



**Staff Liaison**  
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## AGENDA

### SPECIAL MEETING OF THE Environmental Quality Committee

**Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.**

Hana Gardens  
10870 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 Chapplelear (Youth Member), Sheila Tarbet
- 2. 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.*
- 3. COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISONS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS** (5 min.)  
Staff and/or Council Liaison Carolyn Wysinger may report on policies, priorities, and actions taken by the City Council, and/or on matters of general interest to the EQC.
- 4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** (5 min.)  
Consider a motion adopting the minutes of the EQC meeting held on and January 13, 2026.
- 5. COLLABORATION WITH THE URBAN FOREST COMMITTEE** (10 min.)  
Hear updates, participate in discussion and consider possible action items regarding collaborating with the City's Urban Forest Committee.
- 6. EQC MEMBER APPOINTMENT PROCESS** (5 min.)  
Participate in discussion and consider possible action items regarding interviewing and recommending for appointment members to the EQC.
- 7. ELECTRIFY MY BLOCK PROGRAM DISCUSSION ON HOW TO SUPPORT THIS PROGRAM IN EL CERRITO** (10 min.)  
Receive updates, participate in discussion and consider possible action items regarding support for [Electrify My Block](#).

- 8. FY 25-26 WORK PLAN IMPLEMENTATION; MAY 2026 EVENT (50 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.
- 9. LIGHT POLLUTION DISCUSSION (10 min)**  
Hear updates, participate in discussion and consider possible action items regarding light pollution in El Cerrito.
- 10. 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
    - Sun 3/1 – Baxter Creek (Meet at Conlon & Ohlone Greenway) (*Debrief*)
    - 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 Location TBD
    - 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 & Repair Workshop – Volunteers needed
  - May 2-3, 2026 – El Cerrito 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Hillside Festival
  - May 16, 2026 – Spring Citywide Garage Sale
  - July 4<sup>th</sup> WorldOne Festival
- 11. 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](#).
- 12. 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:
- Elections for Chair and Vice-Chair (April)
  - BAAQMD Updates
  - Foodware Ordinance
  - Youth Engagement; Earth Team
- 13. 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.



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## **DRAFT MINUTES**

### **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE Environmental Quality Committee**

**Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.**

Hana Gardens  
10870 San Pablo Avenue

**This Meeting Place is Wheelchair Accessible**

**CONVENE REGULAR MEETING** Chair Bialy called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

- 1. ROLL CALL** – Chair Fred Bialy; Vice-Chair Pamela Austin; Members Howdy Goudey, Sean O'Connor, Eleanor Pilling Chappellear (Youth Member, late), Sheila Tarbet, **Absent:** None  
**Also Present:** Christina Leard, Staff Liaison
- 2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**  
Public comment was received from Richmond resident Cordell Hindler.
- 3. COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISONS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**  
Staff Liaison Leard provided updates on the City's budget development process and gave a brief update on staffing transitions.
- 4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**  
Consider a motion adopting the minutes of the EQC meeting held on and January 13, 2026.  
**Move/Second:** O'Connor/Tarbet **Action:** Passed a motion to adopt the minutes of the January 13, 2026 EQC meeting. **Ayes:** Austin, Bialy, Goudey, O'Conor, Tarbet **Noes:** None **Youth Member Chappellear:** Aye
- 5. COLLABORATION WITH THE URBAN FOREST COMMITTEE**  
Urban Forest Committee member Robin Mitchell provided updates from the most recent meeting of the Urban Forest Committee.
- 6. ELECTRIFY MY BLOCK PROGRAM DISCUSSION ON HOW TO SUPPORT THIS PROGRAM IN EL CERRITO**  
Committee members heard updates, participated in discussion and considered possible action items regarding support for [Electrify My Block](#).  
  
Public comment was received from El Cerrito resident Robin Mitchell and Richmond resident Cordell Hindler.

**Move/Second:** Goudey/O'Connor **Action:** Passed a motion for the EQC to recommend that the City Council endorse the PG&E authorized [Electrify My Block](#) pilot program, within available city resources, to help transition to all electric homes, and retire old gas infrastructure, in the limited areas within El Cerrito that are currently eligible. This infrastructure transition is aligned with the City's adopted Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, provides substantial (up to \$35,000) funding to each household for electrification, and represents a crucial early opportunity to support a utility transition pilot that will potentially scale to the wider community in the future.

**Ayes:** Austin, Bialy, Goudey, O'Connor, Tarbet **Noes:** None **Youth Member Chappelle:** Aye

## 7. **FY 25-26 WORK PLAN IMPLEMENTATION; MAY 2026 EVENT**

Committee members heard updates, participated in discussion and considered possible action items regarding implementation of the FY 25-26 work plan and a May 2026 Event.

## 8. **LIGHT POLLUTION DISCUSSION**

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

## 9. **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 2026 Cleanups
  - Sat 1/17 – Cerrito Creek (Meet at south end of Santa Clara Ave) (*Debrief*)
  - 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 Location TBD**
  - 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 & Repair Workshop – Volunteers needed
- May 2-3, 2026 – El Cerrito 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Hillside Festival
  - Request by Vice-Chair Austin for EQC partnership
  - **Move/Second:** O'Connor/Goudey **Action:** Passed a motion to partner with the El Cerrito Trail Trekkers and co-sponsor the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Hillside Festival **Ayes:** Austin, Bialy, Goudey, O'Connor, Tarbet **Noes:** None **Youth Member Chappelle:** Aye
- May 16, 2026 – Spring Citywide Garage Sale
- July 4<sup>th</sup> WorldOne Festival

## 10. **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](#).

## 11. **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
- BAAQMD updates
- Foodware Ordinance
- Elections for Chair & Vice-Chair

## 12. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

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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 February 10, 2026 as approved by the Environmental Quality Committee.

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Christina Leard, Staff Liaison

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