



CITY OF NOVATO
CALIFORNIA

Sustainability Commission

AGENDA

Thursday, May 18, 2023 - 6:00 p.m.

Novato City Hall, 901 Sherman Avenue

Chair

Nicole Tai

Vice Chair

Chris Yalonis

Members

Tim Blofeld, Bob Brown, Zach Brownstone, Bryn Ichinaga, and Pablo Paster

Staff Liaison

Gretchen Schubeck

The Sustainability Commission welcomes your attendance at its meetings, which are held on the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Your interest is encouraged and appreciated.

Public Participation Options

Members of the public may provide public comments and participate in Sustainability Commission meetings as follows:

- **Written Public Comments:** May be submitted via sustainability@novato.org. Written public comments received more than 3 hours before the start of the meeting will be distributed to the Commission prior to the meeting. Written public comments will not be read during the meeting.
- **In-person Public Comments:** May be made during the meetings, which are held at Novato City Hall, 901 Sherman Avenue.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk at (415) 899-8986. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable accommodation to help ensure accessibility to this meeting. The Sustainability Commission may discuss and/or take action on any or all of the items listed on the agenda irrespective of how the agenda items are described.

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

B. APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

There is a three-minute time limit to speak, although the Chair may shorten the time based on the number of speakers or other factors. A speaker may not yield their time to another speaker.

For issues raised during Public Comment that are not on the published agenda, except as otherwise provided under the Ralph M. Brown Act, no action can legally be taken. The Commission may direct that the item be referred to the Staff Liaison for action or may schedule the item on a subsequent agenda.

D. CONSENT ITEMS

D.1 Approve minutes of meeting held March 16, 2023

E. GENERAL BUSINESS

These items include significant and administrative actions of special interest and will usually include a presentation and discussion by the Commission. They will be enacted upon by a separate vote.

E.1 Introduction of Commissioner Päster – Sustainability Coordinator Gretchen Schubeck

E.2 FY 2023-24 Workplan Development Timeline – Sustainability Coordinator Gretchen Schubeck

E.3 San Marin High School Idling Reduction Campaign – Commissioner Brownstone and Commissioner Ichinaga

F. CONTINUING ITEMS

This section is for items that have previously been discussed at a Commission meeting.

F.1 Ad-hoc Committee Update: *Sustainability and Climate Action Analysis and Prioritization* – Commissioner Yalonis and Sustainability Coordinator Gretchen Schubeck

F.2 Community Ideation Session and Discussion – *Sustainability and Climate Action Priorities* – Sustainability Coordinator Gretchen Schubeck

F.3 Ad-hoc Committee Update: *Stakeholder Analysis and Community Engagement* – Commissioner Brownstone, Commissioner Nicole Tai, Commissioner Yalonis, and Sustainability Coordinator Gretchen Schubeck

F.4 Climate Action Plan Development Timeline – Sustainability Coordinator Gretchen Schubeck

G. COMMISSIONER AND STAFF LIAISON REPORTS

This section is used for Commissioners and the Staff Liaison to orally report on topics that can be considered for discussion at a future meeting.

G.1 Commissioner Reports

G.2 Staff Liaison Reports

H. ADJOURNMENT

Materials that are submitted to members of the Commission after the distribution of the meeting's agenda packet will be available upon request.

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

I, Gretchen Schubeck, certify that on May 11, 2022, the agenda was posted on the City Community Service Board at 922 Machin Avenue and on the City's website www.novato.org.

/ Gretchen Schubeck /

Gretchen Schubeck, Sustainability Coordinator



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CITY OF NOVATO
CALIFORNIA

Sustainability Commission

MINUTES

Thursday, March 16, 2023 - 6:00 pm

Novato City Hall, 901 Sherman Avenue, Novato

Chair

Nicole Tai

Vice Chair

Chris Yalonis

Members

Tim Blofeld, Bob Brown, Zach Brownstone, and Bryn Ichinaga

Staff Liaison

Gretchen Schubeck

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Commission was called to order at 6:04pm.

Commissioners Present: Tim Blofeld, Bob Brown, Zach Brownstone, Bryn Ichinaga, Nicole Tai, and Chris Yalonis

Staff Present: Gretchen Schubeck, Sustainability Coordinator

B. APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA

Upon a motion of Commissioner Brown and second by Commissioner Blofeld, the Commission voted 6-0 to approve the final agenda.

