



**Item 1**

**JOINT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE  
MEETING  
MEETING MINUTES**

**REGULAR**

**August 28, 2019**

**The Joint Sustainability Committee convened in a regular meeting on August 28, 2019 at 1000 E 11<sup>th</sup> St, Suite 400 in Austin, Texas.**

**Chair Kaiba White, called the Board Meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.**

**Board Members in Attendance:**

Kaiba White, Katie Coyne, Holt Lackey, David Carroll, Melissa Rothrock, Kelly Davis, David Carroll, Robert Schneider, Karen Magid, Karen Hadden, Nhat Ho

**Board Members Absent:**

Alberta Phillips, Fisayo Fadelu

**City Staff in Attendance:**

Phoebe Romero, Zach Baumer

**CALL TO ORDER**

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. July 24, 2019 meeting of the Joint Sustainability Committee
- b. Motion to Approve (Commissioner Davis) Second (Commissioner Rothrock) Approved-8-0

**2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

- Dale Bulla
  - Expressed concern with the \$2 million decrease in Austin Energy solar budget
- Ryan Rosshert
  - Encouraged to come by 350 Austin; calls for 0% carbon emissions by 2030, closing the Fayette Coal Plant and notes the importance of the Austin Energy Resource, Generation, and Climate Protection Plan

### 3. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Low Carbon Concrete – Tom Ennis, Watershed Protection Department (Discussion and/or possible action)
  - Discussed opportunity to reduce emissions using low-carbon concrete in city construction projects
  - Concrete use does not have to be approved by Austin City Council, City Engineer looking to pilot use and explore using this across all municipal projects
  - Discussion on timing, cost, and green building credit potential, flexibility of use and potential improvements in the manufacturing process
  - Commissioner Coyne makes motion Commissioner White seconds to pass JSC recommendation supporting utilization of low carbon concrete, pending city engineer’s confirmation of feasibility, Motion approved 10-0
  
- b) Lessons Learned Report on the 2015 Community Climate Plan – Zach Baumer, Office of Sustainability (Discussion and/or possible action)
  - Reviewed summary of strategy implementation across the three climate plan sections
  - Emissions have reduced slightly since the adoption of the plan, would be 40% from baseline by 2030 based on current projections
  - Transportation will be bigger challenge as generation emissions reduce
  - Evaluated pros and cons of strategies; hoping to focus on more actionable strategies with quantifiable targets during upcoming revision
  - Reviewed carbon impact statement used to evaluate planned unit development
    - Discussion on how to improve enforcement of carbon impact across developments and potentially changing point structure to match impact of strategy
  
- c) Presentation on the Plan for the Climate Plan Revision– Zach Baumer, Office of Sustainability (Discussion and/or possible action)
  - Overview of estimated timeline, climate plan sections and community engagement strategies
  - Equity will be a key part of revision process
  - Discussion on importance of accountability and leadership buy-in within implementation process

### 4. OLD BUSINESS

- a) Working group updates (Discussion and/or possible action)
  - None
  
- b) Commission members report back on any relevant discussions from their respective boards and commissions (Discussion and/or possible action)
  - Electric Utilities Commission has a climate emergency working group

## **5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Austin Area Sustainability Indicators Project
- Update from the Education and Engagement working group
- Adaptation overview from US Forest Service workshop
- Update on climate emergency
- Update on climate resolution
- JSC procedures and expectations
- Ongoing update process from Office of Sustainability to help build momentum

Motion to adjourn (Commissioner White) Second (Commissioner Schneider)

Meeting adjourns at **9:03**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 2 days (48 hours) before the meeting date. Please call Zach Baumer with the Office of Sustainability at 512-974-2836, for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711. For more information on the Joint Sustainability Committee, please contact Zach Baumer at ([zach.baumer@austintexas.gov](mailto:zach.baumer@austintexas.gov) or 512-974-2836).