



Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes

Special Meeting – Strategic Planning Session | Saturday, July 9, 2022

[Agenda](#)

Call to Order 10:26 a.m.

Welcome

Chair Bazan provided a welcome to the Commission.

Opening Remarks

Chair Bazan read opening remarks from Environment & Sustainability Committee Chairwoman Paula Blackmon.

Reading from [The River Trilogy](#)

Environmental Commission Water Resources Technical Panel Member, David Marquis, read excerpts from his book series, *The River Trilogy*.

Environmental Commission – Purpose, Role, & Procedures

Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability (OEQS) Director, Carlos Evans, highlighted the desire for the Environmental Commission to be a true partner with the City and OEQS, touching on the need to explore best methods of conveying the Commission's recommendations to the Environment & Sustainability Council Committee. Reference to Sherry Arnstein's, "[A Ladder of Citizen Participation](#)", *Journal of the American Planning Association*.

Chair Bazan provided a summary of the City's various classifications for Boards & Commissions and an overview of the [Environmental Commission's founding ordinance](#).

District Summaries – Challenges, Critical Issues, & Successes

Vice Chair Villarreal (D6), Commissioner Derrough (D7), and Commissioner Roberson (D8) provided an overview of critical, historic environmental issues in their districts:

- District 6: Nonconforming use issues related to zoning, GAF Materials Corp.
- District 7: Industrial zoning, concrete batch plants
- District 8: Lane Plating, Blue Star site

Lunch

The Commission recessed for lunch from 11:45a.m. – 12:30p.m.

Strategic Planning Session

Dr. Mike Mowery, President – Leadership Development & Strategic Foresight, Strategic Government Resources, led sessions on team-building, identification of key desired outcomes, ranking of the Commission's priorities, and next steps.

Chair Bazan provided a summary of the 8 overarching goals of the Comprehensive Environmental & Climate Action Plan (CECAP) that inform the Commission's priorities, as well as Chairwoman Blackmon and Mayor Johnson's priorities for the Environment & Sustainability Committee, which are aligned with the CECAP.

The Commission split into groups to identify and synthesize top 5 priorities, which are outlined in the attached report from Strategic Government Resources.

Regarding next steps, Chair Bazan stated intent to form subcommittees in order to place those with similar interests together, streamlining work and fostering more thoughtful consideration of agenda items. She closed by urging members to be thinking about what overarching themes subcommittees should be classified under.

Adjournment 3:56p.m.

Approval for transmission:

Kathryn Bazan
Kathryn Bazan (Jul 28, 2022 13:22 CDT)
Kathryn Bazan, Chair

Jul 28, 2022
Date

Erin Diehl
Erin Diehl, Board Coordinator

7/28/2022
Date