AYES: BLOFELD, BROWN, BROWNSTONE, ICHINAGA, TAI, YALONIS

NOES: NONE

Motion carried.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

D. CONSENT ITEMS

Upon a motion of Commissioner Blofeld and second by Commissioner Yalonis, the Commission voted 6-0 to approve the meeting minutes of February 16, 2023.

AYES: BLOFELD, BROWN, BROWNSTONE, ICHINAGA, TAI, YALONIS
NOES: NONE

Motion carried.

E. GENERAL BUSINESS

E.1 Presentation: Resilient Neighborhoods (PowerPoint presentation attached)

- Executive Director Tamra Peters provided an overview of the Resilient Neighborhoods (RN) program.
- RN's mission is to empower Marin residents to take personal action to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and create resilient, connected communities better able to adapt to a warming planet.
- RN offers a free, online climate action workshop series which encourages participants to complete a personal climate action plan and go on a 'carbon diet'. Workshops in the series run for two hours and are offered every other week for a 10-week period.
- The program is financially supported by Marin jurisdictions and over 2,000 people have participated in the program since its inception in 2010, including 182 people from Novato.

E.2 Presentation: 'Easy Wins' and Initiative Options (PowerPoint presentation attached)

- Sustainability Coordinator Schubeck gave a presentation related the Commission's workplan Goal #4 '*Facilitate community engagement on sustainability and climate-related initiatives*' and shared some examples of low-tech, low-cost initiatives that could serve as 'easy wins' over the next 12 months, as well as more complex, higher cost initiatives that may have more limited uptake.
- Sustainability Coordinator Schubeck commented that focusing on high impact initiatives that have a high probability/feasibility of being embraced by the community is the focus for this workplan item.

F. CONTINUING ITEMS

F.1 Consider Making a Recommendation to the City Council to Reconsider Adopting Marin County's Model Reach Codes

Upon a motion of Commissioner Brown and second by Commissioner Yalonis, the Commission voted 6-0 to recommend that the City Council reconsider adopting all or a portion of Marin County's model building reach codes, and that staff provide the rationale developed by the Commission to the City Council.

AYES: BLOFELD, BROWN, BROWNSTONE, ICHINAGA, TAI, YALONIS
NOES: NONE

Motion carried.

F.2 Ad-hoc Committee Update: Sustainability and Climate Action Analysis and Prioritization

The Ad-Hoc Committee met on March 13, 2023 to review background/reference documents and to discuss the process and criteria to be used for analysis and prioritization. Next meeting will be held on March 20, 2023.

F.3 Climate Action Plan Development Timeline

- Sustainability Coordinator Schubeck reported that the Scope of Work for the contract with O'Rourke and Associates for the Climate Action Plan update has been finalized and the contract documents are being prepared.

G. COMMISSIONER AND STAFF LIAISON REPORTS

G.1 Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Brown attended a webinar on building electrification featuring the nonprofit organization Rewiring.

Commissioner Tai offered to follow up with Marin Builders Association to see if their organization will provide a letter of support for adoption of the model green building reach codes.

Upon a motion of Commissioner Brown and second by Commissioner Tai, the Commission voted 6-0 to recommend that the Sustainability Commission meet in the City Administrative Offices to increase community participation due to the availability of a hybrid meeting option and to save natural resources.

AYES: BLOFELD, BROWN, BROWNSTONE, ICHINAGA, TAI, YALONIS

NOES: NONE

Motion carried.

Upon a motion of Commissioner Brownstone and second by Commissioner Ichinaga, the Commission voted 6-0 to establish an Ad-Hoc Committee to facilitate education on the impacts of idling on Novato Unified School campuses and to the surrounding neighborhoods.

AYES: BLOFELD, BROWN, BROWNSTONE, ICHINAGA, TAI, YALONIS

NOES: NONE

Motion carried.

G.2 Staff Liaison Reports

Coordinator Schubeck reported that Commissioner Gleeson has moved out of Novato, and is longer able to serve on the Commission. The vacancy has been added to the City's spring Commission, Committee, and Board recruitment process.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Commissioner Yalonis and second by Commissioner Blofeld, the Commission voted 6-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:35pm

AYES: BLOFELD, BROWN, BROWNSTONE, ICHINAGA, TAI, YALONIS

NOES: NONE

Motion carried.