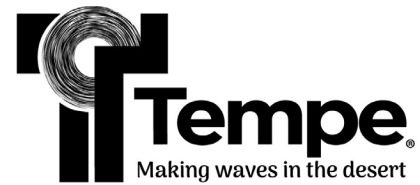


PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA



Sustainability & Resilience Commission

MEETING DATE

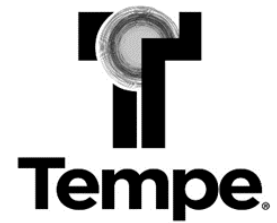
Monday, November 15, 2021
3:30 p.m.

MEETING LOCATION - Virtual Meeting

Microsoft Teams meeting
Join on your computer or mobile app
[Click here to join the meeting](#)
Or call in (audio only)
[+1 480-498-8745,,351150424#](#) United States, Phoenix
Phone Conference ID: 351 150 424#
[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER	ACTION or INFORMATION
1. Public Appearances The Sustainability Commission welcomes public comment for items listed on this agenda. There is a <i>three-minute time limit</i> per citizen.	Kendon Jung, Commission Chair (3:30 – 3:33 pm)	Information
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes The Commission will be asked to review and approve meeting minutes from the October 18, 2021 meeting.	Kendon Jung, Commission Chair (3:33 – 3:35 pm)	Action
3. Sustainability & Resilience FY 22-23 Budget Staff will provide updates.	Braden Kay, Sustainability Director (3:35– 3:55 pm)	Action
4. Climate Action Plan Update Staff will provide updates.	Braden Kay, Sustainability Director (3:55– 4:20 pm)	Action
5. Sustainability and Livability Council Committee Staff will provide updates.	Braden Kay, Sustainability Director (4:20 – 4:30 pm)	Action
6. Sustainability & Resilience Policy Update Staff will provide updates.	Braden Kay, Sustainability Director (4:30– 4:40 pm)	Action
7. Commission Retreat Staff will provide updates.	Kendon Jung, Commission Chair (4:40 – 4:50 pm)	Action
8. Housekeeping Items	Kendon Jung, Commission Chair (4:50 – 5:00 pm)	Action
9. Future Agenda Items Commission may request future agenda items.	Kendon Jung, Commission Chair (5:00 – 5:10 pm)	Action

According to the Arizona Open Meeting Law, the Sustainability Commission may only discuss matters listed on the agenda. The City of Tempe endeavors to make all public meetings accessible to persons with disabilities. With 48 hours advance notice, special assistance is available at public meetings for sight and/or hearing-impaired persons. Please call 350-2775 (voice) or 350-8400 (TDD) to request an accommodation to participate in a public meeting.



Minutes

City of Tempe Sustainability Commission October 18, 2021

Minutes of the Tempe Sustainability Commission meeting held on Monday, October 18 2021, 3:30 p.m. at a virtual meeting on MS Teams, through City Hall, 31 E. 5th Street, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Kendon Jung (Chair)

Barbie Burke (Vice Chair)

Steven Russell

Jake Swanson

John Kane

Gretchen Reinhardt

Katja Brundiers

Stephanie Milam-Edwards

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Ryan Mores

City Staff Present:

Grace DelMonte Kelly

Henry Pearson

Braden Kay

Guests Present:

David Sokolowski

Chair Jung called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

Chair Jung asked the guests to introduce themselves. No public appearances were made.

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chair Jung introduced the minutes of the September 20, 2021 meeting. No amendments were made. Commissioner Russell made a motion to approve the minutes. Vice Chair Burke seconded.

Motion: Commissioner Russell

Second: Vice Chair Burke

Decision: Approved 8-0

Voted to Approve:

Kendon Jung (Chair)

Barbie Burke (Vice Chair)

Steven Russell

Jake Swanson

John Kane

Gretchen Reinhardt
Katja Brundiers
Stephanie Milam-Edwards

Motion Passed 8-0.

Chair Jung requested going out of order on the agenda and starting with agenda items 7, 8 and 9. Chair Jung started with agenda item 7.

Agenda Item 7 – Commission Retreat

Chair Jung discussed the idea of what must be done to organize the commission to ensure the commission can operate in the best way possible while reducing the amount of work that each commissioner carries. This can help the commission grow and evolve. The commission will be gaining new members by December due to the departure of Commissioners Russell and Kane.

