



Weekly Management Report

March 19, 2021

- 1. Minutes** Sustainable Burbank Commission
Meeting on Monday, February 1, 2021
Public Works Department

- 2. Memo** Ratification of the Convention on the
Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination
Against Women
City Manager's Office

SUSTAINABLE BURBANK COMMISSION
February 1, 2021 MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Sustainable Burbank Commission was held online via Zoom on the above date. Vice Chair Laura Tenenbaum called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL:

Members Present:

Robin Gemmill
Victoria Kirschenbaum
Dion Mokhtari
Kevin O' Brien
Heather Robb (Chair)
Jean Schanberger
Laura Tenenbaum (Vice Chair)
Chris Weber
Limor Zimskind

Members Absent:

Darin Chase
Larry Cross
Maggie Martinez
Chris Rizzotti

Council Members and Staff Present:

Bob Frutos – Mayor
Nick Schultz – Council Member
Ken Berkman – Public Works Director
John Molinar – Asst. Public Works Director - Street & Sanitation
Kreigh Hampel – Recycle Center Coordinator
Noemi Garcia – Clerical Worker, Public Works

III. GREEN SPOTLIGHT AWARD:

The Green Spotlight Award was presented to Matthew Osmond, Principal of Roosevelt Elementary. Mr. Osmond was nominated by the faculty and parents at Roosevelt Elementary for being instrumental in improving sustainability at their school. He helped the sustainability group become an official PTA committee, helped facilitate teaching eco lessons in every classroom, facilitated a cafeteria waste sort, and helped build a school garden.

IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: (Limited to items on the printed agenda or items regarding the business of the Sustainable Burbank Commission. The Commission has adopted rules to limit oral communications to 2 minutes; however, the Commission reserves the right to extend this time period.)

A. Public Communication:

Burbank Resident, Paula Trubisky sent a letter to the commission providing input on Burbank's Greenhouse Gas Reduction working plan along with recommendations following regenerative ecosystem balancing practices.

Burbank Resident, Isabel Yanes asked the Commission for an update on projects pertaining to reusables and take-out containers. She voiced a concern on the influx in to-go methods for restaurants.

B. Commission Member Communication:

Ms. Kirschenbaum announced that she attended the Cal Recycle webinar and the Waste Warrior program. Ms. Kirschenbaum shared that she and Ms. Robb met with two newly elected members of the Glendale Environmental Commission. She is looking forward to having both Commissions join forces in projects that pertain to Burbank and Glendale.

Ms. Gemmill also attended the Cal Recycle webinar and provided information on loans offered for projects related to reusables. Mr. Weber added that there will be an additional Cal Recycle webinar for private funding sources later this month.

Ms. Robb reported on the virtual screening of Kiss the Ground, co-hosted in partnership with the Eco Council. She shared there were 60 people in attendance and there was a question and answer panel that she found was wonderful and engaging. She left informed, encouraged, and inspired.

Ms. Tenenbaum stated that she also attended the Kiss the Ground screening and voiced a concern on two scientific inaccuracies she found in the documentary. She was invited to be a panelist for the Eco Council where she will explain the science behind climate change. Ms. Schanberger also attended the screening and appreciated Ms. Tenenbaum's input.

C. Staff Communication:

Kreigh Hampel, Recycle Center Coordinator, shared that Public Works collected 85 tons of Christmas trees this year. In response to the discussion on plastics, he stated that LA County is working on a potential policy that offers an option to opt out of plastic tableware when ordering take out. Mr. Hampel emphasized that although the Recycle Center is closed to the public, there are numerous behind the scenes operations still going on such as the sorting facility and storm water improvements.

Ken Berkman, Public Works Director, announced that Mayor, Bob Frutos asked that the Commission create a 3-5-minute presentation for the month of April to educate the public and celebrate Earth Day.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from the December 21, 2020, meeting were approved by Ms. Gemmill, Ms. Kirschenbaum, Mr. Mokhtari, Mr. O'Brien, Ms. Robb, Ms. Schanberger, Mr. Weber, and Ms. Zimskind. Ms. Tenenbaum abstained.

