



***ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR CALLED MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, March 20, 2024***

The ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION convened in a REGULAR meeting on Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at 6310 Wilhelmina Delco Drive in Austin, Texas.

Vice Chair Bedford called the Environmental Commission Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioners in Attendance: Perry Bedford, Richard Brimer, Jennifer Bristol, Hanna Cofer, Colin Nickells, and David Sullivan

Commissioners in Attendance Remotely: Mariana Krueger

Commissioners Absent: Peter Einhorn, Haris Qureshi, Melinda Schiera, and Kevin Ramberg

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

Santiago, I35 projects

Shiang Lee, How You Can Benefit from the Inflation Reduction Act

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the Environmental Commission Regular Meeting on March 6, 2024
The minutes of the Environmental Commission Regular meeting on March 6, 2024 were approved on Commissioner Sullivan’s motion, Commissioner Brimer’s second on a 7-0 vote. Commissioners Einhorn, Ramberg, Qureshi, and Schiera were absent.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Presentation on the South Central Waterfront Combining District with a Density Bonus – April Geruso of the City of Austin Planning Department.

Speakers:

April Geruso, Planning Department

Vice Chair Bedford called for a recess at 6:39. Vice Chair Bedford reconvened the meeting at 6:47.

**Chad Sharrad, Planning Department
Tyler Tripp, Planning Department**

Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

2. Consider a recommendation on the budget recommendations from the Joint Sustainability Committee – Presented by Haris Qureshi and David Sullivan, Environmental Commission Members

A motion to support the budget recommendations from the Joint Sustainability Committee was approved on Commissioner Sullivan’s motion, Commissioner Brimer’s second on a 6-0 vote. Commissioner Nickells abstained. Commissioners Einhorn, Ramberg, Qureshi, and Schiera were absent.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

3. Update from the Urban Forestry Committee on adding a discussion on ghost trees to the March 28th agenda – Richard Brimer

Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

4. Update from the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board on the status of the Combining District & Density Bonus Program and Planned Unit Development applications – David Sullivan

Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Sullivan wanted to discuss IH35 and requested a presentation from staff on the environmental impacts of the IH35 expansion and the benefits of capping, seconded by Commissioner Brimer.

Commissioner Bristol requested a presentation from Audubon on bird-safe buildings, which was seconded by Commissioner Bedford.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Bedford adjourned the meeting at 7:50 P.M.