Chair Jung asked if the commission wants to have a commission retreat. Vice Chair made a motion to hold a retreat next spring.

Motion: Vice Chair Burke
Second: Commissioner Reinhardt
Decision: Approved 8-0

Voted to Approve:
Kendon Jung (Chair)
Barbie Burke (Vice Chair)
Steven Russell
Jake Swanson
John Kane
Gretchen Reinhardt
Katja Brundiers
Stephanie Milam-Edwards

Motion passed 8-0

Next steps involve determining dates and medium of the retreat, as well as the steps to remain safe and healthy. After that, agenda and talking points will be determined.

Agenda Item 8 – Annual Report

Chair Jung reviewed the annual report and asked commissioners to approve the accomplishments in the report or make any necessary edits which will then be approved. He asked for input on edits from commissioners. The commission had no edits. Chair Jung requested a motion to approve the report.

Motion: Commissioner Russell
Second: Commissioner Burke
Decision: Approved 8-0

Voted to Approve:

Kendon Jung (Chair)
Barbie Burke (Vice Chair)
Steven Russell
Jake Swanson
John Kane
Gretchen Reinhardt
Katja Brundiers
Stephanie Milam-Edwards

The Annual Report will be sent to City Council and archived in the city database.

Agenda Item 9 - Housekeeping Items

Chairman Jung asked the commissioners to reflect on their time on the commission and what were things they felt were impactful or things that they would like to see moved forward.

Transcript from MS Teams Chat:

What actions do you think the city should take and what actions would you like to see mentioned in the Climate Action Plan Update:

Commissioner Milam-Edwards: I would like to see that each project that the city puts forth has a K-12 piece built in at its conception.

Commissioner Reinhardt : I like Stephanie's suggestion. I would like to see us work toward criteria for infrastructure to check neighborhood by neighborhood. For example, is there a safe bike route to elementary, Junior High & High School? I would also like to see us following through on the school (and other locations) with flags that identify clean air and heat rating.

Commissioner Brundiers: I would like to see that the city protects bees and does not treat them as hazards anymore, but as key contributor to our future: <https://www.scottsdaleaz.gov/sustainable-scottsdale/bees-and-butterflies>

Commissioner Milam-Edwards: There is already a flag program through the AZDEQ regarding air quality. They are wanting more schools to be involved. I'm trying to get established again here at Tempe High School, but really it should be in all schools and it is free. The City just needs to make it a priority. Also, PROJECT WET has a curriculum in middle and high school years that teachers can be trained for (I am), but it would be cool to move forward with such curriculum as a city.

Commissioner Reinhardt: I would also like us to review national, state, regional political entities lobbying from the perspective of the City of Tempe as they pertain to sustainability (to be sure that we aren't promoting contradictory activities).

Commissioner Milam-Edwards: Bee habitat in school garden would be a way to do that.

Commissioner Reinhardt: In addition to school gardens, there are community gardens that can also be incorporated.

Commissioner Brundiers: <https://bikebridge.org/en/> for expanding access to bikes

Commissioner Milam-Edwards: There used to be an AZ Enviro-thon (I think it still happens). Schools had teams that were given sustainability challenges and competed in different areas to solve a problem using sustainability.

Commissioner Milam-Edwards: What if the City provided a grant or funds for teams to travel?

Commissioner Reinhardt : Related somewhat to Katja's link, just thinking others might be interested to learn that Tempe now has a Cycling Without Age organization in the works: <https://cyclingwithoutage.org/about/>

Commissioner Brundiers: Yes, I forgot to mention that the Landscape students translate the 4 Climate Action Plan Agendas

End of Transcript

Chair Jung said the Office of Sustainability name change and reclassification of a position from graduate student to a Maricopa County Resident-At-Large position will be accomplished by December. Vacancies on the commission will come in December and Jung asked councilmembers to help get the word out about those vacancies.

Vice Chair Burke asked when in-person meetings would return. Chair Jung replied that it will be discussed at the retreat.

Commissioner Brundiers spoke about Cool Kids classes that are being taught. Landscape architecture students are working to develop designs for a cool and just city in support of Cool Kids. They have developed a new collaboration with ASU Masters of Sustainable Solutions students with a 2-semester class. She asks the class to investigate what the landscape students are doing and how to make the projects actionable. The landscape students are focused on the "what" while the master's students focus on the "how". These plans can provide foundations for city council when developing plans. Braden attended the midterm report from each team here they reported their ideas for planning and visualizing their ideas. He said that students will be helping with visuals to bring the Climate Action Plan to life and Sustainability students are helping build out Cool Kids proposals and their ideas.

