Open Space and Ecology Committee

June 17, 2015

Agenda

OPEN SPACE AND ECOLOGY COMMITTEE
AGENDA

Wednesday, June 17, 2015 6:30 PM
Community Meeting Room
Brisbane City Hall
50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Oral Communications*
3. Chair and committee member matters
4. Review of draft EAP outline and measures
5. Approval of the minutes
6. Discuss opposition of fracking
7. Discuss Mackin email communication
8. Subcommittee reports
   a. Education and Outreach
      i. Sustainability webpage
      ii. OSEC library shelf
9. Staff updates: Title 24 training, Review of OSEC work plan, June Habitat Restoration Day, SMCEW Challenge, Baylands FEIR copies available, Plastic bag recycling
10. Adjournment

*Public comment on the agenda items is welcome at the discretion of the Chair

Adoption of the agenda

Oral communications

*Public comment on the agenda items is welcome at the discretion of the Chair.

Chair and committee member matters

Review of draft EAP outline and measures

Approval of the minutes

OPEN SPACE AND ECOLOGY COMMITTEE
Draft Minutes
Wednesday, May 20, 2015 6:30 PM
Community Meeting Room
Brisbane City Hall
Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005

Call to order:
Chair Ebel called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.

Committee members present:
Abney, Ebel, Fieldman, Hayuk, Keogh, Salmon and Vladimirova.

Committee members absent:
N/A

Staff members present:
Deputy Director of Public Works Kinser
Management Analyst Muñoz

1.Adoption of the agenda.
Agenda adopted.

2.Oral communications.
Fieldman has a letter from her neighbor, Coleen Mackin that she asked to be read at the meeting.
This letter will be added to the agenda for discussion at the next OSEC meeting.

3.City of Brisbane's plan to comply with the State's Drought Emergency Water Conservation Regulation, Senior Civil Engineer Jerry Flanagan
-Kinser mentioned that Flanagan is here tonight to discuss recent changes in requirements with the drought.
-Flanagan begins with background on regulation changes.
-2014 Governor Brown state of emergency: reductions by 20% required
-FPUC voluntary 10% reduction of its 26 wholesale customers.
-Executive order directing State Water Resources Control board to adopt emergency regulations to insure urban water suppliers were implementing water saving measures.
-Resulting prohibitions: washing down sidewalks and driveways with potable water, using water in a decorative fountain unless the water is circulated, washing your car without the use of an automatic shut off nozzle.
-In accordance with ordinance 589, adoption of a contingency plan was adopted by the city.
-Stage 1 drought response measures were implemented.
-2015 The Governor Brown issued an executive order for the State Water Resources Control board to impose a state wide reduction on water suppliers of 25% for urban uses.
-May 18, 2015. These regulations came into effect. Tiered water reductions were determined based on per capita use of gallons per person per day. Lowest tier being an 8% reduction and the highest being 36%. Brisbane being far below the lowest tier.

-Small water supplier restrictions: limit ornamental/ landscaping to no more than 2 days per week, or reduce water production by 25% of 2013 levels.
-25% reduction is not realistic for Brisbane to comply with.

-Current city restrictions are as follows:
-Outdoor ornamental/ landscape watering no more than 2 days per week, no watering for 48 hours after measurable rainfall, no watering of landscapes from 9am-6pm, no using potable water to wash hardscape, no hose should be used to wash a car without an automatic shut off nozzle, and no use of water in a decorative feature/ fountain unless it is recirculated water.
-The city will have to determine the definition or measurable rainfall.
-Restaurants: will only give water upon request.
-Hotels: must offer the option to launder towels periodically.
-City: cannot use potable water to irrigate landscapes and medians.
-City is focusing on public education of these requirements before moving forward with enforcement.
-Outdoor irrigation accounts for the city are approximately 42%.

-Vladimirova asks what will be done about irrigation systems that water the sidewalks.
-Flanagan says the public is encouraged to call public works to report this and they will come out to speak to the customer.
-Salmon would like to know how much water is used for dust mitigation. Flanagan does not have that information.
-Salmon asked if the system is still being flushed and suggest using a water truck to capture the water that is being flushed. Flanagan said the amount is limited and water is captured when feasible. Since 2013 the amount of flushing has become very limited. Since 2013 the amount of flushing has become very limited.

