



City of Buena Park

MINUTES CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION FEBRUARY 4, 2025

1A. CALL TO ORDER

The Climate Action Commission met on February 4, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 6650 Beach Boulevard, Buena Park, CA.

1B. ROLL CALL PRESENT: Schooner, Singhal, James, Figueroa, Bendinelli
STAFF: Lotus Thai, Sustainability Manager

1C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. COMMUNICATIONS

This is a portion of the meeting set aside to invite public comments regarding any matter within the jurisdiction of the Climate Action Commission. Public comments are limited to no more than 3 minutes for each speaker.

2A. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - None

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of November 5, 2024

***M/S/P – *Singhal/Figueroa* – Approval of meeting minutes November 5, 2024

4. NEW BUSINESS

4A. Commission Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair

Chair Schooner read the City of Buena Park policy regarding appointment of the Climate Action Commission Chair and Vice Chair positions: *To have fair and equitable representation, the chair and vice-chair positions shall rotate between commissioners/committee members in numerical order by districts in January of each calendar year, pursuant to the manner and process established in City Council Policy No. 22 (2023).*

Brandon Schooner (District 5) was appointed as Chair; Annie Singhal (District 3) was appointed as Vice Chair for 2025 calendar year.

4B. Discuss Commission Expectations, 2025 Goals and 2025 Schedule – Presented by Lotus Thai, Sustainability Manager

Lotus Thai updated the Commission on current events. She reported that in the last 6 months, several teams have embraced sustainability by developing and executing green incentives. BP Police Department reached out to EDCO to provide reusable bags for the annual Cops n Goblins event. BP Public Works Facility Maintenance replaced 6 gas water heaters with electric pumps, cutting emissions. Grant funding covered over 90% of the replacement cost. The OC Fire Authority has lowered paper waste (nearly 6,000 sheets annually) by switching to digital files for inspection reports.

The Office of Sustainability alongside the Climate Action Commission (CAC) has spearheaded several projects last year: bee and chicken keeping ordinance, Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, use of electric lawn equipment, and event waste sorting stations throughout City Hall.

Lotus reported that the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan is moving forward, over 700 people from the community have shown interest in climate change. The Office of Sustainability has actively engaged with the community at various events. Additionally, the Sustainability Manager has presented to 6 commissions, educated the CAC with monthly sustainability learning sessions, hosted waste-sorting training and has built relationships with other sustainability professionals.

The South County Air Quality Management District (AQMD) offers a rebate to assist residents with the cost to change to electric lawn equipment, in addition to the City's rebate funding for residents and small business. Unfortunately, the AQMD rebate is oversubscribed, so all of the city's rebate program budget funds for electric lawn equipment replacement will be made available to residents now.

Lotus reported on the *Buena Park Trash cART Contest* sponsored by EDCO. Residents can compete by designing a trash cart with upcycled, repurposed and recycled materials to decorate the trash cart. The contest theme is *Food Waste!* to promote awareness of Senate Bill 1383 and how to reduce food waste from going to landfills.

The City's first Sustainability Fair is on April 19, 2025, from 8am-12pm at Boisseranc Park. The fair is in conjunction with Spring Eggstravaganza. There will be information booths with eco-friendly and recycling agencies and a booth for the commission to promote sustainability. As stewards of sustainability, Commissioners are expected to volunteer at community events, gather CAAP feedback from residents and businesses, recognize and nominate sustainability champions/businesses.

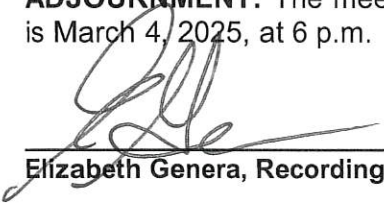
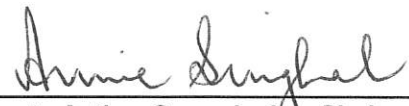
Lotus reported that so far the sustainability learning sessions have covered the topics like what the office of sustainability does, environmental history, the meaning and effects of climate change, behavioral psychology, and the definition of zero waste. Microclimates, water usage/waste, and recycling rules in Buena Park were suggestions for future sessions. Lotus will arrange a commission excursion to visit the EDCO recycling/landfill facility. Chair Schooner suggested a visit to the Long Beach Bee Sanctuary.

What to expect in 2025: January – CAC to host a CAAP virtual town hall meeting. February – use of reusable plates and utensils at City Hall. April/May – release the draft of CAAP. April 19 – Sustainability Fair at Spring Eggstravaganza promote sustainability champion, Trash cART Contest. July – release final copy of CAAP and present it to City Council.

5. OLD BUSINESS – No items.

6. CITY/STAFF UPDATES, INFORMATIONAL ITEMS, FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. The next regular scheduled meeting is March 4, 2025, at 6 p.m.


Elizabeth Genera, Recording Secretary
Climate Action Commission Chair