



P.O. Box 5006  
Fremont, CA 94537-5006

## **Environmental Sustainability Commission Agenda and Report – June 4, 2015**

### **General Order of Business**

1. Call to Order - 4:00 p.m.
2. Roll Call
3. Written and Oral Communications
4. Approval of Minutes/Agenda Review
5. Staff Presentations and Action Items
6. Adjournment

### **Order of Discussion**

Generally, the order of discussion after introduction of an item by the Chair will include comments and information by staff followed by Environmental Sustainability Commission (ESC) questions or inquiries. An authorized representative or interested citizen may then speak on the item. At the close of public discussion, the item will be considered by the ESC and action taken.

### **Addressing the Environmental Sustainability Commission**

Any person may speak on any item under discussion by the ESC after receiving recognition from the Chair. When addressing the ESC, please state your name and address. In order to insure all persons have the opportunity to speak, a time limit may be set by the Chair for each speaker. In the interest of time,

**Information** please limit your comments to new material; do not repeat what a prior speaker has said.

### **Oral Communications**

Any person desiring to speak on a matter, which is not scheduled on this agenda, may do so under the Oral Communications section. Please be aware provisions of the California Government Code Section 54954.2(b) prohibit the ESC from taking any immediate action on an item, which does not appear on the agenda, unless it meets stringent requirements. The Chair may limit the length of your presentation.

For agenda copies or information about the City or items scheduled on the Agenda and Report refer to: Community Development Department, P.O. Box 5006, Fremont, CA 94537-5006, phone (510) 494-4557.

**Environmental Sustainability Commission:****City Staff**

Haroon Rasheed, Student  
 Nina Moore, Business Community  
 John Rennels, Development/Construction Industry  
 Richard Godfrey, Environmental Organization (Chair)  
 Shiva Swaminathan, Public At Large (Vice Chair)  
 Carolyn Obata, Public At Large  
 Daniel O'Donnell, Public At Large

Dan Schoenholz, Deputy Director,  
 Community Development  
 Rachel DiFranco, Sustainability Coordinator,  
 Community Development  
 Marcia Fildes, Senior Office Specialist,  
 Community Development

**AGENDA**  
**FREMONT ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**  
**COMMISSION (ESC)**  
**June 4, 2015, 4:00 p.m.**

**Patterson Room, Development Services Center**  
**39550 Liberty Street, Fremont, CA 94538**

1. **Call to order** (*Chair Godfrey*)
2. **Roll call and introduction of staff** (5 min.)
3. **Oral and written communications** (5 min.)
4. **Approval of minutes** ([March 5, 2015](#)) and review of agenda (5 min.)
5. **Scheduled items**

**5.1 Update on the Drought and Local Water Conservation Efforts from the Alameda County Water District (20 minutes)**

Stephanie Nevins, Water Conservation Supervisor at the Alameda County Water District will provide an update on the current state of the drought and local water conservation efforts.

**BACKGROUND:**

On January 17, 2014, California Governor Brown declared a drought state of emergency and directed state officials to take all necessary actions. In response, on March 13, 2014, the Alameda County Water District (ACWD) Board of Directors declared a water shortage emergency in Fremont, Newark,

and Union City and adopted a Water Shortage Emergency Ordinance that includes mandatory water use restrictions. On July 15, 2014, the State Water Resources Control Board approved an Emergency Regulation for Statewide Urban Water Conservation, mandating that all urban water agencies implement water conservation plans.

On April 1, 2015, the governor issued Executive Order B-29-15, ordering the State Water Resources Control Board to impose restrictions to achieve a 25 percent reduction in potable urban water usage through February 28, 2016; directing the California Department of Water Resources to lead a statewide initiative, in partnership with local agencies, to collectively replace 50 million square feet of lawns and ornamental turf with drought tolerant landscapes; and directing the California Energy Commission to implement a statewide appliance rebate program to provide monetary incentives for the replacement of inefficient household devices.

Link: Executive Order B-29-15 - [http://gov.ca.gov/docs/4.1.15\\_Executive\\_Order.pdf](http://gov.ca.gov/docs/4.1.15_Executive_Order.pdf)

**RECOMMENDATION:** Receive and consider.

**5.2 Commission Consideration of recommendation to City Council to authorize the City Manager to write a letter of support to the City of Walnut Creek to authorize Fremont to participate in the East Bay SunShares Program. (40 minutes)**

Cara Baptiste-Rao from the City of Walnut Creek staff will present on the East Bay SunShares effort to provide east bay residents with the opportunity to procure solar photovoltaic systems for their homes at a discounted price through a collective purchasing process.

