



City of Berkeley ZERO WASTE COMMISSION Regular Meeting

Monday, May 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC ADVISORY: THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED EXCLUSIVELY THROUGH ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE AND TELECONFERENCE

Pursuant to Section 3 of Executive Order N-29-20, issued by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020, and to ensure the health and safety of the public by limiting human contact that could spread the COVID-19 virus, this meeting of the City of Berkeley Zero Waste Commission will be conducted exclusively through video and teleconference, and there will be no physical meeting location available.

To access the meeting remotely: Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device, please use this URL to join the meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82587046286>

If you do not wish for your name to appear on the screen, then use the drop-down menu and click on "rename" to rename yourself to be anonymous. To request to speak, use the "raise hand" icon by rolling over the bottom of the screen. **To join by phone: Dial 1-669-900-9128 and enter Meeting ID: 82587046286#.** If you wish to comment during the public comment portion of the agenda, Press *9 and wait to be recognized by the Chair. Note: Your phone number will appear on the videoconference screen.

MEETING AGENDA

PRELIMINARY MATTERS:

- 7:00 pm 1. Call to Order by Chair and Roll Call by Secretary
- **Christienne de Tournay (Chair)**, appointed by CM Sophie Hahn, District 5
 - **Annette Poliwka (Vice Chair)**, appointed by Mayor Jesse Arreguin
 - **Steven Sherman**, appointed by CM Rashi Kesarwani, District 1
 - **Rachel Doughty**, appointed by CM Terry Taplin, District 2
 - **Antoinette Stein**, appointed by CM Ben Bartlett, District 3
 - **Margo Schueler**, appointed by CM Kate Harrison, District 4
 - **Sandra Curtis**, appointed by CM Susan Wengraf, District 6
 - **Nicole Ulakovic**, appointed by CM Rigel Robinson, District 7
 - **David Grubb**, appointed by CM Lori Droste, District 8
- 7:05 pm 2. Approve Meeting Agenda and Order of Agenda Items
- 7:10 pm 3. Approve Draft Action Minutes:
- April 26, 2021 Regular Meeting*

- 7:15 pm 4. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda
Speakers are allotted up to two minutes. Speakers may be allotted less time at the discretion of the Chair.
- 7:25 pm 5. Commissioner Announcements
Commissioners may make general announcements; no action will be taken.
- 7:30 pm 6. Staff Updates:
- Solid Waste and Recycling Transfer Station CEQA Study
 - Treated Wood Waste
 - Mattress Recycling Pilot Program
 - SB 1383 Implementation
 - Single Use Foodware & Litter Reduction Ordinance Implementation
 - AB881, AB1454, and AB1276 Council Recommendation
 - Textile Recycling Program
 - Cal Move Out
 - Community Survey Regarding Zero Waste and Recycling Services
 - Public Works “About Us” Webpage, Top Goals & Projects

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

Members of the public may provide comments at the beginning of each discussion item and prior to the vote of the Commission on any action items. Speakers are allotted up to 2 minutes.

- 8:00 pm 1. Report-Back from the Covid-Related Waste Mitigation Subcommittee and Action to Approve Scope of Work and Deliverables*
- 8:20 pm 2. Discuss Future Agenda Items
- 9:00 pm 3. Adjournment

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Information items may be moved to discussion but no action will be taken.

- Cal Move Out Postcard*
- Mattress Recycling Program Postcard*
- May 2021 [Newsletter](#) from [Build Reuse](#)

COMMUNICATIONS:

Communications from the public are included as links or attachments in the agenda packet.

- Max Wechsler, [“Treasure in the Walls: Reclaiming Value Through Material Reuse in San Antonio”](#) deconstruction report from the City of San Antonio
- Martin Bourque, Berkeley highlighted in EPA webinar on innovative contracts, May 25, 2021 at 11am: [“Sustainable Materials Management Webinar: Achieving Zero Waste With Innovative Reuse and Recycling Contracts”](#)

***Indicates material included in the agenda packet**

**** Indicates material to be available at the meeting**



ADA Disclaimer: This meeting is being held in a wheelchair-accessible location. To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services Specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.

SB 343 Disclaimer:

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the Public Works Department located at the address below.

Communications Disclaimer:

Communications to Berkeley boards, commissions or committees are public record and will become part of the City's electronic records, which are accessible through the City's website. Please note: e-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required, but if included in any communication to a City board, commission or committee, will become part of the public record. If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the secretary to the relevant board, commission or committee for further information.

