



**CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

**A G E N D A
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024, AT 7:00 P.M.**

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1424 MISSION STREET, SOUTH PASADENA, CA 91030**

South Pasadena Commission Statement of Civility

As your appointed governing board, we will treat each other, members of the public, and city employees with patience, civility and courtesy as a model of the same behavior we wish to reflect in South Pasadena for the conduct of all city business and community participation. The decisions made today will be for the benefit of the South Pasadena community and not for personal gain.

NOTICE ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & ACCESSIBILITY

The South Pasadena Natural Resources and Environmental Commission Meeting will be conducted in-person from the Council Chambers, Amedee O. "Dick" Richards, Jr., located at 1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena.

The meeting will be available:

- In Person – City Council Chambers, 1424 Mission Street
- Via Zoom – **Webinar ID: 880 7206 2700**

To maximize public safety while still maintaining transparency and public access, members of the public can observe the meeting via Zoom in one of the three methods below.

1. Go to the Zoom website, <https://zoom.us/join> and enter the Zoom Meeting information; or
2. Click on the following unique Zoom meeting link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88072062700>; or
3. You may listen to the meeting by calling +1-669-900-6833 and entering the Zoom Meeting ID.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Michael Siegel

ROLL CALL:

Chair	Michael Siegel
Vice Chair	Emily Ng
Commissioner	Rona Bortz
Commissioner	Liam R. de Villa Bourke
Commissioner	Amy Davis Jones
Commissioner	Casey Law
Commissioner	Richard Tom

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chair Michael Siegel

PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES (*Public Comments are limited to 3 minutes*)

The City welcomes public input. Members of the public can comment on a non-agenda subject under the jurisdiction of the City Council or on an agenda item, you may participate **by one of the following options:**

Option 1:

Participate in-person at the City Council Chambers.

Option 2:

Public Comment speakers have three minutes to address the Commission, however, the Chair and Commission can adjust time allotted as needed. Participants will be able to “raise their hand” using the Zoom icon during the meeting, and they will have their microphone un-muted during comment portions of the agenda to speak.

Option 3:

Email public comment(s) to NRECPublicComment@SouthPasadenaCA.gov.

Public Comments received in writing will not be read aloud at the meeting, but will be part of the meeting record. Written public comments will be uploaded online for public viewing under Additional Documents. There is no word limit on emailed Public Comment(s). Please make sure to indicate:

- 1) Name (optional), and
- 2) Agenda item you are submitting public comment on.
- 3) Submit by no later than **12:00 p.m., February 27, 2024**

PLEASE NOTE: The Chair may exercise the Chair's discretion, subject to the approval of the majority of the Commission to adjust public comment(s) to less than three minutes.

NOTE: Pursuant to State law, the Commission may not discuss or take action on issues not on the meeting agenda, except that members of the Commission or staff may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising public testimony rights (Government Code Section 54954.2). Staff may be asked to follow up on such items.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. GENERAL (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

PRESENTATION

2. STAFF INTRODUCTION

Daphne Madrigal, Water Conservation and Sustainability Intern

3. SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

DISCUSSION

4. CITY EARTH DAY CELEBRATIONS

ACTION

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 23, 2024, NREC MEETING

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission review and consider approval of the January 23, 2024, Meeting Minutes.

COMMUNICATIONS

6. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS

7. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS

8. STAFF LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS

9. UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mobile Leaf Blower Demonstration
February 28, 2024 – all around the City
- South Pas Parks Ride and Picnic
March 16, 2024 - 9:00am - Garfield Park
- Friends of the Nature Park Volunteer Day
March 17, 2024 - 9:00am-12:00pm - South Pasadena Nature Park
- Sustainability Fair, Garden Tour, and Plant Swap
April 6, 2024 - 1:00pm-4:00pm - South Pasadena Nature Park
- Free Compost and Mulch Giveaway
April 13, 2024 - 9:00am-12:00pm - Arroyo Golf Course Parking Lot
- LA County Smart Gardening Webinars
(<https://www.ladpw.org/epd/sg/webinars.cfm>)
- MWD Turf Removal + CA Native Landscape Webinars
(<https://greengardensgroup.com/turf-transformation/>)

ADJOURNMENT

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

FUTURE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETINGS

March 26, 2024	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
April 23, 2024	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
May 28, 2024	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC ACCESS TO AGENDA DOCUMENTS AND BROADCASTING OF MEETINGS

Commission meeting agenda packets, any agenda related documents, and additional documents are available online for public inspection on the City’s website:

<https://www.southpasadenaca.gov/government/boards-commissions>


Meeting recordings will be available for public viewing after the meeting. Recordings will be uploaded to the City’s YouTube Channel no later than the next business day after the meeting. The City’s YouTube Channel may be accessed at:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnR169ohzi1AlewD_6sfwDA/featured

AGENDA NOTIFICATION SUBSCRIPTION

If you wish to receive an agenda email notification please contact the Sustainability Division via email at NRECPublicComment@SouthPasadenaCA.gov or call (626) 403-7370.

