



**City of Davis
Utilities Commission Minutes
Remote Meeting
Wednesday, November 17, 2021
5:30 P.M.**

Commissioners Present: Gerry Braun, Andrew Cullen, Linda Deos (Chair), Steve Gellen, Lorenzo Kristov, Emma O'Rourke-Powell (Alternate), Elaine Roberts-Musser (arrived during Item 6B), Johannes Troost

Commissioner(s) Absent: None

Council Liaison(s) Present: None

Staff Present: Stan Gryczko, Public Works Utilities & Operations Director
Adrienne Heinig, Assistant to the Director

Also in Attendance: Michelle Leonard, SCS Engineers
Robert Carlson, CalRecycle

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairperson Deos called meeting to order at 5:32pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

Prior to the approval of the agenda, S Gryczko announced that the materials related to Item 6A had not been prepared in time, and the item would be pulled from the agenda and moved to December. J Troost moved to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by G Braun. Approved by the following votes:

Ayes: Braun, Cullen, Deos, Gellen, Kristov, O'Rourke-Powell, Troost

Noes:

Absent:

3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commission Members, and City Council Members

There were no announcements.

4. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

5. Consent Calendar

A. Utilities Commission Minutes - September 15, 2021

B. Utilities Commission Minutes - October 20, 2021

C. Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) Update (*Informational*)

G Braun moved, J Troost seconded, to move the Consent Calendar. Approved by following votes:

Ayes: Braun, Cullen, Deos, Gellen, Kristov, O'Rourke-Powell, Troost

Noes:

Absent:

6. Regular Items

A. Wastewater Cost of Service Study – Rate Setting and Scenarios.

Upon approval of the agenda this item was removed.

B. Senate Bill 1383 Implementation Planning.

The item was introduced by A Heinig, who provided further introduction of staff, consultants and State Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) representatives, who were present at the meeting for the discussion. Staff provided a presentation to the Commission on the SB 1383 Implementation Plan.

Discussion included the following:

- Clarification on what information the City would learn from sampling waste streams. Staff indicated that information from cart "lid-flipping" would reflect bin-specific information by service type (such as curbside single-family residential versus multifamily service).
- Clarification that all routes and streams would be monitored, not just organics waste.
- Challenges of products that have recyclable components not easily disassembled and are produced without the end of life of that product in mind.
- Clarification on how trash is monitored. In response to a commissioner question, staff indicated that trash is not removed from trash carts when monitoring is performed.
- The low probability that funding will be made available by the State to support ongoing operational costs to help with the implementation of the new regulations.
- Clarification that Davis (and Yolo County) is further along in planning for SB 1383 than most other city and county agencies in the state.
- The question of what information cart lid-flipping as a monitoring process would produce for the City, and if that information would be able to identify

the problem. Staff indicated that with lid-flipping, photographs are taken and are scanned by staff for patterns. The combination of photos and staff expertise, as well as public comment and questions, help to identify trends.

- The concern around privacy with photographs of trash, along with concern of disparate impacts to low-income residents in the community. Clarification from staff was provided on the ownership of cart materials, and the language within the Municipal Code that has provisions to allow jurisdictions access to materials in waste carts. Staff indicated that information related to cart inspections would not be posted online. Staff also indicated that education and outreach would be provided (per City policy and per State regulations) to ensure that residents would be familiar with diversion requirements. In addition to local outreach, other communities in California would soon be producing their own compliance information, and the State would move to the goal of uniformity in waste services. An incentive to diverting more material is downsizing the size of the trash can, which reduces the monthly fee.
- Staff were encouraged to provide education on the monitoring process, produce videos for outreach on the regulations, and consistently and clearly explain that the regulations are State mandates.
- On the topic of procurement, it was explained that the City does not have to purchase organic waste products. An entity like a farmer could procure material on behalf of the City to meet the requirements. Staff indicated that discussions around procurement were still ongoing, and that the Natural Resources Commission would be meeting to discuss it in January.
- An executive summary of the implementation plan was suggested as a helpful piece for the discussion.
- In response to a Commissioner question, staff indicated that coordination with the City's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) team was ongoing.
- The request that the City consider participating in the cart lid-flipping monitoring with Recology, or work with a third party firm to perform the monitoring.
- Potential future changes to waste collection service once organics waste is removed from the trash carts, including bi-weekly (every other week) trash collection.
- The statement that City staff had supplied quite a lot of information, which Commissioners may not have been able to take the time necessary to understand it all, and the subsequent discomfort from some Commissioners with providing recommendations within the current requested timeline.