VI. DISCUSS AND VOTE ON THE INTERMOUNTAIN POWER PLANT LETTER IN SUPPORT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY:

The Commissioners expressed their interest in supporting and signing the Intermountain Power Plant letter in support of renewable energy.

At Ken Berkman's suggestion, a copy of the letter will be attached and posted along with next month's agenda to ensure transparency to the public.

The group agreed to move this agenda item to the March 15, 2021 meeting.

VII. DISCUSS AND VOTE ON THE DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR A GREEN NEW DEAL FOR THE CITY OF BURBANK:

Ms. Robb announced that Tom Pike from the Sunrise Movement requested that the Commission delay the discussion and approval of a draft proposal for a Green New Deal for the City of Burbank until an updated draft is provided.

Ms. Tenenbaum moved and Ms. Robb seconded a motion to move the discussion and approval of a draft proposal for a Green New Deal for the City of Burbank to the March 15, 2021 meeting. The motion passed unanimously by all in attendance.

VIII. WORKPLAN DEVELOPMENT:

Ms. Robb led a discussion on future projects the Commission can focus on.

Members of the commission agreed on potentially focusing on single use plastics ban, Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan (GGRP), Monarch Mile, and a community garden.

Mr. Berkman suggested that the Commission consider forming a subcommittee to focus on creating a work plan.

Ms. Tenenbaum moved and Ms. Robb seconded a motion to create the ad hoc Work Plan Development Subcommittee. The motion passed unanimously by all in attendance. Ms. Robb and Ms. Gemmill volunteered for the Subcommittee.

IX. AD HOC COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PHASE 2 SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT:

Members of the Subcommittee shared that they will collaborate with other cities and community groups.

Mr. O'Brien commended the members of this Subcommittee for their work. He suggested the Commission consider media platforms relevant to different age groups.

At the City Attorney's request, Mr. Molinar will join and monitor the Commissions social media accounts.

X. AD HOC GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION PLAN UPDATE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT:

Mr. Weber shared that he and members of the Subcommittee met with several different City divisions to discuss recommendations for the GGRP.

Ms. Robb announced that she will forward the presentation put on by Rincon to staff to share with the group.

Ms. Schanberger announced there will be a second community input meeting in the month of March and the Community Development Department's complete update to Council will be presented in April.

Ms. Robb thanked the group for their continued hard work and efforts in providing clear recommendations for the GGRP.

XI. EQUITY AND ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT:

Mr. Weber stated there were no updates.

XII. AD HOC FOOD SYSTEM SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE:

Ms. Gemmill thanked Mr. O'Brien and Ms. Schanberger for joining her in a Zoom meeting with Jim Tehan and Anthony Ortiz-Luis from Providence. The Subcommittee discussed food scarcity, food gleaning, and community education on Cal Fresh.

XIII. AD HOC TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE:

Mr. Weber reached out to members of the Transportation Committee to collaborate and schedule a joint meeting. A meeting will be determined at a later date.

XIV. DISCUSS UPCOMING SUSTAINABILITY RELATED COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS:

The group discussed upcoming sustainability related Council items. Mr. O'Brien announced he plans on attending the February 23, 2021 Council meeting in support of the Central Library Design Study.

XV. INTRODUCTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

The group agreed to add the following items to the March 15, 2021 meeting.

- Discuss and vote on the Intermountain Power Plant letter in support of renewable energy.
- Discuss and vote on the draft proposal for a Green New Deal for the City of Burbank.

XVI. BURBANK GREEN SPOTLIGHT AWARD FOR MARCH 2021:

The March 2021 Green Spotlight Award recipient was not identified and will be decided at a later date.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 15, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. Location will be determined at a future time.

Respectfully submitted,

John Molinar, Assistant Public Works Director - Street & Sanitation
JM: ng

MEMORANDUM



CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

DATE: March 8, 2021

TO: Justin Hess, City Manager

FROM: Judie Wilke, Assistant City Manager *Judie Wilke*

SUBJECT: City Manager Tracking List #2352: Ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women

Background

At the November 10, 2020 Council meeting, Council Member Murphy requested staff bring back a report to consider support for the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). CEDAW is an international treaty created in 1979 that affirms the fundamental human rights of women, combats gender inequality, and aims to eliminate gender discrimination. Countries that ratify CEDAW commit to creating or reforming their existing policies to align with the treaty's 30 articles which address a wide range of issues, from women's health, political participation, and employment, to equal pay, maternity leave, and marriage rights. To date, 187 out of 193 United Nations (UN) member states have ratified CEDAW. The United States is one of only six countries—along with Iran, Sudan, Somalia, Palau and Tonga—that have not ratified the agreement.

