

Natural Resources Commission Minutes
September 22, 2014

Present: Kristin Burford (Alt), Matt Holland, Michelle Millet,
Alan Pryor, Steven Westhoff, Eugene Wilson
Absent: Dean Newberry, Matt Williams
Staff: Mitch Sears, Sustainability Manager
Council Liaison: Rochelle Swanson

1. Approval of Agenda

Approved unanimously.

2. Approval of Minutes

July 28, 2014 minutes passed unanimously with minor corrections.

- 3. Commission and Staff Announcements** – reminders were given regarding upcoming water conservation workshops; interest expressed on revisiting a “pay for pickup” yard waste system; tremendous staff/volunteer effort acknowledged for apartment move out waste reduction program.

- 4. Council Liaison Comments** – None

- 5. Public Communications** – None

- 6. Consent Calendar** – None

- 7. Project Presentation** – Nishi/Gateway Proposal. Katherine Hess, City Staff lead for the Nishi/Gateway proposed project provided an overview of the proposed project. Key project elements were noted: sustainability, grant support for sustainability planning and EIR preparation, connection with UC Davis, Measure J/R vote requirement, LAFCO annexation. Staff responded to Commission questions related to: public funding to support development of the EIR for a private development, potential air quality issues, how to address water/energy/air/GHG emission impacts, how to maximize transportation mitigation. Public comment by Chris Granger, Cool Davis: connecting “innovation” business park with design innovation such as “vehicle-less”/net zero energy/central heating/cooling district/etc.

Following discussion, staff outlined the review process.

- 8. Drought and Water Resources** – Consideration of drought and water conservation related items.

- a) City Water Shortage Emergency – Stage 3. Commission discussed the development of a GIS map showing neighborhood level water use and investigating long-term proactive measures to conserve. In addition, using sewer rate reductions to provide incentives for greywater systems.
- b) Davis Water Rates. Update on Council Action provided.

- 9. Program updates** – Informational

- a) DWR Contract – Status update. Public draft pending.
- b) Publically Owned Utility – Work with local non-profits to plan, organize, conduct public information forum. Commissioner Pryor to join Commission’s Public Outreach working group for the purpose of working to organize the public forum.
- c) Draft compostable ordinance – need outreach to businesses. Request for staff to distribute draft ordinance.

10. Subcommittee Updates

- a) **Energy** – Work on POU public forum outline.
- b) **Water** – Addressed in agenda item 8 above. Water rates passed by Council.
- c) **Outreach** – No report.
- d) **Hazardous Materials** – Commissioner Pryor to work with Commissioner Newberry to collect site information.
- e) **Solid Waste** – No report.

11. Long Range Calendar/Future Agenda Items

November

- a) Woodsmoke implementation – Update
- b) Hazardous materials – Update
- c) DWR Contract – Update if available
- d) Publically owned utility – Public forum planning
- e) Compostable ordinance status – Update
- f) Plastic bag ordinance implementation – Update provided at September meeting
- g) Drought/Water Conservation activity - Update
- h) Re-metering status - Update

12. Adjourn: 9:40 p.m.