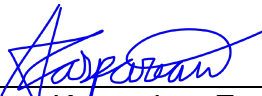
ACCOMMODATIONS

 The City of South Pasadena wishes to make all of its public meetings accessible to the public. If special assistance is needed to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk's Division at (626) 403-7230 or CityClerk@southpasadenaca.gov. Upon request, this agenda will be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disabilities. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will assist staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility to the meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II).

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING

*I declare under penalty of perjury that I posted this notice of agenda for the meeting to be held on **February 27, 2024**, on the bulletin board in the courtyard of City Hall at 1414 Mission Street, South Pasadena, CA 91030, and on the City’s, website as required by law, on the date listed below.*

2/22/2024



Date

Arpy Kasparian, Environmental Services & Sustainability Manager

ITEM 3

South Coast Air Quality Management District
Presentation

Michael Cacciotti
Governing Board Vice Chair
 South Coast Air Quality Management District
 Council Member, South Pasadena
 Representing the Cities of Los Angeles County, Eastern Region

34 Cities - 2 million residents

AIR QUALITY UPDATE – South Pasadena NREC

Feb. 27, 2024

1

SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

1976 - Formed to Meet Federal & State Health Standards for Air Pollution

Congressman Jerry Lewis - R (CA-41) appeals for clean air on January 8, 1970; as an Assemblyman with a petition of more than 140,000 Inland Empire signatures. Lewis on the left and Lieutenant Governor Ed Reinecke on the right are joined by other members of the California Legislature in a joint effort to reduce air pollution.

Los Angeles San Bernardino Orange Riverside

28,000 Permitted Sources













17 Million People

67% of E.J population in California lives in region

One-third of all US containerized cargo

2

SOURCES OF AIR POLLUTION

STATIONARY SOURCES = 20%	MOBILE SOURCES = 80%
 Cleaners & Solvents	 Oceangoing Vessels
 Paint	 Airplanes
 Autobody	 Trains
 Gas Stations	 Trucks
 Power Plant & Industry	 Off-road Equipment
 Refineries	 Cars

SOUTH COAST AIR BASIN DOES **NOT** MEET FEDERAL STANDARDS FOR OZONE (aka SMOG) and PM2.5 (Particulate Matter)

3

AIR POLLUTION IN SOUTH COAST REGION

OZONE (aka SMOG)



Formed in atmosphere through chemical reaction of air pollutants - nitrogen oxides (NOx) and volatile organic chemicals (VOCs) - in presence of sunlight.

- The largest source of NOx are ships, aircraft, off-road equipment, heavy-duty trucks and locomotives.

Particulate Matter 2.5 (PM2.5)



Fine inhalable particles emitted directly or formed in atmosphere through a chemical reaction of gases, including NOx and other pollutants.

- Direct sources of air pollutants are road dust, diesel soot, combustion engines.

4

HEALTH IMPACTS

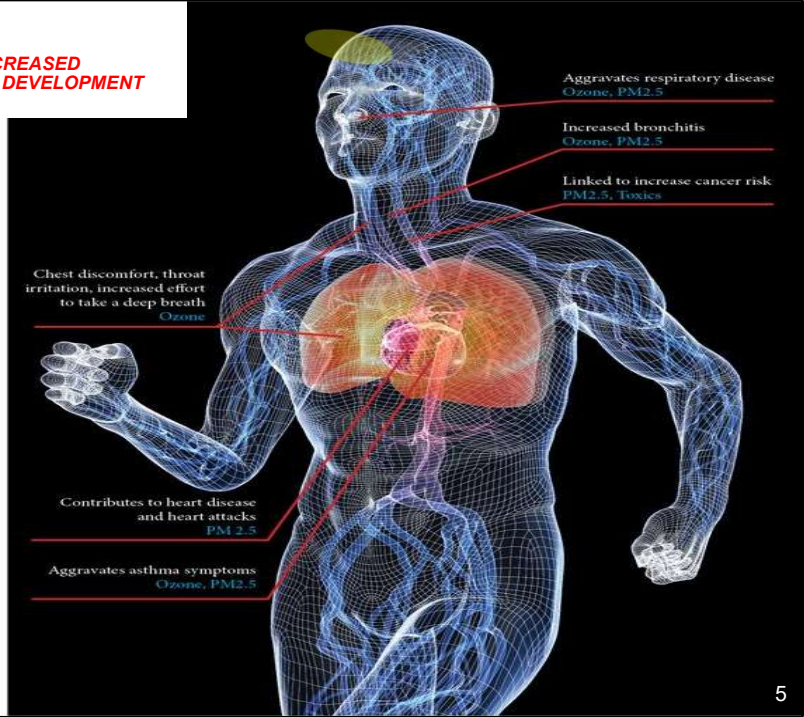
RESPIRATORY, CARDIOVASCULAR, METABOLIC, INCREASED CANCER RISK, COGNITIVE, PHYSICAL & COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT FOR CHILDREN