Motion: Support for the staff recommendation to proceed with Option 3 for organics collection service - Standard Collection Service with route reviews.

Moved by E Roberts-Musser, seconded by L Deos. The motion passed by the following votes:

Ayes: Braun, Cullen, Deos, Kristov, Roberts-Musser, Troost

Noes:

Abstain: Gellen

Absent:

Motion: Recommend that the City Council give direction to City staff, and through membership on board of directors with Valley Clean Energy (VCE), to look into VCE playing a material role in the procurement requirement of SB 1383 through the electricity generation aspect.

Moved by L Kristov, seconded by E Roberts-Musser. The motion passed by the following votes:

Ayes: Braun, Cullen, Deos, Gellen, Kristov, Roberts-Musser, Troost

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent:

Motion: Support for the network approach to the edible food recovery program as presented by the County and the cities.

Moved by E Roberts-Musser, seconded by J Troost. The motion passed by the following votes:

Ayes: Braun, Cullen, Deos, Kristov, Roberts-Musser, Troost

Noes:

Abstain: Gellen

Absent:

No public comment was received.

C. Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) Subcommittee Report and Next Steps.

The item was presented by A Cullen, who discussed two reports submitted to the Commission for review, the first submitted in October and the second for the current meeting. He also provided a brief outline of the City's CAAP process.

Discussion included the following:

- Clarification if any of the items in the list of 25 identified actions have implications for the utility services that the City of Davis provides, or for the

cost of those services. A Cullen responded that the identified actions have been a moving target, but the City needs to conduct more analysis on the items to understand the impacts.

- A request to understand why resilience hubs did not make the list of identified actions. A Cullen responded that items A8 and D7 appear to support the concept without stating a resilience hub should be built. More conversation on resiliency hubs was recommended in coordination with the CAAP effort.
- A request for an update on the effort to transition the City's energy source to 100% ultra green for all non-PVUSA accounts. Staff indicated an update would be provided at the next meeting.
- The importance of addressing the waste stream, and how the waste of the community could and should be an asset.

Motion: *To accept the two recommendations of the subcommittee report and forward the report to the City's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan team.*

Moved by J Troost, seconded by E Roberts-Musser. Prior to the vote, a substitute motion was offered. With the approval of the substitute motion, the original motion on the floor did not pass.

Substitute Motion: The Utilities Commission endorses the recommendations in the report prepared by the UC subcommittee and request the City Council make decisions to execute report recommendations 1&2.

Moved by L Kristov, seconded by J Troost. The motion passed by the following votes:

Ayes: Braun, Cullen, Deos, Gellen, Kristov, Roberts-Musser, Troost
Noes:
Abstain:
Absent:

No public comment was received.

8. Commission and Staff Communication

A. Long Range Calendar

The item was introduced by S Gryczko, who outlined the next few months for the Long Range calendar.

Discussion included the following:

- The request to include an item on the agenda for December on Chair/Vice Chair elections, to prepare for the elections in January.

- Request for time on a future agenda for the Community Resilience Subcommittee, and the CAAP Process Subcommittee.
- Discussion of Electrify Yolo, and the action of the State's Energy Commission to provide money for electric vehicles and charging infrastructure, and how current projects could position the County and cities to successfully get grant funding on electrification infrastructure projects. Staff indicated that the topic would be discussed by the Natural Resources Commission on November 29.
- The release of the draft 2021 California Climate Adaption Strategy by the Office of Planning and Research. Link: [2021 California Climate Adaptation Strategy](#)

9. Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn the Utilities Commission meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Moved by L Kristov, seconded by G Braun. The motion passed by the following votes:

Ayes: Braun, Cullen, Deos, Gellen, Kristov, Roberts-Musser, Troost

Noes:

Absent: