



**MINUTES OF THE  
TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

**SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA                      MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2021**

**COVID-19 NOTICE**

*Consistent with AB 361 and City of San Jose Resolution Nos. 79485, 80237 and 80266, this meeting will not be physically open to the public and the (Transportation and Environment Committee) Members will be teleconferencing from remote locations.*

The Council meeting was teleconferenced from remote locations and convened at 1:30 p.m.

Present: Councilmembers - Davis, Cohen, Esparza, Peralez, Foley.

Absent: Councilmembers - All present.

Staff: Assistant City Manager, Lee Wilcox; City Attorney's Office, Colleen Winchester; Mayor's Office, Scott Green; City Clerk, Toni Taber; and City Clerk's Office, Yasmin Johnson.

**B. Review of Work Plan**

**1. City Roadmap: Climate Smart San José Plan Semi-Annual Report. (Environmental Services)**

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Maya Esparza, seconded by Councilmember Pam Foley and carried unanimously, the Committee dropped the item per the September 29, 2021 Rules and Open Government Committee. (3-0-2. Absent: Cohen, Peralez)

**2. Residential Garbage and Recycling Rates Report. (Environmental Services)**

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Maya Esparza, seconded by Councilmember Pam Foley and carried unanimously, the Committee dropped the item per the October 20, 2021 Rules and Open Government Committee. (3-0-2. Absent: Cohen, Peralez)

**C. Consent Calendar**

**1. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Semi-Annual Status Report. (Consent Calendar) (Planning, Building and Code Enforcement)**

Public Comments: (1) Blair Beekman spoke to green sustainability and the CEQA process regarding the consent calendar. (2) Caller '5140' spoke to police protests. (3) Tessa Woodmansee addressed the CEQA review and housing issues. (4) Andrew Boone spoke to mitigation, the Winchester Ranch Housing Project, including the displacement of low income residents in the report.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Maya Esparza, seconded by Councilmember Pam Foley and carried unanimously, the Committee accepted the semi-annual status report on the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the period of April 2021 through September 2021. (5-0.)

**D. Reports to Committee**

**1. City Roadmap: San José-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility Capital Improvement Program Semi-Annual Report. (Environmental Services/Public Works)**

Public Comments: (1) Caller '5140' thanked the staff at Wastewater Facility for keeping the city clean. (2) Tessa Woodmansee spoke to capturing and preserving wastewater and fossil fuels. (3) Andrew Boone spoke to the scaling of wastewater, fossil fuels, implementing programs to reduce waste getting treated, and rising sea levels. (4) Blair Beekman spoke to rising sea levels and thanked the staff for the item.

Division Manager, David Ohlson and Principal Construction Manager, Norman Mascarinas offered the presentation and responded to questions.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember David Cohen, seconded by Councilmember Raul Peralez and carried unanimously, the Committee accepted the semi-annual report on the San José-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility Capital Improvement Program for the first half of 2021 as part of the approved City Roadmap for 2021-2022. (5-0.)

**2. Municipal Regional Stormwater National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Semi-Annual Report. (Environmental Services)**

Public Comment: (1) Tessa Woodmansee spoke to the importance of localizing electrical power, battery backups, having a green city, and banning pesticides such as Roundup.

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## **D.2 (Cont'd.)**

(2) Andrew Boone addressed his pollution concerns regarding the creeks and rivers, the overuse of fossil fuels, the congestion of cars on the roadways, and converting parking lots into natural spaces. (3) Blair Beekman spoke to parking lot issues and focusing on the needs of individual neighborhoods.

Deputy Director, Environmental Services, Rajani Nair and Senior Environmental Program Manager, Jeff Sinclair offered the presentation and responded to questions.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember David Cohen, seconded by Councilmember Maya Esparza and carried unanimously, the Committee accepted the semi-annual report on the new Municipal Regional Stormwater National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit. (5-0.)

### **3. Municipal Water Billing and Customer Service Audit Report. (City Auditor)**

Public Comment: (1) Tessa Woodmansee spoke to the advertising needed for low-income programs and capturing rainwater. (2) Blair Beekman spoke to the importance of subsidy programs and state and federal funding.

City Auditor, Joseph Rois and Deputy Director, Environmental Services Department, Jeff Provenzano offered the presentation and responded to questions.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Maya Esparza, seconded by Councilmember Raul Peralez and carried unanimously, the Committee accepted the report on the Municipal Water Billing and Customer Service Audit and cross-referenced the item to the November 16, 2021 City Council meeting for approval. (5-0.)

### **4. City Roadmap: Vision Zero Traffic Safety Status Report. (Transportation)**

Public Comment: (1) Tessa Woodmansee stated that data bases need transparency and addressed her concerns with the safety of the streets in her neighborhood. (2) Blair Beekman spoke to community safety and vision zero issues. (3) Robin Roemer spoke to his concerns of the report, jaywalking, reducing speed limits in San Jose, and funding highway projects. (4) Andrew Boone spoke to street safety concerns, having fewer street lanes to prevent cars from speeding, and climate changes.

Director, Department of Transportation, John Ristow and Vision Zero Program Manager, Jesse Mintz-Roth offered the presentation and responded to questions.

City Attorney's Office, Colleen Winchester made a statement regarding verbal and physical threats during public comments.

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#### **D.4 (Cont'd.)**

Committee Chair, Councilmember Dev Davis excused herself from the meeting to attend a prior commitment.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Raul Peralez, seconded by Councilmember Pam Foley and carried unanimously, the Committee accepted the status report on Vision Zero Traffic Safety as part of the approved City Roadmap for 2021-2022. (4-0-1. Absent: Davis)

#### **• Open Forum**

1. Caller '0012' suggested having a song or a deep message to inspire people to slow down on the roads.
2. Blair Beekman spoke to the Charter Review Commission meeting.
3. Andrew Boone thanked the City for hosting a second "Viva Calle" event this year.
4. Tessa Woodmansee spoke to having a "car-free" Downtown San José and the Charter Review Commission.

#### **• Adjournment**

Vice Chair, David Cohen adjourned the Transportation and Environment Committee Meeting at 4:23 p.m.

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Dev Davis, Chair  
Transportation and Environment Committee

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