

MINUTES
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING
WEDNESDAY
November 17, 2021 6:30PM
City Hall – Council Chambers
232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting began at 6:35pm. Analyst Carlson called roll. All Commissioners were present except Commissioner DeBusk who was excused.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda:

Robinson

Second:

Lim

Vote:

Unanimous

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes from the September 15, 2021 Natural Resources Commission meeting:

Robinson

Second:

Ryan

Vote:

Unanimous

STAFF COMMISSION REPORTS

Analyst Carlson provided an update on the City Council's adoption of a new organics recycling ordinance and the steps going forward to work with Athens Services to develop programs to enact the new requirements.

Analyst Carlson provided an update on the status of the Solar project including details of a recent change order and pulling of the required permits by the contractor.

Analyst Carlson also provided the Commission with a map indicating efforts to connect LA Flood Control channel easements for transportation, recreation, and natural space. The program is at its beginning and staff will continue to watch its progress and keep the Commission informed.

Analyst Carlson provided updates on recent concerns and comments regarding tree trimming and removals conducted by SCE and the City. He answered Commission questions and explained certain aspects of the tree programs.

Chair Dasher provided information on efforts to work with the

Sierra Madre Playhouse and the Wild & Scenic Film organizers in light of hosting another film event around Earth Day in 2022. Additional information will be provided at future meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT
(Items not on the agenda)

There was no public comment.

ACTION ITEMS

1. DISCUSSION: BIKE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY: The Commission will receive a presentation from resident John Lloyd on non-vehicular transportation topics for Sierra Madre.

A presentation was provided by resident John Lloyd as to opportunities and barriers observed in the City for bicycle and motorized bicycle use. He concluded the presentation with a recommendation to consider an ad-hoc committee to work with the community to formulate a plan which would assist with seeking funding for certain improvements.

Vice Chair Robinson opened the discussion with questions and observations on the new bike lanes in the City.

Commissioner Lim pointed to a portion of the presentation that featured potential safety enhancements for areas around schools. A short discussion followed regarding the flashing crosswalk lights and locations in which they might be added.

Commissioner Ryan shared biking and walking to work events she had experienced and surveys conducted by the SCAQMD. She described incentives that employers can offer for employees to reduce vehicular travel. She also suggested connecting with other cities for events such as Ciclovía.

Public Comment:

William Wray described how he has learned to love the electronic bikes. He provided examples of carrying goods on the bike as well as his observation of congestion at the Sierra Madre Middle School during drop-off and pick-up times.

Julia Berkowitz explained that as a bicyclist in Sierra Madre, she has concerns with parked cars leaving their stalls and backing into the bike lanes. She also indicated she would like to find a good way to connect with other community members that share the appreciation for biking in town.

Scott Stetchel thanked the presenter and indicated that the traffic is too fast on E. Sierra Madre Blvd near Sierra Vista Park

Analyst Carlson suggested that John Lloyd provide his

presentation to the Community Services Commission, and that a ad-hoc committee be considered using 1 or 2 Commissioners from each Commission, and others as well.

2. ADJOURNMENT: The Commission will adjourn to the next regularly scheduled meeting; December 15, 2021 at 6:30pm.

The Commission indicated that they would like to see a discussion on the Wild & Scenic Film Festival, and update on Active Transportation, and an overview of the City's Water Department and conservation programs at a future meeting.

The Commission adjourned by consensus.