“Mom’s Exposure to Dirty Air in Pregnancy Could Harm a Toddler’s Development” – USNews.com, 1/26/2023

“Even Brief Exposure to Air Pollution has Rapid Impacts on the Brain” – Neurosciencenews.com, 1/24/23

“Clearing Air Pollution Helps Clear the Fog of Aging – And May Cut the Risk of Dementia” – Kaiser Health News, 9/20/22

“Scientists Find Clues to How Air Pollution May Trigger Lung Cancer” – CNN Health, 9/12/22



5

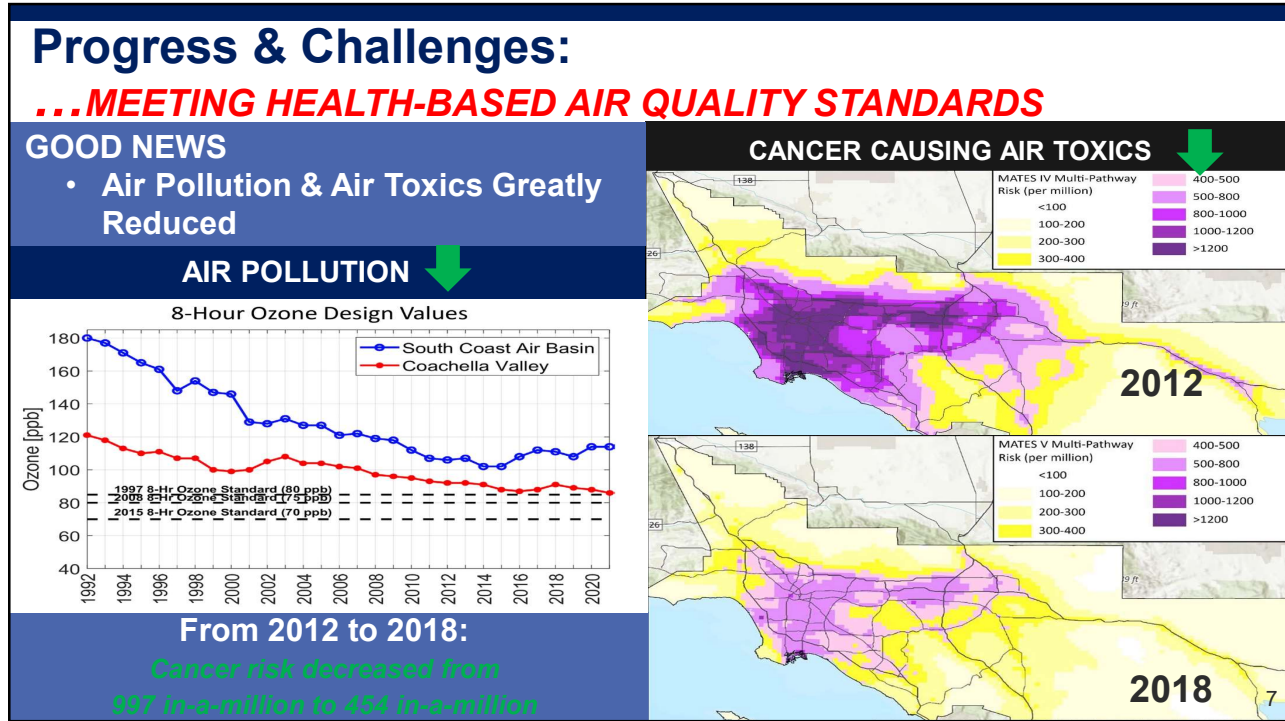
HEALTH IMPACTS

MEETING AIR STANDARDS = MAJOR PUBLIC HEALTH BENEFITS

Prevent Premature Deaths	Prevent Hospitalizations	Prevent Work and School Loss Days	Potential Annual Monetized Public Health Benefits*
1,500 / year	8,700 / year	163,000 / year	\$19.4 Billion
			
In comparison, ~1,350 traffic fatalities in 2019 in South Coast region	Affects on children: Low Birth Weight, Lung Growth, Asthma	Impacts are highest in Environmental Justice (EJ) communities	From higher cancer risk, respiratory & cardiovascular diseases, greater susceptibility to infections

