



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

7:00 PM - Monday, June 12, 2023

via Videoconference and In Person

PLEASE NOTE: The Environmental Commission will meet in person as well as via Telephone/ Video Conference.

PLEASE NOTE: Vice Chair Hecht will participate in the meeting via videoconference from the site listed below. The meeting agenda will be posted at the videoconference site, which is accessible to the public. Anyone wishing to address the Commission from the videoconference site will be provided with an opportunity to do so.

Location:

Main Conference Room

17 Lincoln St.

Biddeford, MA 04005

TO PARTICIPATE IN PERSON: Members of the public may also participate in person by being present at the Los Altos Council Chamber at Los Altos City Hall located at 1 N. San Antonio Rd, Los Altos, CA.

TO PARTICIPATE VIA VIDEO/TELEPHONE: Members of the Public may call (669) 444-9171 (Meeting ID: 819 0859 0274, Passcode: 738783), or use this link

<https://losaltosca.gov.zoom.us/j/81908590274?pwd=ZThFSUdvSzlVTW14dVRqaUI1bDRwdz09>

TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS: Members of the Public may only comment during times allotted for public comments. Prior to the meeting, comments on matters listed on the agenda may be emailed to ECpubliccomment@losaltosca.gov. Please include a subject line in the following format:

PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM ## - MEETING DATE

Correspondence submitted in hard copy/paper must be received by 2:00 P.M. on the day of the meeting to ensure distribution prior to the meeting. Correspondence received prior to the meeting will be included in the public record.

ESTABLISH QUORUM

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

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. Please be advised that, by law, the Commission is unable to discuss or take action on issues presented during the Public Comment Period. According to State Law (also known as “the Brown Act”) items must first be noticed on the agenda before any discussion or action.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION

1. Environmental Commission Minutes

Approve minutes of the regular meeting of May 8, 2023.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

2. Environmental Commission Work Plan (FY 22/23)

a. Tree Protection Ordinance

Status update by staff.

b. MWENDO

Status update by staff.

c. Other Work Plan Items

Commissioners to provide updates.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

3. Destination Electric (EV Fair)

Members of the Planning Committee to provide an update on the EV Fair event held on June 3, 2023. Commissioners to provide feedback and discuss event.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

- 1. Updates from May Council Meetings
- 2. City Council Assignments (7/11, 8/22)

POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. Emergency Operations Center at Hillview
- 2. Presentation from Bidgely, Inc.

ADJOURNMENT

SPECIAL NOTICES TO PUBLIC

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Altos will make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at (650) 947-2720.

Agendas, Staff Reports, and some associated documents for the Environmental Commission items may be viewed on the interment at https://www.losaltosca.gov/meetings?field_microsite_tid_1=2261.

If you wish to provide written materials, please provide the Commission Staff Liaison with **10 copies** of any document that you would like to submit to the Commissioners in order for it to become part of the public record.

For further questions regarding the meeting proceedings, please contact the City Clerk at (650) 947-2720.

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
 OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS, HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 8, 2023, AT 7:00 P.M. IN
 PERSON AND VIA TELECONFERENCE**

ESTABLISH QUORUM

PRESENT: Chair Delagneau, Commissioner Teksler (arrived at 7:03 p.m.), Commissioner van Reis, Commissioner Lu, Commissioner Weiden, Commissioner Humayun

ABSENT: Vice Chair Hecht

ATTENDEES: Tania Katbi (Sustainability Coordinator)
 Casey Leedom (Sustainability Coordinator)
 Councilmember Pete Dailey (Council Liaison)

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Gary Hedden provided public comment.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION

1. **Environmental Commission Minutes**
 Approved minutes of the meeting of April 10, 2023.

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Weiden, seconded by Commissioner Lu, the Environmental Commission approved the minutes of the meeting of April 10, 2023.

The motion was approved (6-0) by the following vote:
 AYES: Delagneau, Lu, Teksler, van Reis, Weiden, Humayun
 NOES: None
 ABSENT: Hecht
 ABSTAIN: None

2. **Environmental Commission Work Plan (FY 23/24)**
 Approved draft FY 23/24 work plan with a change to item 3(a).

