



***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 28<sup>th</sup> 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.**

**The minutes were approved at the May 1, 2024 meeting on Commissioner Brimer’s motion, Commissioner Sullivan’s second on a 7-0 vote. Commissioners Krueger, Qureshi, and Schiera were off the dais.**