-Ebel would like to check on the data represented in a water handout given at Day in the Park events.

-Fieldman has suggestions for public education: composting in your yard helps retain water, use of oyas act as a drip irrigation for plants, and possibly offer incentives for community members to implement these water saving actions.

-Enforcement schedule: addresses ending in an odd number and sites with no address can water Mondays and Thursdays. Addresses ending in an even number can water Tuesdays and Fridays.

-Hayuk asks how enforcement will occur. Flanagan said staff efforts will focus on commercial areas.

-Salmon suggest circulating information about recycled car washes.

4.Review of Draft Baylands Sustainability Framework
-Fieldman explained that the committee consists of 2 members of the council, 1 open space committee member (herself), 1 planning commission members, 1 parks and recreation commission member and city manager Clay Holstine.
-The committee has been meeting off and on for about 3 years. The drafting of the document has been done by a consultant with edits suggested from the committee.
-The document is a framework because it is designed to be a living document that provides guidance for construction on the Baylands.

Approval of the minutes

-The framework is based on One Planet Principles: 1. Zero carbon buildings 2. Zero waste 3. Sustainable transportation 4. Local and sustainable materials 5. Local and sustainable food 6. Sustainable water 7. Protecting open space and habitat 8. Protecting culture and heritage 9. Economic vitality with equity and ecology and 10. Health, safety and happiness.

-Abney commented that the framework is not enforceable. Fieldman mentioned the principles can become part of a development agreement.

-Vladimirova commented that in the energy sections there was little mentioned about reduced usage. Fieldman said that is addressed with building energy efficiency, but there is a limited amount that can be done with food.

-Salmon says the document addresses waste from the source. For health reasons there are restrictions on brining your own container to restaurants, and water is used to sanitize cups at coffee shops.

-Hayuk asked if the document was current with Title 24 requirements. Fieldman said Title 24 requirements and several other updates will be made to the document.

-Ebel would like to form a subcommittee to review the comments before they are submitted.
-Ebel went through some of her recommended changes/ comments: Loss of productivity due to climate change, the document should mention deforestation, roundabouts should be mentioned, commuting to work, emissions associated with food production and transit, subsidence and sea level rise, lowering the threshold for submetering, pedestrian and bike friendly paths, and methane capture.

-Salmon said it would be helpful to have a glossary of acronyms or write out the acronym.
-Fieldman will type the notes and email to staff, a subcommittee is not needed.

5.Review of draft EAP outline and measures
-Moved to next OSEC meeting.
-Fieldman discussed nominating your city for methane mapping through the Environmental Defense Fund.

6.Approval of the minutes
-Minutes approved.

7.Election of Chair and Vice chair
-Salmon elected Hayuk as the chair, seconded by Fieldman, all in favor.
-Salmon elected Abney for Vice Chair, seconded by Hayuk, all in favor.

8.Chair and committee member matters
i. New photos are displayed of fire hydrants being painted in the Large Conference Room.

ii. Discuss opposition of fracking
-Ebel would like to discuss this is a symbolic gesture. Added to agenda for next meeting.

Approval of the minutes

9.Subcommittee reports
a. Education and Outreach
i. Bike to work day recap
- Ebel and Vladimirova were at an energizer station. Many commuters drew out their routes on a map.

ii. Sustainability webpage
-Vladimirova and Keogh met and asked Muñoz to add articles to the Sustainability webpage.

iii. OSEC library shelf
-Keogh and Ebel have been working on the online OSEC library shelf.
-Members will get materials for the shelf at the library to Muñoz; Ebel will pick them up and take them to the library.

10.Staff updates:
Habitat Restoration Day recap
-Many OSEC members attended. Joe Cannon brought many of his students. Next habitat restoration day is June 27.

Monterey Pine mulch
-Mulch contained Italian Stone pine, not Monterey pine.