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Humayun, seconded by Commissioner van Reis, the Environmental Commission approved the draft FY 23/24 work plan with a change to item 3(a).

The motion was approved (6-0) by the following vote:
 AYES: Delagneau, Lu, Teksler, van Reis, Weiden, Humayun
 NOES: None
 ABSENT: Hecht
 ABSTAIN: None

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

3. Moonshot Climate Action Plan Presentation

David Gershon presented on the Cool City Challenge and Climate Moonshot Scaling Strategy, which was followed by questions and comments from the Commissioners.

4. Destination Electric (EV Fair)

Members of the Planning Committee provided an update on the 2023 EV Fair, followed by questions and comments from the Commissioners.

5. Environmental Commission Work Plan (FY 22/23)

a. Reach Codes

Tania Katbi provided a status update, followed by questions and comments from the Commissioners.

b. Tree Protection Ordinance

Tania Katbi provided a status update, followed by questions and comments from the Commissioners.

c. Other Work Plan Items

Commissioners did not have more to report on other work plan items.

6. Teleconferencing Guidelines

Tania Katbi provided an update on Commissioner Teleconferencing provisions, followed by questions and comments from the Commissioners.

CITY STAFF UPDATES

City Staff provided updates on the County's Household Hazard Waste event, the City of Los Altos Compost Giveaway event, and the CalAPP solar permitting grant.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Commissioner Lu provided an update on the Lehigh cement plant. Commissioners provided updates from the April City Council meetings and assigned Commissioners to attend the 6/13 (Commissioner Humayun) and 6/27 (Commissioner Weiden) City Council meetings.

POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Permitting process for heat pumps, solar panels, and battery storage
2. Gas-powered Leaf Blower Ban
3. Shoulder-Improvement Policy
4. SVCE Tariff On-Bill Program

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Delagneau adjourned the meeting at 9:28 p.m.



MEETING DATE: June 12, 2023

SUBJECT: Tree Protection Ordinance

PREPARED BY: Casey Leedom, Sustainability Coordinator

REVIEWED BY: Aida Fairman, Director of Environmental Services and Utilities

BACKGROUND

Staff is working with a consulting firm to provide technical and policy recommendations to inform the update of the City’s Tree Protection Ordinance and Street Tree Planting List and to create a Private Tree Planting List for replacement trees.

The consultant provided a Draft Preliminary Tree List, including recommendations for Street Trees and Private Replacement Trees, on March 14, 2023. Staff distributed the List to other City Departments and the Environmental Commission Subcommittee for review and comment. Staff compiled the feedback and comments and provided them to the consultant.

STATUS UPDATE

The consultant provided preliminary policy recommendations on May 12, 2023. Staff met with the consultant on June 1, 2023, to review outstanding questions regarding the tree lists and policy recommendations. Staff is currently updating their recommendations with regard to the tree protection ordinance.

Staff will present updated recommendations to the Environmental Commission Subcommittee on June 16, 2023. Staff will incorporate feedback from the Subcommittee and will bring recommendations to the Environmental Commission during the July or August meeting, pending direction from the Council regarding the frequency of Commission meetings.



MEETING DATE: June 12, 2023

SUBJECT: MWENDO

PREPARED BY: Casey Leedom, Sustainability Coordinator

REVIEWED BY: Aida Fairman, Director of Environmental Services and Utilities

BACKGROUND

In 2015, the Santa Clara County Water Efficient New Development Task Force (“Task Force”) was formed to develop a Model Water Efficient New Development Ordinance (MWENDO) for jurisdictions in Santa Clara County to adopt. MWENDO includes water efficiency measures for new development projects, which are intended to extend the region’s water supplies. In September 2018, the Santa Clara Valley Water District, on behalf of the Task Force, procured the technical assistance of a qualified sustainability consulting firm to finalize MWENDO, with input from Task Force representatives, the California Building Standards Commission, and the California Energy Commission.

City staff met in November 2022 with the EC subcommittee, Valley Water, and their contractor, Green Evolution, to get up to speed on MWENDO. City Staff also met internally with the Planning Division to review specific measures within the ordinance.