Commission Secretary:

Heidi Obermeit, Recycling Program Manager,
Zero Waste Division, 1201 2nd St. Berkeley, CA 94710
510-981-6357

hobermeit@cityofberkeley.info

MINUTES

The meeting was convened at 7:02 p.m. with Chrise de Tournay, Chair, presiding.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chrise de Tournay, Annette Poliwka, Rachel Doughty, Antoinette Stein,
Margo Schueler, Sandra Curtis, Nicole Ulakovic, David Grubb
LOA: None
Absent: None

STAFF PRESENT: Greg Apa, Heidi Obermeit

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT: 8

PUBLIC COMMENTS (on non-agenda items): 0

ACTION MINUTES:

- 1. Approval of the April 26, 2021 Regular Meeting Agenda**
M/S/C (Schueler/Poliwka) to approve the agenda for the April 26, 2021 regular meeting.
Ayes: Unanimous; Abstain: None; Absent: None
- 2. Approval of the March 22, 2021 Meeting Minutes**
M/S/C (Stein/de Tournay) to approve the March 22, 2021 regular meeting minutes.
Ayes: de Tournay, Poliwka, Doughty, Stein, Schueler, Ulakovic, Grubb;
Abstain: Curtis; Absent: None
- 3. Deconstruction Presentation Provided by Deconstruction Experts**
Discussion only; no action taken.
Public comments: 2
- 4. Discuss Deconstruction Subcommittee Status and Possible Action to Continue, Modify, or Disband the Deconstruction Subcommittee**
Discussion only; no action taken. (Note: the Commission took no action to extend the Subcommittee; therefore, the Deconstruction Subcommittee automatically terminates because it has been more than one year since it was established.)
Public comments: 0
- 5. Discussion Regarding Mixed Non-bottle #1-7 Plastics**
Discussion only; no action taken.
Public comments: 1
- 6. Textile Recycling Update from City Staff and/or Community Conservation Centers**
Discussion only; no action taken. Staff update: Textile drop-off bins have been established at the Berkeley Recycling Center to accept textiles from the public for reuse and recycling.
Public comments: 0

7. Update from the Covid-Related Waste Mitigation Subcommittee and Action to Approve Scope of Work and Deliverables

Discussion only; no action taken.

Public comments: 0

8. Action to Submit a Recommendation to City Council to Support State Legislation [AB881 \(Plastic Waste Exports\)](#), [AB1454 \(Bottle Bill Modernization\)](#), and [AB1276 \(Single-Use Food Accessories and Service Ware\)](#).

M/S/C (Stein/de Tournay) to approve submitting a recommendation to Council to support the State Legislation AB881, AB1454, and AB1276.

Ayes: Unanimous; Abstain: None; Absent: None

Public comments: 0

9. Discuss Future Agenda Items

Discussion only. No action taken. Commissioners will submit any requested agenda items to Secretary.

Public comments: 0

10. Motion to extend the meeting by 10 minutes.

Adjournment at 9:13 p.m.

M/S/C (de Tournay/Grubb) to extend the meeting by 10 minutes.

Ayes: Unanimous; Abstain: None; Absent: None.

The next regular meeting of the Zero Waste Commission will be held on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. by virtual videoconference/teleconference. The link to access the virtual meeting will be posted to the Community Calendar: www.cityofberkeley.info/communitycalendar/

Respectfully Submitted:

Heidi Obermeit, Secretary

Report-Back from the Covid-Related Waste Mitigation Subcommittee

Grocers and restaurants are still relying heavily upon single use items, or encouraging them as a result of covid policies (e.g., requiring bagging outside if in own bags, encouraging take out). Sub-committee suggests City needs to consider what guidance to provide regarding compliance with local ordinances to reduce such reliance as we emerge from Covid restrictions. The Zero Waste Commission should discuss how to best address this and whether prior discussion with City or County public health officials is advisable.

“COVID-19 Update: USDA, FDA Underscore Current Epidemiologic and Scientific Information Indicating No Transmission of COVID-19 Through Food or Food Packaging.” U.S. Food and Drug Administration, FDA, <www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/covid-19-update-usda-fda-underscore-current-epidemiologic-and-scientific-information-indicating-no>. Released February 18, 2021

- “no credible evidence of food or food packaging associated with or as a likely source of viral transmission of ... SARS-CoV-2”
- It’s a respiratory illness that spreads person to person, not a foodborne illness
- Chances of infection by eating food or touching food packaging are very low because the number of virus particles that could be picked up is very small and the “amount needed for infection via oral inhalation would be very high”
- Out of all covid cases, there has been no evidence of food/food packaging as the source of transmission

Alameda County has this posted re reusable bags:

Many studies and health experts have provided documentation regarding the safety of reusable bags and foodware items relating to COVID-19 concerns. Over 115 health experts from 18 countries, including virologists, epidemiologists, emergency room doctors, and specialists in public health and food packaging safety, [signed onto a statement addressing the safety of reusable bags and containers during the COVID-19 pandemic](#). More information is available [here](#) for review.

