. In an effort to accommodate individuals with environmental sensitivities, attendees are requested to refrain from wearing perfumes and other scented products.*

City of Capitola
Commission on the Environment
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 16, 2026 – 6:00 PM

Capitola City Hall, Community Room
420 Capitola Avenue, Capitola, CA 95010

Chair: Michelle Beritzhoff-Law
Vice Chair: Michael Maroney
Commissioners: Council Member Clarke, Dennis Norton, Scott Rohlf
Staff Representative: Erika Senyk

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1. **Call to Order and Roll Call –** Chair Beritzhoff-Law called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM.
   Commissioners Present: Michelle Beritzhoff-Law, Michael Maroney, Scott Rohlf
   Absent: Council Member Clarke, Dennis Norton
   City Staff Present: Erika Senyk (Environmental Projects Manager)

2. **Additions and Deletions to the Agenda**
   None.

3. **Public Oral and Written Communications**
   Sherl Coulston, a resident of Brookvale Terrace, spoke of the importance of proper long-term maintenance of native plants in riparian corridors and environmentally sensitive habitat areas.

4. **Staff Comments**
   Staff provided updates on a Capitola Beach cleanup opportunity on Coastal Cleanup Day (Sept 19th) with Save Our Shores and an upcoming Save Our Shores presentation at the October 8th City Council meeting regarding regional ordinance updates to prohibit onshore support facilities for offshore drilling and seabed mining activities.

5. **Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting of the Commission on the Environment, July 29, 2026**
   Recommended Action: Review and approve minutes.

   Motion to approve the July 29, 2026 minutes: Vice Chair Maroney
   Seconded: Commissioner Rohlf
   Motion passed 3-0-2 (Council Member Clarke and Commissioner Norton absent)

6. **General Business**

   A. **Esplanade Park Coastal Access Enhancement and Adaptation Plan**
      Recommended Action: Engage in a listening session and provide input on future vision, priorities, and opportunities for Esplanade Park.

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Erika Senyk, Environmental Projects Manager, gave a presentation on the Esplanade Park Coastal Access Enhancement and Adaptation Plan project.

The commissioners engaged in the listening session activity and provided input to be distributed to the project consultant team for incorporation into the community wide feedback collected during all project outreach engagement efforts.

B. Community Outreach

Recommended Action: Discuss and identify potential community outreach topics for Fall 2026, and select a priority theme and appropriate communication channel.

The Commission identified the following community outreach topics for Fall 2026:
1. El Nino storm season preparation reminders
2. Recap the Coastal Cleanup Day event at Capitola Beach led by Save Our Shores and provide data results from the community cleanup
3. Newspaper article prepared by Vice Chair Maroney advertising the Climate Action Plan community survey opportunity (open through November 15th)

C. Regular Meeting Schedule

Recommended Action: Reaffirm attendance for the COE's regular meeting schedule for the remainder of calendar year 2026.

The Commission selected the following regular meeting schedule for the remainder of calendar year 2026:

Wednesday, Oct 28 at 6pm; Community Room at City Hall
Wednesday Nov 18 at 6pm; Community Room at City Hall
Wednesday Dec 16 at 6pm; Community Room at City Hall

7. Items for Future Agenda

1. Continue discussion on COE community outreach topics
2. Wharf Plan Update and future opportunities for the COE to provide input on the proposed plans
3. City compliance requirements for shared community spaces and Multi Family Dwellings (e.g., organics recycling, native planting projects and maintenance)

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 PM to the next Regular Meeting of the Commission on the Environment on October 28, 2026.

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