Plastic bag recycling
-Kinser said in the franchise agreement that South San Francisco Scavenger would give Brisbane a plastic bag recycling bin. It will be moved to the Post Office. Staff still needs to determine what can go in the container.

Peninsula Sunshares meeting update
-There will be a meeting in Brisbane on June 16. Brisbane is sixth out of all the agencies in the county in terms of sign-ups.

Energy Watch Challenge.
-Small businesses can get audits and qualify for energy upgrades.

11.Adjournment
-Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM

Discuss opposition of hydraulic fracturing (fracking)

Discuss Mackin email communication

To: Open Space and Ecology Committee
via Glenn Fieldman
Fm: Coleen Mackin, Chair
Complete Streets Safety Committee

Re: Amendment to the Circulation Element of the General Plan to incorporate provisions for Complete Streets, pursuant to The Complete Streets Act of 2008

Glenn,
Would you be kind enough to bring the following message to your Open Space and Ecology Meeting on 5/20/15.

Thanking you in advance,
Coleen Mackin

To the Committee:

Back in 2014, the Brisbane City Council authorized staff to initiate an amendment to the Circulation Element of the 1994 General Plan. This would bring the City in Compliance with The California Complete Streets Act of 2008, Assembly Bill 1358 (The Complete Streets Act).

Brisbane's Complete Streets Committee was asked to review the amendments drawn up by staff and make further recommendations, after which, the draft update would then be forwarded to the Planning Commission.

The first draft was brought to The Complete Streets Committee meeting in December 2014 by Ken Johnson, Senior Planner for the City of Brisbane. The committee devoted three meetings to studying the language and character of the amendments and suggesting changes.

Those proposed changes were recently reviewed by The Planning Commission at their 5/14/15 meeting.

Addressing the Planning Commission, Senior Planner Johnson drew their attention to Program C.22.2 where the following language is proposed:

"...*Inclusion of street trees and other landscaping features, to enhance the appearance of the streetscape and encourage pedestrian and bicycle use. Landscaping should consist primarily of San Bruno Mountain native plants and non-invasive drought-resistant plants.*"

Planner Johnson asserts that recommending San Bruno Mountain native plants would, "severely limit the plant palette and should be fully studied." Johnson is not in favor of the wording.

Planning Commissioner Parker indicated she had no problem with the proposed wording, while Commissioner Munir said that he would be comfortable with saying "drought-resistant plants".

The wording proposed by the Complete Streets Committee was very specific for a reason. There was a robust discussion with Planner Johnson about whether there are provisions for recommending certain plants for landscaping in the City of Brisbane. The Committee was told told there are not.

Discuss Mackin email communication

The Complete Streets Committee saw the revision of our General Plan is an opportunity to profess the goals and aspirations for the future of the community. While *not requiring* native plants, there could be a statement of preference for including them where possible. They are the best acclimated to our area and have the best chance for survival. Propagating these species to restore the habitat would be an added benefit.

The Complete Streets Committee also understood that native plants might not be appropriate in all landscaping projects both from a financial and practical standpoint. Non-invasive drought-resistant plants could be an acceptable alternative.

The wording the Committee wanted to avoid saying is "drought-resistant plants" since that opens the door to many invasive species that can gain a foothold on the mountain.

The City Council will be soon be considering amendments to the Circulation Element of the 1994 General Plan. This *could* take place at the next regular meeting of the Council on **Thursday 5/21/15**.

Brisbane has an opportunity to make a bold and progressive move toward more desirable landscaping that can weather the cycles of drought.

Please consider supporting the inclusion of native species in our revised General Plan.

I am writing to you as an individual and not in any official capacity or directive of the Complete Streets Safety Committee.

Thank you for listening!
Coleen Mackin

Subcommittee reports

a. Education and Outreach

i. Sustainability webpage

ii. OSEC library shelf

Staff updates

Title 24 training, Review of OSEC work plan, June Habitat Restoration Day, SMCEW Challenge, Baylands FEIR copies available, Plastic bag recycling.

Adjournment

- Next OSEC meeting is July 15, 2015.