



MINUTES
Environmental Sustainability Commission
Regular Meeting of September 3, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 p.m. by Chair Godfrey.

Present: Chair Richard Godfrey, Carolyn Obata, Daniel O'Donnell, Nina Moore

Absent: Vice-Chair Shiva Swaminathan, John Rennels

Oral Communications: None

Approval of Minutes: Regular meeting *minutes* of June 4, 2015 – Approved unanimously.

Scheduled Items:

5.1 Presentation from Fremont Unified School District on Public School Facility Upgrades:

Measure "E" Bond Program Manager Serafin Fernandez gave an overview of the Fremont Unified School District's facility upgrade projects. In 2012, FUSD identified \$1.6 billion worth of necessary upgrades in its Facilities Needs Assessment. The "Measure E" Bond, approved by voters in November 2012, provides \$650 million in funding to contribute to these needs. In July 2014, FUSD hired construction management firm Harrison & Associates to manage the Measure E Bond scope of work, which will take 10 years to complete.

In July 2015, FUSD selected Newcomb Anderson McCormick (NAM) as the consultant to assist in developing an energy expenditure plan to submit to the California Energy Commission for the ~\$6.5 million that is available to FUSD for funding energy conservation projects under CA Proposition 39. This plan will utilize the availability of both Proposition 39 and Measure E Bond funds to ensure that upgrades to HVAC equipment, lighting, building envelope, and other energy-related projects achieve high levels of efficiency.

Energy Conservation Supervisor Matt McClain of Fremont Unified School District's Maintenance Department added that on January 28, 2015, the School Board adopted a resolution to ensure that every new school, new building and major modernization project meet the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS) Criteria

minimum qualifying point and prerequisite threshold. FUSD has also been very active in bolstering energy conservation in the school curriculum.

While there are priority areas of focus, in the analysis and planning stages, all options are on the table, including advanced energy technologies such as electric vehicle charging and solar PV. FUSD is also aware that the state has goals for achieving zero net energy in new construction and major renovations in the coming decades, and is considering ways in which it could potentially get there.

Chair Godfrey asked if there were opportunities for the Commission to be involved in these efforts. Commissioner Moore offered that perhaps there was a need for more education and awareness among parents and students about the benefits of energy conservation. Community member and high school student Hetav Gore added that students can help advocate for both the infrastructure upgrades as well as behavior changes. Energy Conservation Supervisor Matt McClain supported these ideas and said that he would continue to communicate with the City of Fremont regarding progress and possibilities for collaboration.

5.2 Presentation on Progress of Carshare Pilot Program:

Deputy Community Development Director Dan Schoenholz reported on the progress of the carshare pilot program with Zipcar. The pilot officially launched in June 2015, with 3 cars parked along Civic Center Drive near Fremont BART and two cars parked at the Centerville Amtrak/ACE Train Station. Utilization started slow at the Centerville Depot with only about 3%, but increased steadily to 20% in July and 27% in August. Utilization at the Fremont BART started higher at 17%, increased to 28% in July, and then dropped slightly to 26% in August. Reservations have also been broken down by membership type, with 118 through university or other similar programs, 64 for personal use, and 54 through business memberships. The average age of drivers is 32, with an average trip distance of 62 miles and an average trip length of 7.7 hours. There have been a total of 14,783 miles driven by 94 unique drivers. Zipcar reports that this level of utilization is higher than at the Oakland Airport, and that at a 40-50% utilization rate, Zipcar typically begins to add more vehicles. Zipcar will also be sending out a survey in September to gather more data on users and usage so that the City can better understand the effectiveness of carshare, which will help inform whether to convert the pilot program to a standing program in the next 12-15 months.

5.3 Staff Updates:

Sustainability Coordinator Rachel DiFranco provided updates on the Georgetown University Energy Prize (GUEP), the East Bay SunShares (EBSS) Program, the Regional Renewable Energy Procurement (R-REP) program, electric vehicle (EV) charging stations, and the Warm Springs Multimodal Last Mile Transit Program.

For GUEP, the City has already reported Q1 2015 data and is preparing Q2 data. A public dashboard with all 50 communities' reported data and current rankings is being developed by GUEP and should be launched in late September. Because of

Fremont's high electric vehicle ownership levels, the City is currently working with PG&E to try and come up with a methodology for subtracting out electric vehicle usage from total residential consumption.

For East Bay SunShares, there are already 284 participants signed up for the program, with 58 days left to join still. Fremont represents 93 of those registrations. The City is actively promoting the program, with the following planned outreach events and presentations scheduled:

- 8/4 National Night Out Neighborhood Visits
- 8/6 Summer Concert Series Tabling
- 8/13 Summer Concert Series Tabling
- 8/14 Fremont Street Eats Tabling
- 8/24 City of Fremont Employee Brownbag
- 9/3 Presentation Tri-City Interfaith Council
- 9/12 Community Workshop @ Main Library
- 9/16 Presentation to CoF Retired Employees
- 9/24 Presentation to Planning Commission
- 9/29 Community Workshop @ Main Library
- 10/9 Fremont Street Eats Tabling

For the R-REP, three solar PV systems have been installed by SunEdison through power-purchase agreements (PPAs) at the Aqua Adventure Water Park (226.1 kW), the Irvington Community Center (83.25 kW), and the Fremont Police Complex (871.53 kW). The Maintenance Center (348.84 kW) has been approved by Council and is currently in its design phase. It will be installed by early to mid 2016. The 3 already installed systems offset the City's electric consumption by 11%, qualifying the City to apply to be an EPA Green Power Partner. Once the Maintenance Center is installed and the City completes its planned LED streetlight conversion and other energy efficiency upgrade measures, these solar projects will offset 22% of the City's electric consumption. A Solar Celebration Event is planned for Monday, September 28 at 10:30am at the Civic Center Knoll where the Mayor and other representatives will speak about the benefits of the project.

The City is also working to approve the installation of 8 dual port EV charging stations as part of a regional project to install 150 EV chargers throughout the Bay Area. 6 of the 8 new chargers will go into the City's new Downtown.

The City has hired consulting firm Kimley Horn to complete a "last mile" multimodal transit study for the Warm Springs district focused on connecting local employers to the new Warm Springs BART Station, which will open in early 2016. This study is looking at the creation of a potential employee shuttle program, as well as exploring opportunities for vanpooling, carsharing, bike sharing, connections to other transit systems (such as VTA, ACT), and bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure improvements.

5.4 Priority-Setting Meeting:

Deputy Community Development Director Dan Schoenholz discussed how many of the areas that the Commission identified as priorities in 2013 – such as car sharing programs, bike sharing programs, employee and student shuttles, and electric vehicle charging stations – are now being implemented. Accordingly, he suggested that it would be an opportune time to discuss Commission priorities for the next 12-24 months. Because it is difficult to schedule enough time for this type of discussion at a regular meeting, he recommended that the Commission direct staff to schedule a special priority-setting meeting this Fall. The Commission unanimously agreed and asked staff to follow up with potential dates in October or November to hold the session.

5.5 Commissioner Announcements:

None.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

APPROVED BY:



Rachel DiFranco
Sustainability Coordinator