

Tuesday, April 1, 2025, 6:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBER
6650 Beach Boulevard
Buena Park, CA 90621

CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, April 1, 2025 - 6:00 p.m.

1. GENERAL

1A. CALL TO ORDER

1B. ROLL CALL

Schooner, Singhal, James, Figueroa, Bendinelli

1C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. COMMUNICATIONS

2A. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

— This is the 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 three minutes each. If comments relate to a specific agenda item, those comments will be taken following the staff report for that item and prior to the Commission vote. Those wishing to speak are asked to complete a speaker identification form located at the Council Chamber entrance and place it in the box near the speaker's lectern.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3A. Approval of Meeting Minutes - March 4, 2025

4. OLD BUSINESS

5. NEW BUSINESS

5A. Sustainability Learning Session: Life Cycle Analysis

5B. Sustainability Fair Overview

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

6A. CITY/STAFF UPDATES, INFORMATION ITEMS, FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

7. ADJOURNMENT

7A. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned to the next regular meeting on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

This agenda contains a brief general description of each item to be considered. Supporting documents are available for review and copying at City Hall or at www.buenapark.com. Supplementary materials distributed to the Commission less than 72 hours before the meeting are posted to the City's website at www.buenapark.com and copies are available for public inspection beginning the next regular business day. This governing body is prohibited from discussing or taking action on any item which is not included in this agenda; however, may ask clarifying questions, ask staff to follow-up, or provide other direction. The order of business as it appears on this agenda may be modified by the governing body.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need accommodations to participate in this meeting, contact Public Works at (714) 562-3655 or the California Relay Service at 711. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make arrangements to assure accessibility.

If you would like to participate in any matter of business on the agenda and would like translation in Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog, or Vietnamese, please **contact Public Works at (714) 562-3655 48-hours prior to the meeting**. Residents requiring translation during Oral Communications are encouraged to bring interpreters.

시의회 목록에 있는 정식 안건에 대해 의견을 발표하고 싶으신 경우, 중국어, 한국어, 스페인어, 타갈로에 대한 통역사가 필요하시면 시미팅 48시간전 시서기 오피스로 (714-562-3655) 연락하시면 됩니다. 정식안건이 아닌 주민 발언시간에 발표하실 경우, 본인의 통역사를 직접 모시고 오시면 감사하겠습니다.

Si le gustaría participar en audiencia pública o cualquier asunto de negocios programado en la agenda y necesita traducción en chino, coreano, español, tagalo o vietnamita, comuníquese con la Oficina del Secretario de la Ciudad, 48 horas antes de la reunión al (714) 562-3655. Para participar en los comentarios públicos sobre cualquier otro asunto dentro de la jurisdicción del ayuntamiento, se les recomienda que traiga un intérprete.

I, Elizabeth Genera, City of Buena Park, do hereby certify, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that a full and correct copy of this agenda was posted pursuant to Government Code Section 54950 et. seq., at Buena Park City Hall, 6650 Beach Blvd., and uploaded to the City of Buena Park website www.buenapark.com.

Elizabeth Genera
City of Buena Park
Public Works

Date Posted: March 27, 2025

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes - March 4, 2025

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, April 1, 2025, 6:00 PM	APPROVAL OF MINUTES Item: 3A.
Prepared By	
Elizabeth Genera, Senior Administrative Assistant	

Attachments

[ca minutes 3-4-25.pdf](#)



City of Buena Park

MINUTES CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION MARCH 4, 2025

1A. CALL TO ORDER

The Climate Action Commission met on March 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 February 4, 2025

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

4. OLD BUSINESS – No items.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5A. Sustainability Learning Session #6: Benefits of Trees – Presented by Lotus Thai, Sustainability Manager

Trees present many benefits to our physical, mental and environmental health. Open green spaces with trees promote exercise and wellbeing aiding in less stress, anxiety and depression. Studies have shown that even looking at a picture of a tree can lower stress. Community areas with trees encourage interactions, reduce loneliness and can contribute to a longer attention span and better sleep.

Tree canopies provide shade and reduce exposure from UV rays helping to prevent the risk of skin cancer. Trees filter pollutants and release antibacterial and antifungal chemicals that when inhaled, stimulate our immune systems. Trees store much needed CO₂ in its wood, plant matter and soil, while at the same time filters out air pollutants. In 2012, a Baltimore City and County study showed a 10% increase in tree canopies associated with a 12% decrease in crime.

