



CITY OF MILPITAS

Energy and Environmental Sustainability Commission

MEETING MINUTES

6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 21, 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 6:02 PM. Staff Marshall called the roll.
ROLL CALL	PRESENT: Commissioners Salian, Sexton, Kong, Admana, Lingle, Public Works Director Ndah, Councilmember Chua, Deputy City Manager Rossmann and staff members Grand, Menhennet, and Marshall were also present. ABSENT: Commissioners Badesha, Martinez, Shreve
PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE	Commissioner Sexton led the pledge of allegiance.
ALTERNATE SEATING	Alternate Commissioner Admana was seated.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Motion to approve the agenda for April 21, 2021 as submitted Motion/Second: Kong/Salian Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 5 NOES: 0
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Motion to approve the minutes for February 17, 2021 as submitted. Motion/Second: Sexton/Kong Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 5 NOES: 0
PUBLIC FORUM	No public comments.
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Alternate Commissioner Admana introduced himself to the Commission. Commissioner Sexton announced that Commissioner Lingle has been approved from the City Council from Alternate Commissioner to full Commission. Deputy City Manager Rossman introduced himself.
BUSINESS ITEMS	

- a. Climate Action Plan Update – Greenhouse Gas Emissions Forecast and Feedback on Potential Reduction Strategies and Actions

Background: As part of the CAP Update process, the GHG inventory and emissions forecasts have been completed, and the team is working to develop targets and strategies. The CAP Update is intended to reduce GHG emissions from community activities and municipal operations. The CAP Update Project Team provided an overview of these forecasts for 2030, 2040, and 2045 as well as associated methods, assumptions, emissions factors, and data sources. The CAP Update is aiming to get to carbon neutrality by 2045 in alignment with

the State's carbon neutrality target. Milpitas' 2019 communitywide GHG emissions were 19% below 2005 emission (baseline year), exceeding the State's 2020 target of 15% reduction.

The CAP Update Project Team lead a discussion about potential GHG reduction strategies and actions.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions and discussed ideas.

Commissioners asked how Vehicles Miles Traveled (VMT) is taken to account. The consultant team clarified that the VMT calculation takes into account all trips that begin and end in the City and 50 percent for trips that only begin or end in the City. Vehicles passing through the City are not included. This follows guidance from state legislation and the Bay Area Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC).

Commissioner Lingle asked if emission factors take into account future changes in vehicle efficiency (gas vs electric). The Consultant team responded that any mandated changes in efficiency and projected changes to vehicle type is taken into account in the forecast, but local actions are not built in. Staff Marshall clarified that other Executive Actions related to vehicle requirements are also not currently incorporated because they are not yet codified.

Commissioner Kong asked if transportation emissions can be broken down between businesses and residential as this could inform how to target actions. Consultant staff responded that MTC has provided a breakdown between the sectors and information will be considered.

Commissioner Lingle asked if the increase of working from home trend due to COVID has been considered in the future forecasts. The consultant team responded that it is too early to tell how commute patterns will change when we fully re-open.

Commissioner Sexton asked how the solid waste emissions were calculated. Staff Marshall clarified solid waste emissions are made up of trash generated in Milpitas and the yard waste makes up the composting. The food waste tonnage that is diverted from landfill is not included in calculating GHG emissions. The solid waste emissions are not currently broken down by residential and commercial.

Commissioners provided feedback on proposed actions for the City to consider.

Commissioner Sexton and Lingle commented that eliminating natural gas in all new construction by 2030 is feasible and the City could create goals for intermediary years leading up to 2030. Commissioner Kong asked when the next building code would be adopted. Staff Marshall responded that the next adoption will start in 2022, effective in 2023. The City is working with Silicon Valley Clean Energy (SVCE) and other neighboring jurisdictions to discuss what additional Reach codes could be adopted in the next cycle.

Commissioner Sexton would like to as quickly as possible adopt the use of refrigerants that don't cause environmental harm.

Commissioners discussed electrifying existing developments would be a challenge and that financial cost is a significant barrier.

Commissioner Sexton would like to encourage solar with battery backup instead of fossil fuel-powered backup by banning the generators. Commissioner Salian is concerned about increased power outages and resilience. Staff Marshall responded there is a local issue with PG&E in some localized areas and the City is engaging with PG&E on the specific issue.

Commissioner Sexton would also like to see a natural gas tax. Commissioner Kong and Lingle mentioned there might be backlash on a natural gas tax due to a lot of the community's building relying on gas and any actions need to be considered with an equity lens. A natural gas tax and incentives should be used together.

Commissioner Lingle commented he would rather incentivize companies and residents to work from home instead of requiring employers. He would like to see amenities such as food trucks at parks and local stores that make it more enjoyable for residents to work from home or in local parks.

Commissioner Sexton commented that she sees the need for more EV chargers and that the market might reduce new gas stations on its own.

LIAISON REPORT

Councilmember Chua announced that the City Council approved the updated General Plan. The City now offers Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) Mondays where residents can ask staff questions. The Council will receive recommendations for the \$1.2 million in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds that can be used to help low-income programs.

Staff Marshall announced that the City Council did a proclamation for Earth Day and the City has held several successful Earth Month events. There are two additional workshops planned for Earth Day an Ecoheros kids event and a Climate Reality presentation. The City has put together a [Sustainable Milpitas Youtube](#) channel with short videos to help residents be sustainable at home. There was great response to the Litter Kit pick up event with over 116 people have RSVPed for kits. There is also drive a through compost giveaway on Saturday morning. The City is working with Valley Water to promote the "virtual" National River cleanup month every Saturday in May.

The City has been coordinating with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAQQMD) and their consultants will be conducting their monitoring in mid-May at the source facilities and in the community using an high-tech van to collect and analyze odor samples. This effort will help fingerprint where the odors are coming from.

Commissioner Sexton announced that on May 1st the City is holding an vermicomposting workshop.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Sexton adjourned the meeting at 7:50 PM.