



Staff Liaison

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AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING OF THE Environmental Quality Committee

Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue

This Meeting Place is Wheelchair Accessible

7:00 p.m. CONVENE REGULAR MEETING

- 1. ROLL CALL** – Chair Fred Bialy; Vice-Chair Pamela Austin; Members Howdy Goudey, Sean O'Connor, Eleanor Pilling Chappellear (Youth Member), Sheila Tarbet
- 2. ELECTRIFY MY BLOCK PROGRAM PRESENTATION WITH Q & A AND DISCUSSION ON HOW TO SUPPORT THIS PROGRAM IN EL CERRITO** (45 min.)
Receive a presentation, participate in discussion and consider possible action items regarding support for [Electrify My Block](#).
- 3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC** (5 min.)
Remarks are typically limited to three minutes per person, and may be on anything within the subject matter jurisdiction of the body. Remarks on non-agenda items will be heard first. Remarks on agenda items will be heard at the time the item is discussed.
- 4. COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISONS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS** (5 min.)
Staff and/or Council Liaison Rebecca Saltzman may report on policies, priorities, and actions taken by the City Council, and/or on matters of general interest to the EQC.
- 5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** (5 min.)
Consider a motion adopting the minutes of the EQC meeting held on and December 9, 2025.
- 6. COLLABORATION WITH THE URBAN FOREST COMMITTEE** (5 min.)
Hear updates, participate in discussion and consider possible action items regarding collaborating with the City's Urban Forest Committee.
- 7. FY 25-26 WORK PLAN IMPLEMENTATION; MAY 2026 EVENT** (20 min)
Hear updates, participate in discussion and consider possible action items regarding implementation of the FY 25-26 work plan and discussion of a May 2026 Event.

8. LIGHT POLLUTION DISCUSSION (20 min)

Hear updates, participate in discussion and consider possible action items regarding light pollution in El Cerrito.

9. EQC BUDGET AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS (10 min.)

Hear updates, participate in discussion, and consider possible action items regarding planning, logistics, and expenditures for the EQC calendar of events, including:

- Green Team 2026 Cleanups / Broom Pulls
 - Sat 1/17 – Cerrito Creek (Meet at south end of Santa Clara Ave)
 - Sun 3/1 – Baxter Creek (Meet at Conlon & Ohlone Greenway)
 - Sat 4/25 Earth Day – Northern Gateways (Meet at Northeast corner of Knott & Key, 9a.m. – 12 p.m.)
 - **TENTATIVE** - Sat 5/23 Invasive brush & trees removal at Cerrito Vista Park – all day 9am-5pm, meet parking lot on Avis
 - Sat 6/27 – Northern Gateways (Meet at Northeast corner of Knott & Key)
 - Sun 8/2 Baxter Creek (w/ Baxter Volunteers)
 - Sat 9/19 Coastal Cleanup Day – Location TBD
 - Sun 10/11 – Northern Gateways (Meet at Southwest Potrero & San Pablo Ave, Del Norte Plaza parking lot)
 - Sun 12/6 – Baxter Creek (with Baxter volunteers)
- March 7-14, 2026 - Arbor Week
- April 25, 2026 – El Cerrito Earth Day
- May 16, 2026 – Spring Citywide Garage Sale
- July 4th WorldOne Festival

10. CLIMATE ACTION AND ADAPTATION PLAN (CAAP) IMPLEMENTATION (5 min.)

Hear updates, participate in discussion and consider possible action items regarding implementation of the [Climate Action and Adaptation Plan](#).

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (5 min.)

Hear committee member announcements and suggestions for future EQC agenda items. Potentially engage in discussion and make decisions regarding logistics of EQC consideration of items including:

- Youth Engagement; Earth Team

12. ADJOURNMENT

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Staff Liaison, Christina Leard, at (510) 215-4338. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the members regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the El Cerrito Recycling + Environmental Resource Center (7501 Schmidt Lane) during normal business hours.



Staff Liaison
Christina Leard | (510) 215-4338
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DRAFT MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE Environmental Quality Committee

Tuesday, December 9, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue

This Meeting Place is Wheelchair Accessible

CONVENE REGULAR MEETING Chair Bialy called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

1. **ROLL CALL** – Chair Fred Bialy; Vice-Chair Pamela Austin; Members Howdy Goudey, Sean O’Connor, Eleanor Pilling Chappellear (Youth Member) **Absent:** Members Heather Hayashi, Sheila Tarbet **Also Present:** Christina Leard, Staff Liaison

2. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**
Public comments were received from Richmond resident Cordell Hindler and El Cerrito resident Buddy Akacić.