<http://reusablebagsac.org/retail/covid-19-info-for-businesses>

However, the advice given by the County discourages use of reusable produce bags, by prohibiting even gloved employees from touching customer's bags. This is apparently derived from Cal DPH: <https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/Coronavirus/COVID-19-Infection-Prevention-in-Grocery-Stores.pdf> There is no further citation for this guidance.

PROPERTY OWNERS, IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!

AVOID FINES UP TO \$1,000 FOR ILLEGAL DUMPING* DURING CAL STUDENT MOVE OUT

PLAN AHEAD: Call the City of Berkeley (510) 981-7270

- ✓ Order Extra Curbside Collection or a Short-Term Dumpster
- ✓ Schedule a Free Bulky Waste Pickup (1-4 Unit Properties)
- ✓ Schedule a Free Curbside Mattress Pickup (1-9 Unit Properties)
- ✓ Purchase Prepaid Trash or Plant Debris Bags (1-4 Unit Properties)
- ✓ Visit CityofBerkeley.info/ZeroWaste for More Info

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE: Inform Tenants How to Reduce Waste

- ✓ Donate Unopened Food at BerkeleyFoodNetwork.org
- ✓ Recycle Most Electronic Devices for Free with EwasteCollective.org
- ✓ Use Curbside Bins to Recycle & Compost
- ✓ Check the RE:Source Guide at StopWaste.org for Local Reuse, Repair, Recycle, and Safe Disposal Options for Everything from Batteries & Bicycles to Clothes & Furniture



**Help Keep Your
Neighborhood Clean & Safe!**

*Abandoned furniture & debris on the sidewalk or public right of way may incur citations and fines up to \$1,000 a day! Ask your residents to plan ahead, properly dispose of/recycle unwanted items, and use City services.



City of Berkeley
Zero Waste Division
1201 Second Street
Berkeley, CA 94710

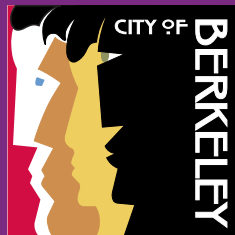
Property Owners: Talk to Your Tenants before
Cal Student Move Out!

- ✓ Notify tenants it is illegal to dump furniture or unwanted items on the curb.
- ✓ Provide tenants with adequate disposal and recycling services.
- ✓ Inform tenants how to reduce waste – donate usable items, recycle, and compost.
- ✓ Visit www.CityofBerkeley.info/ZeroWaste for more info and resources.



Got an old mattress? You have options!

Dispose of it properly
and help fight
illegal dumping
in your area.



1



Ask Your Retailer About Taking it Back.

Retailers are required to take back your old mattress at no charge when delivering your new one.

Discuss this during your purchase.

2



Take it to the Berkeley Transfer Station.

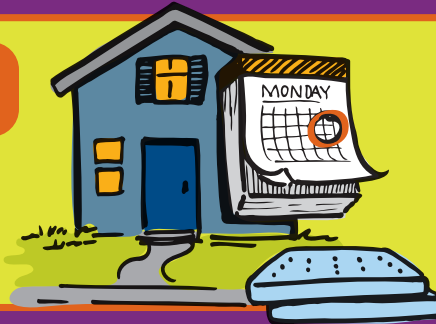
Residents can drop off up to 2 mattresses or box springs per visit at no charge.

Address: 1201 Second St., Berkeley, CA 94710

Hours: Mon.-Sat. 8:00am-4:30pm

Website: www.cityofberkeley.info/transferstation

3



Schedule a Pick Up.

City curbside mattress collection available for 1-9 unit residential properties in 2021 at no charge.

Call 510-981-7270 when ready to schedule a pickup.

Place up to 2 mattresses curbside by 7am the following day.

Visit www.cityofberkeley.info/mattress for program details and restrictions.

Eligible mattresses include twin-size or larger mattresses, box springs, and futon mattresses. No wet, overly damaged or soiled, or bed bug-infested mattresses.

Recycle Your Mattress For Free!

Visit ByeByeMattress.com
to learn about your
local options.



bye bye mattress[®]

A Program of the Mattress Recycling Council[®]



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