Chair Jung opened the floor to the commission for any final questions or concerns. No questions were asked.

Agenda Item 3 – Climate Action Plan Update

Braden Kay spoke about the Climate Action Plan:

Braden said he will be addressing City Council on Thursday. The update is about stakeholder agendas, greenhouse gas emissions inventory, and updated policy and infrastructure agendas. They will make updated recommendations based on the agendas. They have a partnership with ASU students, where each student group was assigned a character area and they are trying to show physical demonstrations of what the agendas would look like in different character areas. This will give images that bring these agendas to life and show what investment in infrastructure will look like in Tempe.

The Tempe Chamber of Commerce will be presenting the business agenda. Their priorities are energy efficiency and water conservation, as well as public/private partnerships. They also are interested in transportation demand management and mobility hubs. The Tempe Chamber has many new members that think the agenda needs to go further. Braden expects that the relationship will continue to grow, and they will be able to be more aggressive with their agenda.

The youth agenda was created with the help of high school and college students. Their focus is on food and transit equity. The main budget item is for a roadmap for a food access program in the first year, followed by the addition of a food coordinator that will implement programs to increase equitable access to food. Young people want to see the change happening in the schools. They found examples of school districts that passed their own climate action resolutions, and they want to see that in Tempe. They also want to continue to work on education and outreach in the vein of Cool Kids. There is a plan to put trees in at Tempe High, McClintock, and Corona del Sol. They are also working with Tempe Elementary at Thew and Holdeman. They are doing their first tree planting project on Mill and Apache, where they will implement a native forest. The green stormwater infrastructure project is taking examples from schools in Austin and wish to see Tempe schools do green stormwater pilot projects. Every agenda has one highlight action, the youth agenda's action is investments in schools.

The Climate Justice Agenda is being developed with the help of Unlimited Potential. The actions are heat awareness and clean energy. Building retrofits, vegetation, electricity, neighborhood actions, and supporting unsheltered people are all priorities. Land stewardship is another focus, with focus on the indigenization of Tempe and acknowledging the colonization of the city. They are looking for opportunities to give land back to the indigenous communities. They are also looking into urban forestry and sustainable landscapes, with native vegetation and backyard gardens. Phoenix has started a project focusing on backyard garden installations in neighborhoods, also offering training. Tempe should start a similar program. Partnerships should utilize community-based organizations. One example is a partnership doing vaccine clinic at Thew Elementary School. The Highlight action is Envision Tempe, which showcases community resilience and self-sufficiency. There will be an event on November 6 at the site to brainstorm with residents.

The Neighborhood Agenda contains most of the key concepts from other agendas. We must invest in energy, housing, conservation, transit, cool areas, and green jobs in every single neighborhood in Tempe. We need to increase transit frequency and increase messaging on minimizing health risks. There is a need for more community voices to show the importance and usefulness of public transit. This is a great place to work with community organizations. Neighborhoods also very focused on resilient energy hubs.

The plan will be finalized and reviewed in November/December and is going to Council in January with final approval in February/March. It all comes to council as budget supplements and CIP investments in April. Council approval is not most important win, the most important thing is that these measures are accept by the council in budgets. There will be ongoing focus on investment and engagement with communities throughout the process.

There is an option to leave comment cards for council meetings which will be read for the record. Braden requested that the commission leaves comment cards in support of the plan. Cards can be left any time up to 2 hours before the meeting.

Questions:

Commissioner Reinhardt requested to speak with Braden separately about the trees at Thew Elementary.

Agenda Item 4 – Sustainability and Livability Council Committee

Sustainability Director Braden Kay said he will be presenting the Maricopa Regional Resilience Initiative to the Council Committee next week. It is a regional solution to urban cooling. Braden said we are looking at how we can address these challenges. Regional resilience solutions are in 5-year budget cycles. We need to look further down the road at 10-year budgets.

