



# City of Berkeley ZERO WASTE COMMISSION Regular Meeting

Monday, May 23, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e) and the state declared emergency, this meeting of the City of Berkeley Zero Waste Commission will be conducted exclusively through teleconference and Zoom videoconference. The COVID-19 state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person and presents imminent risks to the health of attendees. Therefore, no physical meeting location will be 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
  - **Steven Sherman (Vice Chair)**, appointed by CM Rashi Kesarwani, District 1
  - **VACANT**, appointed by Mayor Jesse Arreguin
  - **Rachel Doughty**, appointed by CM Terry Taplin, District 2
  - **Antoinette Stein**, appointed by CM Ben Bartlett, District 3
  - **Samantha Nelson**, appointed by CM Kate Harrison, District 4
  - **Sandra Curtis**, appointed by CM Susan Wengraf, District 6
  - **VACANT**, appointed by CM Rigel Robinson, District 7
  - **VACANT**, 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 25, 2022 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:
- New City Website is Live
  - Zero Waste Integrated Waste Management Plan (Strategic Plan)
  - Transfer Station Rates
  - C&D Processing RFP
  - FITES Committee Draft Bag Ordinance
  - Single-Use Foodware Ordinance Implementation
  - SB 1383 Implementation

#### **DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:**

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

- 7:45 pm 1. Review and approve the draft FY 22/23 Zero Waste Commission Work Plan and Information Report\*
- 8:40 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.*

- Invite to the [Bay Area Deconstruction Workgroup](#) Virtual Meeting


#### **COMMUNICATIONS:**

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

- April 22, 2022 – letter\* submitted by Jan Dell re: the April 25 Current Recycling Market Updates and Transparency Regarding Plastics Recycling Agenda Item

\*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,  
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## MINUTES

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

### ROLL CALL

Present: Chrise de Tournay, Steven Sherman, Rachel Doughty, Antoinette Stein, Samantha Nelson, Sandra Curtis  
LOA: None  
Absent: None

**STAFF PRESENT:** Heidi Obermeit, Greg Apa

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT:** 12

**PUBLIC COMMENTS (on non-agenda items):** 3

### ACTION MINUTES:

**1. Approval of the April 25, 2022 Regular Meeting Agenda**

Action Taken: M/S/C (Curtis/Doughty) to approve the meeting agenda for April 25, 2022.  
Ayes: Unanimous; Abstain: None; Absent: None

**2. Approval of the February 28, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Action Taken: M/S/C (de Tournay/Stein) to approve the February 28, 2022 meeting minutes.  
Ayes: de Tournay, Sherman, Doughty, Stein, Nelson, Curtis; Abstain: Nelson; Absent: None

**3. Current Recycling Market Updates and Transparency Regarding Plastics Recycling**

No action taken; discussion only.

**Public Comment: 5**

**4. Extend Meeting by 10 minutes**

Action Taken: M/S/C (de Tournay/Sherman) to extend meeting for 10 minutes.  
Ayes: Unanimous; Abstain: None; Absent: None

**5. Review FY 21/22 Zero Waste Commission Work Plan and Begin Developing FY 22/23 Work Plan**

Action Taken: M/S/C (de Tournay/Doughty) to approve the work plan to focus on six top priorities including the Transfer Station Replacement, SB1383 Implementation, Zero Waste Strategic Plan, Single Use Foodware Ordinance, Plastics, and Construction and Demolition. Chrise de Tournay and Steven Sherman will work together to make minor modifications to update the work plan topics for 22/23 and submit the Information Report to Council.  
Ayes: Unanimous; Abstain: None; Absent: None

**Public Comment: 1**

**6. Discuss future agenda items**

- C&D processing RFP
- Scorecard for plastics transparency
- Form subcommittees to accomplish work plan priorities

**Public Comment: 0**

**7. Adjournment at 9:09 p.m.**

M/S/C (Doughty/Stein) to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Unanimous; Abstain: None; Absent: None

The next regular meeting of the Zero Waste Commission will be held on Monday, May 23, 2022 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/](http://www.cityofberkeley.info/communitycalendar/)

Respectfully Submitted:

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Heidi Obermeit, Secretary



Zero Waste Commission

INFORMATION CALENDAR  
DATE TDB

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Zero Waste Commission  
Submitted by: Christienne de Tournay, Chairperson, Zero Waste Commission  
Subject: Zero Waste Commission Fiscal Year 2022-23 Work Plan

INTRODUCTION

The Zero Waste Commission (ZWC) is responsible for making recommendations on City solid waste policy and goals, including commercial and residential garbage, and recycling services, budgets, and other decisions relating to solid waste in the City of Berkeley. The ZWC adopted the FY 2022-23 Work Plan on May 23, 2022.