**BACKGROUND:**

The City of Walnut Creek has invited Fremont, along with other east bay cities, to participate in “East Bay Sunshares”, a residential solar photovoltaic bulk purchase program. A residential photovoltaic bulk purchase program is similar in concept to the Regional Renewable Energy Procurement Project (R-REP) for municipalities in which Fremont has participated, which utilized a collaborative procurement process to purchase renewable energy systems for public agencies throughout Alameda, Contra Costa, San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties, including four systems for City of Fremont facilities.

Providing for a residential solar bulk purchase program would help residents act before the 30 percent federal tax credit for solar installations expires in 2016. A bulk purchase solar program typically reduces the cost of going solar for homeowners, informs and educates homeowners, and increases the number of rooftop solar installations. The overall goal of the program is to encourage installation of renewable energy systems on private homes through a reduction

in overall acquisition and installation costs produced by economies of scale and simplicity of vendor selection.

The East Bay SunShares program will provide residents of participating cities the opportunity to purchase solar systems at discount prices. Under the program, a local vendor will be selected through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process who will agree to offer pricing at a bulk rate to individual residential customers for installation on their residences. The East Bay SunShares Program will follow the precedent set by the Peninsula SunShares Program recently launched by Foster City and neighboring municipalities following the same model.

The City of Walnut Creek is asking the City of Fremont to provide a letter of support to participate in the East Bay SunShares Program, with an anticipated residential enrollment window of August through October. Participation in East Bay SunShares will allow Fremont residents to achieve deep energy reductions for the Georgetown University Energy Prize as well as reduce their greenhouse gas emissions in alignment with the City's Climate Action Plan. Staff is planning to bring the concept forward to City Council for consideration at the June 16, 2015 City Council Meeting.

Link: Peninsula Sun Shares - [www.mygroupenergy.com/peninsula/](http://www.mygroupenergy.com/peninsula/)

Attachments:

- [Vote Solar Initiative SunShares Program Overview for Fremont](#)
- [Vote Solar Initiative SunShares Program Roles & Responsibilities](#)
- [Vote Solar Initiative SunShares Program Client List](#)
- [Vote Solar Initiative SunShares Program Results](#)
- [East Bay SunShares One Pager](#)

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends that the Environmental Sustainability Commission recommend that City Council authorize the City Manager to write a letter of support to the City of Walnut Creek to authorize Fremont to participate in the East Bay SunShares Program.

**5.3 Presentation from Haroon Rasheed on the May 24<sup>th</sup> Fremont Green Summit Event (15 minutes)**

Student Commissioner Haroon Rasheed will present on the Fremont Green Summit event that took place on May 24, 2015, organized by the FIERCE district-wide student environmental club.

**BACKGROUND:**

FIERCE (Fremont Is Engaging in Real Change in the Environment) is a youth-based environmental group in Fremont, CA initiated in 2011 by a student from Washington High School as a School District-wide high school environmental

club. The FIERCE Group has recently been revived to promote youth opportunities for community service, resource conservation, education, networking, and recognition in the area of environmental sustainability.

Working with the Silicon Valley Talent Partnership, a nonprofit organization supporting public-private partnerships, FIERCE organized the Fremont Green Summit as a full-day event for students to learn about green initiatives and innovations from local environmental organizations and cleantech companies to gain further understanding about the environmental challenges they are faced with today, learn how they can combat it, and engage with experts in this field through engaging workshop sessions & panels.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Receive and consider.

**5.4 Georgetown University Energy Prize Q1 Energy Data Reporting (10 minutes)**

Staff will review the 2013-2014 baseline the first quarter of 2015 residential, municipal, and public school energy data reported to the Georgetown University Energy Prize as part of the GUEP competition requirements.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Receive and consider.

**5.5 “Fremont Green Challenge” Logo Debut (5 minutes)**

Staff will showcase the new Fremont Green Challenge logo and branding to the Commission and ask for feedback on how it should be utilized.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Receive and consider.

**5.6 Staff Updates (5 minutes)**

Staff will provide updates on various related City sustainability efforts.

**5.7 Commissioner Announcements (5 minutes)**

This is an opportunity for Commission members to make announcements on matters of interest to the Commission as a whole.

**6. Adjourn**