Agenda Item 5 – Sustainability and Resilience Policy Update

Braden spoke about the Sustainability and Resilience Policy Update:

For a little over a year, Tempe has been thinking about collaboration for regional resilience. Part of the Cool Kids grant is driving towards a regional solution for urban cooling. They seek to address climate change while improving health, wellbeing and equity. There is need for a 10+ year plan for funding for these plans. They have been meetings with residents to understand the opportunities for regional resilience. Phase 2 will have a series of stakeholder co-design process. Phase 3 is coalition building, and Phase 4 is ensuring funding for long term resilience projects. Resilience projects are not happening at the regional level, so they are looking at how to implement across Maricopa County. Phase 2 will be working on government community connections, tribes, youth, and frontline communities and looking at different types of infrastructure. More federal and philanthropic money is going to be more available soon. There will be over \$500 million of investment in urban sustainability and climate. They want to fund action projects, equity centric projects, and regional collaborations. Tempe wants to organize efforts to take advantage of philanthropic money. There are many examples of cities collaborating to do regional work, and Tempe cannot be left behind on this.

Investments must involve multiple stakeholders and projects and must be long-term. There is readiness to do this work, but no clear fully conceptualized framework for what this will look like. This is multi-decade work, but incoming funding allows us to mobilize. People want action projects instead of planning.

Phase 2 must depend trust and collaboration between cities and community-based organizations. Funding is available to allow these groups to build trust in communities. A manifesto is needed from these organizations to show what funding and access they need. Regional climate governance needs to be strengthened. Mesa, Tempe, and Phoenix are the only committed cities now, but 10 cities need to be added in the next year. The business community also needs to be mobilized. Businesses need to be behind these actions.

Comments

Commissioner Reinhardt thanked Braden for his work.

Commissioner Russell thinks that this kind of work has been lacking in AZ and it is great that this work is being done.

Commissioner Milam-Edwards asked about school investments, which Braden said will be included in the work.

Commissioner Milam-Edwards stressed the importance of getting teachers involved in any effort. Cool Kids is working on outreach to teachers. The drama teacher at McClintock high (Tim Cornwall) is the sponsor for Cool Kids.

Chair Jung mentioned that the school boards will be included in these action plans. Now that the council has gotten their foundational achievements done, they are moving on to larger achievements only made possible by their prior achievements. The office of sustainability is a work in progress and is continually growing. They are finally able to work in schools and are beginning to get deeper into regional work. This is how Tempe can become a sustainability leader in the West. \$2.5 million of grants in 5 years, first full-time employee in Fall, and the name change are all big accomplishments. This Climate Action Plan and regional resilience work reflect that we are almost moving to the next phase. The real proof will come from the budget cycle in spring.

Agenda Item 6 – Sustainability and Resilience FY 22-23 Budget

Braden spoke about the budget:

The budget process is starting. Budget supplementals are due in December. Braden will have supplemental plan next month. All the agendas and plans will be included in this funding outline. New positions, programs, and infrastructure will all be included. The commission will be able to give thoughts next month on budget. In January the CIP budget is due. The budget goes to Council in April. In November the Council tells the budget office which measures to pay attention to. Then the budget process will begin, with forums and hearings throughout the spring.

This is the year where the argument for increased climate investment needs to be made. The commission should mobilize around this and figure out their priorities and what they need to argue for. Chair Jung said that the Council will discuss these priorities during the retreat. Action projects lend themselves to the impetus for the city to go through its protocols for creating plans that call for these projects, as well as funding projects at a regional level and encourage multi-governmental work. The reason we need these plans is that what helps us make the argument for additional city funding as well as philanthropic and government funding.

Agenda Item 10 - Future Agenda Items

Chair Jung asked if there are any requests for future agenda items:

Commissioner Brundiers asked if there could be training for supporting future budget proposals. She wants to know good strategies that can help the commission make convincing claims for budget items. Chair Jung agrees and asks for request for best protocols or a hybrid of review of the budget process and the commission can self-organize.

Chair Jung asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Commissioner Russell

Second: Commissioner Reinhardt

Decision: Approved 8-0

Voted to Approve:

Kendon Jung (Chair)

Barbie Burke (Vice Chair)

Steven Russell

Jake Swanson

John Kane

Gretchen Reinhardt

Katja Brundiers

Stephanie Milam-Edwards

The meeting was adjourned at 5:16 pm.

Prepared by: Henry Pearson

Reviewed by: Grace DelMonte Kelly