



**City of Davis**  
**Climate and Environmental Justice Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**23 Russell Boulevard, Davis, CA 95616**  
**February 24, 2025**  
**6:00 p.m.**

Commissioners Present: Jordan Blough, Michelle Byars, Jacob Byrne,  
Jim Cramer, Alana Gamage (arrived 6:06), John Reuter,  
Keara Tuso, Colin Walsh (arrived 6:30)

Commissioners Absent: Ann Daniel

Council Liaisons Present: Donna Neville

Staff Present: Stan Gryczko, Assistant City Manager  
Adrienne Heinig, Deputy Director, Public Works Utilities &  
Operations  
Jennifer Gilbert, Conservation Coordinator II

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**1. Call to Order & Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Byrne at 6:01 p.m.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

J Reuter moved, seconded by J Byrne, to approve the agenda. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Blough, Byars, Byrne, Cramer, Reuter  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Daniel, Gamage, Walsh

**3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Council Liaisons**

S Gryczko announced that he was taking over staff liaison duties, as well as the shift of the sustainability program into his purview. Indicated that the position recently vacated by the previous commission liaison should be out for recruitment soon. He also announced that Gerry Braun was no longer on the commission as he no longer resides in Davis.

A Gamage thanked the commission for meeting and M Byars introduced herself to the Commission.

**4. Public Comment**

No public comment.

**5. Regular Items**

**A. Presentation: Solid Waste Annual Report.** Jennifer Gilbert, Conservation Coordinator II for the City presented the Solid Waste Annual Report, a report on the Solid Waste programs for January through December 2023. She highlighted the Outstanding Zero Waste Program Award received by the City's program in 2024 from the California Resource Recovery Association, and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of curbside recycling in Davis, also in 2024.

Discussion of the Commission included:

- The changes in law associated with the disposal of biosolids from wastewater treatment plants, and how the tonnage of those solids would now be counted as landfilled for jurisdictions, likely lowering diversion percentages state-wide.
- Whether UCD students living in town also receive education on waste diversion. Staff explained that UCD is also required to follow the state laws related to education, and all renters in town are required to receive education on waste diversion from their landlords once a year. Discussion included “turnover” in Davis, in August when students move out.
- Where recyclables go and the available markets for items, in addition to the volatility of those markets.
- How Davis compares to other jurisdictions. It was highlighted that City staff for the program are often called upon by CalRecycle to assist other communities with questions about their programs.
- The process to ensure compliance with waste diversion laws.
- Minimum thresholds for businesses to be required to recycle.
- Challenges with having hazardous waste collection facilities in town, and the proximity of the landfill in collecting these items.
- In response to a question of how edible food recovery is going, staff responded that the program was working very well.
- Staff were encouraged to continue to share good news, and the positive outcomes of the solid waste diversion programs.
- Staff were asked to include how solid waste program goals and metrics link to the action steps within the City’s Climate Action and Adaptation Plan in future reports.

*No public comment was received on this item, and no formal action was taken.*

#### **B. Commission Business: March Meeting Date**

J Byrne opened the item, with the note that due to a timing conflict, the regular May meeting date of the Commission (March 24) would need to be rescheduled. S Gryczko indicated he had a conflict, but it was important that the Commission meet in March. Staff had checked for availability of the Chambers and determined that March 31, 2025 was the next appropriate date.

After brief discussion, one commissioner (C Walsh) indicated a conflict. J Byrne moved, seconded by J Cramer, to reschedule the March meeting to March 31, 2025. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES:	Blough, Byars, Byrne, Cramer, Gamage, Reuter, Walsh
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Daniel

*No public comment was received on this item.*

## **6. Long Range Calendar**

S Gryczko indicated that a new Long Range calendar will be presented to the Commission at the March meeting. He also outlined an upcoming effort to bring to the Commission a summary that would highlight department operations in alignment with Climate Action and Adaptation (CAAP) goals.

Discussion of the Commission included:

- A request to understand how to bring agenda items forward. Staff indicated that the process was still in the hands of the Council subcommittee. In the meantime, the Chair indicated that ideas should be brought to him for discussion with staff during the preparation of the meeting agenda.
- The need to appoint a Vice Chair.
- The request to understand what kind of environmental initiatives the Commission might look to discuss, and a revisiting of the Commission-developed Environmental Justice framework.
- What assistance the Commission might provide the City and staff to implement and further CAAP goals.
- An update on staffing for the Urban Forestry program and resiliency. Staff indicated the upcoming City budget process might offer opportunities for that discussion.
- Anticipation of the upcoming request for Commission support in the update of the City's General Plan.
- Clarification of the role of the Commission in reviewing development plans.
- Looking at upstream issues for waste as a topic for a future meeting.
- A request to obtain information from the recently concluded trial in Yolo County related to the City's tree program, including trial transcripts and depositions. Staff indicated that the City's priority is looking forward with the Urban Forestry program.

*No public comment was received on this item, and no formal action was taken.*

## **7. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 8:01 p.m.