



CITY OF MILPITAS

Energy and Environmental Sustainability Commission

MEETING MINUTES

5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 1, 2021

Meeting livestreamed can be viewed at:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CityofMilpitas>

YouTube: <https://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/youtube>

Web Streaming: <https://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/webstreaming>

CALL TO ORDER	Commissioner Sexton called the meetings to order at 5:03 PM. Staff Marshall called the roll.
ROLL CALL	PRESENT: Commissioners Badesha, Kong, Sexton, Salian (joined at 6 PM); Alternate Commissioner Hogg; Deputy City Manager Rossman; Public Works Director Ndah; and staff members Grand and Marshall were also present. ABSENT: Commissioners Lingle, Martinez, Shreve, Alternate Commissioner Admana
PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE	Commissioner Sexton led the pledge of allegiance.
ALTERNATE SEATING	Alternate Commissioner Hogg was seated.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Motion to approve the agenda for September 1, 2021 as submitted Motion/Second: Kong/Badesha Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 4 NOES: 0 Commissioner Salian joined the meeting after this item.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Motion to approve the minutes for August 24, 2021, with the requested change to edit the roll call title of Commissioner Lingle. Motion/Second: Kong/Badesha Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 4 NOES: 0 Commissioner Salian joined the meeting after this item.
PUBLIC FORUM	No public comments.
ANNOUNCEMENTS	No announcements.
BUSINESS ITEMS	a. Legislative Review for Possible Positions Commissioners discussed and provided feedback on the specified bills. Commissioner Kong recommended dropping AB 881, AB 1201, and AB 962 from the discussion list as these bills have had unanimous support and will likely pass. <u>AB 1346 (Berman) Cleaning Up Leaf Blowers and Lawn Mowers:</u> relates to reducing emissions from small off-road engines and requiring the Air Resources Board to regulate them. It would take effect on new engines in

2024. The bill includes a rebate program for commercial entities to transition equipment.

Commissioner Kong recommended a support position for this bill and suggested requesting an amendment to expand the rebate program for residential equipment. Commissioner Badesha asked if a study has been done on the reduction of Greenhouse Gases (GHG) from reducing these emissions. Commissioner Sexton responded that Palo Alto and Los Altos had adopted ordinances on this topic with the goal of reducing GHGs and noise.

Commissioner Hogg asked about how this bill could impact the costs of equipment. Commissioner Sexton responded that electric leaf blowers are more expensive and that rebate programs will help cover some of the costs. Commissioner Hogg asked where the funding for the rebate program would come from. The bill states that the State general fund will be utilized for this rebate.

Motion to recommend AB 1346 for staff review for potential City support letter with a suggested amendment that expands the rebates to residential equipment.

Motion/Second: Kong/Hogg

AYES: 3

NOES: 1 (Commissioner Hogg)

SB 222 (Dodd) Water Ratepayer Assistance Program: relates to providing assistance for water rates by 2023 to create consistency across water retailers.

Commissioner Kong commented that she is uncomfortable that 10% of the fund would be related to administrative purposes and 80% for customer assistance. It is not clear where the additional 10% is spent. Commissioner Kong also does not like that the bill would eliminate assistance programs that are offered through Investor Owned Utilities (IOUs) which would move costs from private companies to the State. Commissioner Sexton asked if staff knows the percentage of IOUs to public water systems. Staff responded there is a mix and they can report back to the Commission with more details. Commissioners agreed they do not have enough information to vote on a recommendation for this bill.

AB 1276 (Carillo) Reduce Unnecessary Food Serviceware: relates to making single use serviceware (such as utensils and condiments) provided upon request only by June 2022. Enforcement will be done at the local level with financial assistance from the State.

Commissioner Sexton commented that it was unique that the bill does not only focus on plastic and covers other items such as wood and bamboo. Commissioner Badesha would like it to be clear that customers can ask for these items. Commissioner Sexton supports the bill to reduce single use foodware that is not needed especially for food delivery.

Motion to recommend AB 1276 for staff review for potential City support letter.

Motion/Second: Kong/Badesha

AYES: 5
NOES: 0

AB 1200 (Ting) Safer Food Packaging and Cookware Act: relates to banning PFAS chemicals from food packaging. The bill also requires all cookware have additional labeling that lists the added chemicals to the cookware.

Commissioner Sexton commented that Connecticut, Vermont, and Minnesota passed similar bills. Commissioner Hogg asked why the Federal government does not regulate these harmful chemicals. Commissioner Sexton responded that sometimes passing bills on the state level will lead the Federal Government to take action.

Motion to recommend AB 1200 for staff review for potential City support letter.

Motion/Second: Salian/Kong

AYES: 5
NOES: 0

SB 343 (Allen) Truth in Labeling for Recyclable Materials: relates to making it easier to understand which products can be recycled. By Jan 2024, the State will determine if the product can actually be recycled in 60% of the State.

Commissioner Sexton supports the bill and commented that the current chasing arrow recycle symbol is used even if there are no haulers accepting that material.

Motion to recommend SB 343 for staff review for potential City support letter.

Motion/Second: Sexton/Hogg

AYES: 5
NOES: 0

LIAISON REPORT

Deputy City Manager Rossman thanked the Commission for their work reviewing the legislation.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Sexton adjourned the meeting at 6:24 PM.