3. **COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISONS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**
Staff Liaison Leard provided the following updates:

- Mayor Wysinger will deliver State of the City on Tues 12/16 at 5pm in Council Chambers.
- El Cerrito City Hall and the offices at the Community Center will also be closed Friday, December 19 through Friday, January 2, reopening on Monday, January 5, 2026.
- City Council retreat Saturday 1/10/26 at Arlington Clubhouse.

4. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**
Consider a motion adopting the minutes of the EQC meetings held on September 9, 2025 and October 14, 2025.

Move/Second: O’Connor/Bialy **Action:** Passed a motion to adopt the minutes of the September 9, 2025 and October 14, 2025 EQC meetings. **Ayes:** Austin, Bialy, Goudey, O’Connor **Noes:** None **Youth Member Chappellear:** Aye

5. **SUPPORT FOR ELECTRIFY MY BLOCK PROGRAM**
Committee members heard updates, participated in discussion and considered possible action items regarding support for the [Electrify My Block](#) program.

Public comment was received from Richmond resident Cordell Hindler.

6. **COLLABORATION WITH THE URBAN FOREST COMMITTEE**
Urban Forest Committee member Robin Mitchell provided updates from the most recent meeting of the Urban Forest Committee.

7. **EQC ANNUAL MEETING CALENDAR**
Consider a motion to approve the EQC Calendar for 2026.

- 2026 Meeting Calendar attached.

Move/Second: Goudey/O’Connor **Action:** Passed a motion to approve the 2026 EQC Meeting Calendar, meeting monthly on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. **Ayes:** Austin, Bialy, Goudey, O’Connor **Noes:** None **Youth Member Chappellear:** Aye

Public comments were received from Richmond resident Cordell Hindler and El Cerrito resident Robin Mitchell.

8. EQC BUDGET AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Committee members heard updates, participated in discussion, and considered possible action items regarding planning, logistics, and expenditures for the EQC calendar of events, including:

- Green Team 2025 Cleanups / Broom Pulls:
 - December 7, Sunday, Baxter Creek Park cleanup w/ Baxter Creek volunteers (*Debrief*)
- Green Team 2026 Cleanups / Broom Pulls, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
 - 2026 Planning:
 - Sat 1/17 – Cerrito Creek (Meet at south end of Santa Clara Ave)
 - Sun 3/22 – Baxter Creek (Meet at Conlon & Ohlone Greenway)
 - Sat 4/25 Earth Day – Northern Gateways (Meet at Northeast corner of Knott & Key, 9a.m. – 12 p.m.)
 - **TENTATIVE** - Sat 5/23 Invasive brush & trees removal at Cerrito Vista Park
 - Sat 6/27 – Northern Gateways (Meet at Northeast corner of Knott & Key)
 - Sun 8/2 Baxter Creek (w/ Baxter Volunteers)
 - Sat 9/19 Coastal Cleanup Day – Location TBD
 - Sun 10/11 – Northern Gateways (Meet at Southwest Potrero & San Pablo Ave, Del Norte Plaza parking lot)
 - Sun 12/6 – Baxter Creek (with Baxter volunteers)
- March 7-14, 2026 - Arbor Week
- April 25, 2026 – El Cerrito Earth Day
- May 16, 2026 – Spring Citywide Garage Sale
- July 4th WorldOne Festival
- September 19, 2026 - Coastal Cleanup Day

9. BRAINSTORMING: WAYS TO INCREASE VOLUNTEER EVENT ATTENDANCE

Committee members heard updates, participated in discussion and considered possible action items regarding outreach to increase volunteer participation and attendance at Green Teams volunteer events.

Chair Bialy appointed members Austin, Bialy & O'Connor to an ad-hoc subcommittee to strategize ways to increase volunteer attendance at events.

10. LIGHT POLLUTION DISCUSSION

Committee members heard updates, participated in discussion and considered possible action items regarding light pollution in El Cerrito.

11. FY 25-26 & FY 26-27 BIENNIAL WORK PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Committee members heard updates, participated in discussion and considered possible action items regarding implementation of the FY 25-26 and FY 26-27 biennial work plan.

Public comment was received from Richmond resident Cordell Hindler.

12. CLIMATE ACTION AND ADAPTATION PLAN (CAAP) IMPLEMENTATION

Committee members heard updates, participated in discussion and considered possible action items regarding implementation of the [Climate Action and Adaptation Plan](#).

13. SUPPORT FOR A CLIMATE LITERACY RESOLUTION FOR WCCUSD

Committee members heard updates, participated in discussion and considered possible action items regarding support for a [Climate Literacy Resolution](#) for the West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD).

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Staff and Committee members provided updates on recent events the EQC has supported and discussed plans for future events in 2026, including:

- Youth Engagement; Earth Team

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Fred Bialy, Chair

This is to clarify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Environmental Quality Committee meeting of December 9, 2025 as approved by the Environmental Quality Committee.

Christina Leard, Staff Liaison

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