U.S. Ratification

The United States signed CEDAW in 1980, but the U.S. Senate has never ratified the treaty. While CEDAW has received multiple hearings in various Senate subcommittees, including the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Human Rights and the Law (2010) and three Senate Foreign Relations subcommittees (2011 & 2014), CEDAW has never been brought to the Senate floor for a vote. The treaty requires a two-thirds vote in the Senate for ratification.

Local Support for CEDAW

Several cities and counties have adopted local ordinances or resolutions reflecting CEDAW principles as a way to address barriers for women and girls, including the cities of Los Angeles, San Francisco, Berkeley, Long Beach, and Santa Monica. Local action varies from issuance of a proclamation to the creation and funding of new initiatives on issues that affect women and girls, including domestic violence, human trafficking, and family-friendly workplaces. The City Council has a Domestic Violence Task Force and

newly formed Racial Equity & Diversity Council subcommittee that may further consider and discuss these types of issues.

Legislative Advocacy

As CEDAW is an international treaty intended to provide a set of principles to guide federal policy in addressing issues of gender inequality and discrimination, proponents for CEDAW continue to advocate for Senate ratification. Per the City's current legislative advocacy practices, City staff may draft position letters consistent with the City's legislative platform, with legislative positions the City has taken in the past, or with positions taken by advocacy groups in which the City is a member, such as Cal Cities or the National League of Cities. Pursuant to the Council's adopted Legislative Platform for 2021, the City of Burbank supports legislation and funding that would provide equitable access to programs and services, eliminate barriers for disadvantaged residents, and engage with the community on issues of discrimination. As the issue of gender discrimination is pertinent to the City's legislative priorities to advance social justice and equity, City staff has drafted the attached letter for signature by the Mayor in support of U.S. ratification of CEDAW.

Attachment

Attachment 1 – Draft Letter Supporting U.S. Ratification of CEDAW

CITY OF BURBANK

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

March 15, 2021

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
331 Hart Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support for Senate Ratification of CEDAW

Dear Senator Feinstein:

The City of Burbank writes today to relay our support for U.S. ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Since its inception in 1979, the international Treaty has been ratified by 187 out of 193 United Nations member states. Just six states have yet to commit to the principles of gender equality set forth in the agreement, including the United States. CEDAW affirms the fundamental human rights of women, combats gender inequality, and aims to eliminate gender discrimination, tenets that are all in line with the democratic values of freedom, justice, and liberty. Although President Carter signed the Treaty in 1980, it has yet to be ratified by a two-thirds vote in the Senate.

While the U.S. has certainly made great strides in advancing the rights of women and the LGBTQ community since the 1970s, CEDAW presents an opportunity for American leaders to commit to comprehensively creating or reforming existing policies to align with the Treaty's 30 articles which address a wide range of issues, from women's health, political participation, and employment, to equal pay, maternity leave, and marriage rights. Lacking further federal action, several cities and counties have adopted local ordinances or resolutions reflecting CEDAW principles as a way to address barriers for women and girls. Pursuant to the City's Legislative Platform for 2021, Burbank supports legislation and funding that would provide equitable access to programs and services, eliminate barriers for disadvantaged residents, and engage with the community on issues of discrimination. The City's Domestic Violence Task Force and newly formed Racial Equity & Diversity Council subcommittee work towards addressing issues of inclusivity, gender discrimination, and the empowerment of women and girls.

Now, during Women's History Month, the numerous achievements and contributions of women throughout American history and most especially during the pandemic, call for federal affirmation of their fundamental human right to equality. As the issue of gender discrimination is pertinent to the City's legislative priorities to advance social justice and equity, Burbank urges you to support Senate ratification of CEDAW.

Sincerely,

Bob Frutos, Mayor

Cc: Senator Alex Padilla
Jamie Jones, David Turch and Associates