STATUS UPDATE

On May 10, 2023, Valley Water confirmed that they are no longer updating MWENDO for the 2022 CBSC adoption cycle, but instead are focusing on updating the Model Ordinance in preparation for the upcoming 2025 CBSC adoption cycle. In light of this development, staff will continue to conduct research and evaluate the feasibility of measures within the current Model Ordinance. Staff is currently working on the following:

- Peer jurisdiction research to understand what other MWENDO measures neighboring cities have adopted,
- Reviewing the 2022 California Green Building Standards Code (Title 24, CALGreen) for regulations on water efficiency and conservation, and
- Verifying the City’s MWELD ordinance for overlap in requirements.

Staff is moving forward with additional research and meetings with the Planning and Building Divisions and will provide recommendations at a future meeting.



MEETING DATE: June 12, 2023

SUBJECT: Environmental Commission Work Plan (FY 22/23)

PREPARED BY: Casey Leedom, Sustainability Coordinator

REVIEWED BY: Aida Fairman, Director of Environmental Services and Utilities

BACKGROUND

The Environmental Commission Work Plan is intended to focus the Commission’s agenda items, align them with City Council priorities, and serve as a roadmap for projects and actions, as appropriate, during the 2022/23 year. The Commission will review the targets, projects, and status updates at each of its monthly meetings and review its priorities every three to six months.

At the Environmental Commission’s regular meeting on August 8, 2022, the Commissioners discussed prioritization of the Commission’s Work Plan items upon request by staff. They put forth the following priorities (listed in order) for review by staff. City staff have updated “EV Fair” to Priority #5 and “Greening City Operations” to Priority #6.

1. Reach Codes
2. Tree Preservation Guidelines
3. Water Conservation (MWENDO), Implementation of CAAP priorities
4. Update Environmental Webpage on the City website
5. EV Fair
6. Greening City Operations
7. Assist staff with Outreach and Education Efforts
8. Single Use Plastics
9. Gas-Powered Off-Road Engines

The prioritization of the tasks in the Work Plan and target dates will be updated by staff as needed.

STATUS UPDATE

City Staff are currently focusing on items #2 and #3 listed above, per Council direction. City Staff have also progressed items #1, #4, #5, and #6.

Commissioners and/or subcommittees will provide updates on recent work related to the work plan.



MEETING DATE: June 12, 2023

SUBJECT: EV Fair

PREPARED BY: Casey Leedom, Sustainability Coordinator

REVIEWED BY: Aida Fairman, Director of Environmental Services and Utilities

BACKGROUND

Goal 1.4A of the Climate Action and Adaptation (CAAP) Plan recommends the following:

- Develop a yearly EV fair with participation from local dealerships and owners.
- Develop a map of the city charging network and available dedicated parking spaces.
- Create a webinar series on EV ownership.
- Promote all available incentive programs and encourage their use.

Planning Committee Members: Sybil Cramer, Jerry Pohorsky, and Ben White – Silicon Valley Chapter of Electric Vehicle Association, Suresh Venkatraman – GreenTown, Commissioner Van Reis, and the City’s Sustainability Coordinators.

Event Name: Destination Electric: A Los Altos EV Showcase

Event Location: Los Altos Community Center (97 Hillview Avenue, Los Altos)

Event Date/Time: June 3, 2023; 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

<https://www.losaltosca.gov/environmentalcommission/page/destination-electric-los-altos-ev-showcase>

STATUS UPDATE

Destination Electric (A Los Altos EV Showcase) was held on Saturday, June 3, 2023, at the Los Altos Community Center parking lot. The event included 18+ electric vehicles on display, e-bikes on display, and 10+ organizations at informational booths.

DISCUSSION

Commission to provide feedback on the event and discuss potential ideas for the next EV Showcase. Some potential discussion points include:

1. Goal 1.4A of the CAAP recommends that an EV fair be held annually. Does the Commission agree with this recommendation?
2. What worked and what did not work for the event overall?
3. What worked and what did not work for the Environmental Commission booth?
4. What other elements would the Commission like to see in a future EV Showcase?