



City of Buena Park

MINUTES CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION APRIL 1, 2025

1A. CALL TO ORDER

The Climate Action Commission met on April 1, 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 March 4, 2025

***M/S/P – *Singhal/Figueroa* – Approval of meeting minutes March 4, 2025

4. OLD BUSINESS – No items.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5A. Sustainability Learning Session: Life Cycle Analysis – Presented by Lotus Thai, Sustainability Manager

Lifecycle Analysis for Sustainable Choices

Lotus Thai presented a sustainability learning session on lifecycle analysis, explaining its purpose in evaluating environmental impacts of various options. The session focused on a plastic cup example, comparing a reusable plastic cup, a paper cup, a simple plastic cup, and a biodegradable plastic cup. Lotus outlined the process of conducting a lifecycle analysis, including identifying inputs, calculating resources needed, and drawing boundaries around what is considered important. The session concluded with a comparison of the environmental impacts of the four cup options, highlighting the importance of considering various factors in making environmentally friendly choices.

Identifying Least Environmentally Friendly Coffee Process

Lotus discussed the importance of considering multiple studies when making choices about products, using the example of making coffee. They emphasized the need for data-heavy scientific processes, like Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs), to provide accurate conclusions. Lotus then guided the team through a hands-on exercise, asking them to identify the least environmentally friendly part of the coffee-making process.

The team suggested various steps, including grinding the coffee beans, using a coffee machine, and the transportation of water and coffee beans. The commission considered all aspects of the process, from sourcing to transportation.

Coffee Production's Environmental Impact Discussed

The Commission discussed the environmental impact of various aspects of coffee production and consumption, including packaging, transportation, and energy usage. They noted that the most energy-intensive component of the process is the electricity used to operate the coffee machine. Lotus highlighted the challenges of predicting consumer behavior and the potential for reusable bags to be used only once, making them less sustainable than initially thought. They concluded that the study did not consider the cup component and that ceramic cups are more energy-intensive than plastic ones.

Sustainability and Life Cycle Assessments

City discussed the 7 R's of sustainability: rethink, refuse, reduce, reuse, repair, repurpose, and recycle. They emphasized that nothing is perfect and everything is about balance. City also mentioned the importance of considering cost in the decision-making process, but clarified that monetary factors are not typically considered in Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs). They also touched on the difference between cradle-to-grave and cradle-to-cradle approaches, and the importance of considering environmental, fair labor, and financial components in sustainability decisions. City concluded by stating that there is no magic number in LCAs, and decisions are based on end goals and the biggest bang for the buck.

5B. Sustainability Fair Overview – Presented by Lotus Thai, Sustainability Manager

Sustainability Fair at Boisseranc Park

The first Sustainability Fair will be held in conjunction with the Spring Eggstravaganza event at Boisseranc Park on April 19th, the event and pancake breakfast will run from 8 a.m to 12 p.m.

Commissioners are requested to be at the importance of being at the booth by 7:45 and suggested parking in nearby neighborhoods. The layout of the event was explained, with the booth located near the handball courts. City also clarified that parking in the lot next to the event is not available for attendees. The possibility of purchasing pancakes for breakfast was left open-ended due to uncertainties about the event's timeline.

The event will include a pancake breakfast, with vendor booths from EDCO, OC Vector Control, OC Health Care Oil Recycling, Public Works storm drain and compost give a way and many others. The Climate Action Commission will host a booth with the Office of Sustainability promote the CAAP and Lawn Equipment conversion program.

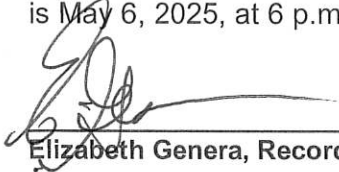
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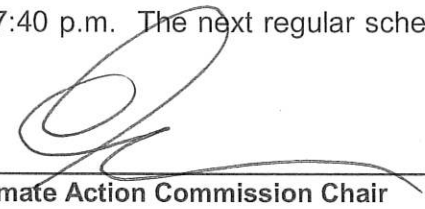
Upcoming Event Vendor Assignments Discussed

City discussed the upcoming event, detailing the various vendors and booths, including a trash truck, observation hive, smoothie bike, and booths for oil recycling and healthy living. They also mentioned the e-waste and paper shredding event the following week. City assigned booth duties, including one for the trash cart contest, one for the check-in booth and climate action adaptation plan, and two for the lawn equipment rebate program.

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

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. The next regular scheduled meeting is May 6, 2025, at 6 p.m.



Elizabeth Genera, Recording Secretary

Climate Action Commission Chair