M/S/C:

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Over the last two years, the City of Berkeley, along with the rest of the world, has made its best efforts to survive during Covid-19, and operations/staff have been running as usual following the initial lock-down period. The City of Berkeley is enacting important changes and improvements to its Zero Waste services and long-term plans, including:

- Continuing the process to design the replacement of the Solid Waste & Recycling Transfer Station (SW&RTS), which is currently going through the CEQA process,
- Adapting to changes in the recycling export markets,
- Implementing the Single Use Foodware and Litter Reduction Ordinance,
- Implementing new state legislation SB 1383 to reduce landfilled organics, and
- Expanding collection services for hard-to-recycle materials.

ZWC is supporting the development of a Zero Waste Division Strategic Plan, and the SW&RTS replacement, as well as evaluate new proposed legislation or programs targeting some of the larger remaining components of avoidable waste.

These projects advance the City's Strategic Plan goals to:

1. Provide state-of-the-art, well-maintained infrastructure, amenities, and facilities
2. Be a global leader in addressing climate change, advancing environmental justice, and protecting the environment

The following goals have been identified for the upcoming year:

Goal	Resources	Program activities	Outputs	Outcomes
Transfer Station Replacement	Feasibility Study (completed Nov. 2019) First Carbon Solutions retained for CEQA	Consultant presentation to Commission TBD	None	N/A
Zero Waste Strategic Plan	RFP was issued for consultant in Q2 2022	Consultant presentation at ZWC TBD	Commission recommendations to City Council	Ongoing Commission Feedback
Food Recovery and Organics Diversion SB1383	City Staff	Continue staff updates	Provide recommendations as needed to Council and other stakeholders	Help achieve state SB1383 requirements
Single-Use Foodware & Litter Reduction Ordinance	City Staff, Ecology Center, UC Berkeley/Cal Zero Waste	Follow implementation of Single-Use Foodware Ordinance, review through lens of Covid-19 repercussions	Provide recommendations as needed to Council and other stakeholders	Provide feedback to Council on Ordinance Implementation
Reduce Landfilling of Construction Debris	Deconstruction Subcommittee, Bay area Deconstruction group, Urban Ore	Work with builders, material resellers, CEAC, Community Health, Landmarks, Disaster/Fire Safety and Planning to increase reuse of old growth wood debris	Recommendations for Council	Recommendations for Council by end of year 2022
Clarify/Define/ Revisit what is acceptable for program acceptance/ recycling of all plastics	City Staff, Community Conservation Centers, Ecology Center, StopWaste	Listen to experts, gather information, receive updates from City partners	Recommendation to Council	Economically viable and environmentally responsible collection operation for recyclable plastics (Highest and best use)

## BACKGROUND

- **Transfer Station Replacement:** Community meetings were held in 2019 for design of replacement input. First Carbon Solutions has been retained to conduct the CEQA certification process for the replacement project.
- **Food Recovery & Organics Diversion SB 1383** requires reduction of organic waste disposal 50% by 2020 and 75% by 2025. Starting in 2022, all CA jurisdictions will need to provide organic waste collection services to all residents and businesses. Berkeley will be required to use products made from this recycled organic material, such as renewable energy, compost, and mulch. Food

service businesses must donate edible food to food recovery organizations. This will help feed the almost 1 in 4 Californians without enough to eat. California has a 2025 goal to rescue 20% of edible food currently thrown away, and redirect it to those in need.

- Single-Use Foodware & Litter Reduction Ordinance: All of the Foodware Ordinance phases have been enacted. Phase 2, requiring all disposable foodware to be compostable and includes a .25 cent charge for disposable cups, took effect on 1/1/20 (just before the mandated Covid-19 *Shelter in Place order*). Phase 3, mandating reusables for dine-in, began on 7/1/2020. Enforcement of all phases has been relaxed due to the pandemic, but is now increasing with addition of new staff positions.
- Plastics - Feasibility of Recyclability: Due to declining infrastructure/operations and unreliable markets for many grades and compositions of plastics, the City's municipal collection program will require reassessment of which plastics are acceptable in its stream.
- Reduce Landfilling of Construction Debris: Carpet recycling program was established at the Transfer Station in 2019. Due to multi-city operations of the construction industry, Deconstruction Ordinance may be introduced at regional level. Recommendations for Council will likely be proposed by end of year 2022.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Potential to reduce quantity of material sent to landfill and reduce consumption of new materials.

#### POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

Future Action Items that ZWC may send to City Council include:

- Resolution to support a Regional Deconstruction Ordinance
- Resolution to support a Citywide Reusable Food Container program
- Resolution to support an expanded coordinated effort with UCB during Cal moveout months
- Public information available for transparency in materials being recycled based on markets and destinations.

#### FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

Reusable Food Container program and City/UCB collection efforts require funding.

#### CONTACT PERSON

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