

Environment and Sustainability Task Force Meeting Minutes

The Environment and Sustainability Task Force meetings are recorded. Agenda materials and recordings may be reviewed/copied by contacting the Board Coordinator at 214-671-1200

Meeting Date: April 16, 2021
Convened: 1:10 p.m.
Adjourned: 2:55 p.m.

Task Force Members Present:

Sandy Greyson, **Chair**
Rita Beving, **Vice-Chair**
Dr. Maria Boccalandro
Alan Hoffmann
Michael Martin
Janette Monear
Tony Robinson
Pamela Rogers
Aaryaman Singhal
Tracy Wallace

Task Force Member(s) Absent:

Drew Campbell
Phil Crone
Erryn Hopson
Ples Montgomery, IV
Raphaella Silva

Staff Present:

Susan Alvarez, OEQS, Task Force Staff Liaison
Joey Zapata, CMO
Michael Gange, OEQS
Pharr Andrews, OEQS
Katy Evans, OEQS
Danielle McClelland, OEQS
Cliff Gillespie, SAN
Timothy Oliver, SAN
Sarah Standifer, DWU

Special Guest(s):

Scott Pasternak, Burns & McDonnell
Eric Weiss, Burns & McDonnell

AGENDA:

1. **Call to Order**

Action Taken/Recommendation(s):

Chair called the Environment and Sustainability Task Force meeting to order at 1:10 p.m., Friday, April 16, 2021 at Dallas City Hall, via TEAMS Virtual Meeting Service, Dallas, TX, 75201. A quorum was present.

2. **Public Comments**

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There were no public comments received.

3. Approval of Meeting Record of February 12, 2021, February 19, 2021, and March 12, 2021 Meetings

Motion to approve the minutes of February 12, February 19, and March 12, 2021 meetings

Motion by: Rita Beving

Motion seconded by: Michael Martin

Update to the March 12, 2021 minutes—The EAS-TF will have its final meeting in September, not August as previously stated.

4. Updates on Environmental Commission and Urban Forest Master Plan

Susan Alvarez provided an update on the Environmental Commission and the Urban Forest Master Plan.

The ENVIS Committee unanimously voted to move forward with the ordinance and made no changes to the Task Force's recommendations. It is on the agenda for full Council vote on April 28, 2021. The proposed structure includes fifteen voting members including two public health professionals and a mix of environmental advocates and community leaders, a technical panel of eight non-voting members, and a standing committee for environmental health.

The Urban Forest Master Plan will be presented at the Executive Leadership Team meeting on Tuesday (April 20). Recommendations will be brought back to the ENVIS Committee as a memorandum on May 3, 2021.

5. Presentation: Local Solid Waste Management Plan Update

Cliff Gillespie, Assistant Director of Sanitation Services, and Scott Pasternak, of Burns & McDonnell Consulting delivered an update on the Local Solid Waste Plan (LSWMP).

Alan Hoffman asked about the market relative to purchasing Dallas' recyclables. Scott replied that the paper market-- especially mixed paper-- has taken a hit in the past several years but, as of the end of 2020, the mixed paper market is rebounding along with the cardboard market.

Alan followed up with a question about how to encourage industries to use more recycled materials. Per Scott, Burns & McDonnell is currently working on a Recycled Market Development Plan for Texas. The plan is scheduled to be completed over the summer and will include recommendations for Dallas that can be included in the Local Solid Waste Management Plan.

Aaryaman Singhal commented on the need to reduce waste at the source in addition to recycling. He would also like the City to consider plans for battery recycling.

Michael Martin asked about incentives for businesses to adopt zero waste strategies. Scott responded that incentives could be written into the LSWMP and that the City will need to consider its role in providing incentives.

Sandy Greyson asked about the current status of the City's contract with the MRF in South Dallas to take the City's recyclables even when the market is down. Per Timothy Oliver, the contract is still in effect. Sandy requested that Scott include the North Dallas Neighborhood Alliance in

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community meetings for the LSWMP. Sandy further urged the LSWMP task force to prioritize addressing bulk waste and brush. Timothy agreed and provided more information on the City's progress so far towards improving bulk and brush collection.

Tracy Wallace asked about efforts to ensure equitable bulk trash pickup. Cliff agreed that there are neighborhoods where the issue is more prevalent, but that bulk trash pickup times are an issue all throughout the City. SAN is working to maintain its pickup schedule and educate residents on the proper times to place bulk waste outside. Tracy requested that an analysis be done and data be provided on the disparity in service in the City.

Sandy asked for an update on the City's plans for commercial recycling. Danielle McClelland reported that the Zero Waste Plan currently encourages a voluntary program with a potential to be reviewed for possible mandate. SAN will be looking for advisement from the LSWMP on how to move forward with future plans. Per Susan, many businesses are already recycling through private companies, and the data does not accurately reflect those efforts; additionally, addressing multi-family residences and organics would have the greatest impact on the City's diversion rate and therefore may reflect current focus.

Dr. Maria Boccalandro inquired about the potential for neighborhood recycling drop-off locations and residential organic waste pickup. The City is already exploring pilots for drop-off locations, and residential organic waste pickup can be evaluated as part of the LSWMP effort. Dr. Boccalandro added that a city-wide education campaign is needed on the importance of waste reduction and reuse.

Janette Monear asked about incentives for businesses to reuse the City's organic waste. Scott responded that most of the organic waste collected can only be composted but that the LSWMP update will consider options for how to best reuse or recycle wood waste.

6. Review of FY 2021 Proposed Work Plan by CECAP Sectors: Buildings & Energy

Pharr Andrews and Katy Evans presented on the FY 2021 goals and targets for the Buildings and Energy sectors.

Buildings: Alan suggested radiant barriers, which could be required in new roof permits, as a strategy to reduce energy usage and subsequent CO2 emissions. Sandy asked that Task Force members interested in helping implementing this strategy to contact Susan.

Michael added that the group should also consider measures to encourage rooftop solar in addition to energy-efficient roofs. Susan informed the task force of several community solar pilot projects that are currently in development, including one with the Housing Department.

Tracy asked about the potential to put solar on DHA properties. Per Sue, the City is still exploring opportunities with DHA but is making more progress currently with the Housing Department.

Energy: Time did not permit discussion of this sector. Energy will be discussed in the May meeting.

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7. Meeting Wrap-Up

Motion to adjourn meeting.

Motion by: Tracy Wallace

Motion seconded by: Pamela Rogers

Passed by majority.

The April 16, 2021 Environment and Sustainability Task Force Meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

ATTEST:

Sandy Greyson

Chair
Environment & Sustainability Task Force

Joan Sharkey

Task Force Staff Liaison
Environment & Sustainability Task Force