Lotus shared a chart illustration profile of the urban heat island effect. This happens when cities experience higher temperatures than its surrounding rural areas, primarily due to the replacement of natural landscapes with heat-absorbing surfaces like pavement and buildings.

These surfaces absorb more solar radiation than natural landscapes, like forests and water bodies, and then re-emit this heat, leading to higher temperatures.

5B. Discuss Public Trees and the Urban Forest Management Plan – Presented by Lotus Thai, Sustainability Manager

The City maintains an urban forest comprised of publicly-owned trees planted in parkways and medians and at parks and facilities. The urban forest consists of approximately 10,700 trees, a number which has remained fairly consistent over the last several years. The City has earned the designation of Tree City USA from the Arbor Day Foundation six times, most recently in 2023.

Last year, the City Council approved the Buena Park Public Tree Policy with the objective to fully realize the benefits of trees in public spaces. The policy clarifies tree selection, maintenance, and conditions for removal. Although the City makes its best efforts to increase the number of public trees, there are still a significant number of vacant spots on parkways that could potentially support a tree.

Parkway trees are trimmed by the City every few years but watering, cleaning up leaves and droppings, and other routine maintenance is the responsibility of the adjacent property owner. The Climate Action Commission worked with staff to put together a brochure "The Benefits of Trees," which is available at City facilities and on the City's website. When targeting an area for new tree planting, staff will distribute the brochure along with a letter informing residents that the City will be planting a tree in their parkway.

Staff recently planted over 48 trees in February while re-landscaping a frontage road median on Valley View Street north of Crescent Avenue. Throughout the year, staff does take opportunities to add trees to tree-deficient areas. On average, the City plants approximately 250 trees annually. The City also hosts an annual Arbor Day celebration during which volunteers help staff plant new trees. Staff has identified tree-deficient areas in the southern parts of the City and plans to target these areas with tree planting activities in 2025. These areas include the Cerritos Avenue frontage road from Carlotta Avenue to Lorinda Avenue, Marcella Way, Holder Street, Carlotta Avenue, Knott Avenue, and others.

Staff has reached out to Linden Oaks Speech Development Center off of Holder Street about potentially hosting our 2025 Arbor Day Event there and planting trees in the parkway in front of the school with participation from the school and students. Initial discussions have been promising and staff will continue to coordinate that event. The Commission would like to discuss the approved tree list at a future meeting.

Lotus reported that the electric lawn equipment ordinance passed, the ordinance will phase out gas-powered lawn equipment over a three-year period. Commercial landscape equipment by July 2026 and residential equipment by January 2027, with all equipment replacement by January 2028.

Enforcement will be complaint-based & handled by Code Enforcement. The City-rebate program and outreach is currently available; the AQMD rebate is also available, but it is over-subscribed. The City Council has approved a full education outreach strategy with a \$50,000 grant program to be used for residents, businesses and businesses licensed (not based) to work in Buena Park.

Residents can apply and follow AQMD's rebate program, after receiving AQMD's rebate, residents may apply for Buena Park's rebate program. Residents will submit the AQMD rebate info and receipt to City Hall and the City will reimburse via check/mail. Residents can receive a rebate up to \$400 and commercial businesses can receive rebate up to \$5,000.

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 April 1, 2025, at 6 p.m.

Elizabeth Genera, Recording Secretary

Climate Action Commission Chair

A. Sustainability Learning Session: Life Cycle Analysis

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, April 1, 2025, 6:00 PM	NEW BUSINESS Item: 5A.
Prepared By	Approved By
Lotus Thai, Sustainability Manager	Matt Foulkes, Director of Community Development
Presented By	
Lotus Thai, Sustainability Manager	

DISCUSSION

Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) analyzes the environmental impacts associated with all stages of a product's life cycle, including raw material extraction, manufacturing, distribution, use, and end-of-life. The results of an LCA can be used to help decision-makers select products or processes that have the least environmental impact, promoting sustainability.



B. Sustainability Fair Overview

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, April 1, 2025, 6:00 PM	NEW BUSINESS Item: 5B.
Prepared By	Approved By
Lotus Thai, Sustainability Manager	Matt Foulkes, Director of Community Development
Presented By	
Lotus Thai, Sustainability Manager	

DISCUSSION

The City’s first Sustainability Fair will take place alongside the Spring Eggstravaganza, featuring a selection of educational booths aimed at promoting environmental stewardship. In March, residents submitted designs for the Trash cART Contest, creatively decorating trash carts with food-themed designs. Ten selected carts will be showcased at the fair to raise awareness about food waste and composting.