* <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/air-quality/clean-air-plans/air-quality-mgt-plan/socioeconomic-analysis>
http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/mch/AsthmaCoalition/docs/BenefitsOfMeetingCleanAirStandards_11_08.pdf

6



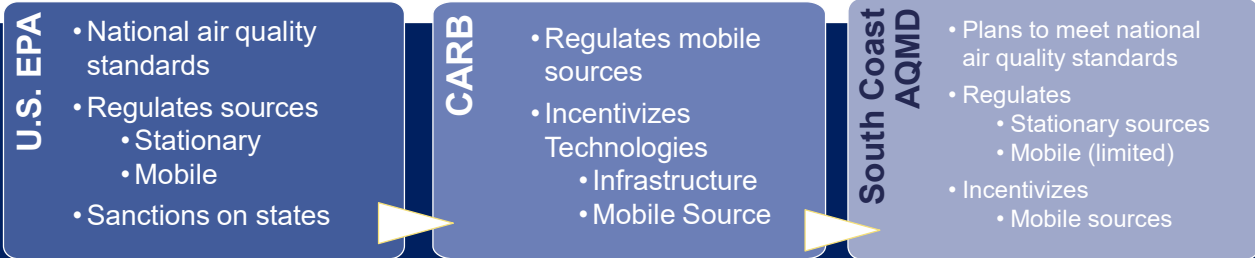
7



8

What If...?

SOUTH COAST AIR BASIN DOES NOT MEET FEDERAL STANDARDS FOR OZONE (aka SMOG) and PM2.5 (Particulate Matter)



If South Coast Air Basin does not meet federal standards under Clean Air Act * ... sanctions could be triggered. Preliminary estimated costs:



Stationary Sources:
\$40-50 million per year in additional fees or permitting costs



Federal Highway Funding: \$600 million per year before considering Bipartisan Infrastructure Law



Federal Implementation Plan: unknown costs, but anticipated to be high

* There are several deadlines for multiple standards. Some impending deadlines are in **2023, 2031, 2037.**

Road to Clean Air

... Residential Incentives

Visit <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/programs> or use QR Code to learn more about AQMD Incentive Programs



<p>CLEAN FURNACE</p> <p>Up to \$1,500 for CLEANair Furnace Rebate Program*</p>	<p>ELECTRIC LAWNMOWER</p> <p>Up to \$250 per Electric Lawnmower</p>	<p>EV CHARGER</p> <p>\$250 or more Rebate for Level 2 (240V) EV Charger</p>	<p>REPLACE YOUR RIDE</p> <p>Up to \$9,500 for clean air vehicle, transit passes, car-sharing, or an e-bike</p>
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* New program in development for zero-emission appliances for space and water heating.

Road to Clean Air

... Commercial & City Incentives

Visit <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/programs> or use QR Code to learn more about South Coast AQMD Incentive Programs



Total investment program wide since 2008: \$1.2B

Up to 85% Discount
New program: Commercial Landscaping Equipment

Charging & Fueling Infrastructure

Vehicles: Light, Medium & Heavy-Duty

Off-Road Equipment, Marine Vessels & Locomotives



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CLEAN AIR INVESTMENTS IN THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA



Clean Air Funds – 2008 to Present

- \$38,500
- 9-count of equipment/vehicle/station
- Program: Replace Your Ride



Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC)

\$1,139,543 – EV charging installation, CNG infrastructure (new installation & expansion), purchase of natural gas heavy duty vehicles & light-duty ZEVs, bicycle trail improvements, Open Streets event.

www.CleanTransportationFunding.org



AB 2766 Motor Vehicle Subvention Funds

(Funding to Cities to reduce air pollution from motor vehicles)

- 2020-21 balance: \$121,512
- 2021-22 disbursed: \$32,872.22
- Recent projects: Free Ride to Work Bus Pass Program, Teleworking



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12

Access Services & Protect Your Health: **SOUTH COAST AQMD**



			
<p>Small Business Assistance 1-800-388-2121 Complaint Hotline 1-800-CUT-SMOG or 1-800-288-7664</p>	<p>Free mobile phone App for real time air quality information, alerts, and to file complaints</p>  	<p>Provides air quality information at community level from 39 permanent multi-pollutant and 4 single-pollutant air monitoring sites</p>	<p>Free "Sensor Educational Toolkit" to the public to learn about low-cost sensors</p>





CONTACT US

Ways to Stay Connected @SouthCoastAQMD

Michael Cacciotti
Vice Chair, South Coast AQMD
Councilmember, South Pasadena

Board Consultant: Ben Wong
Email: BenWong@aqmd.gov,
BenWongWestCovina@gmail.com

THANK YOU

	Twitter
	Facebook
	YouTube
	Instagram

ITEM 5

Approval of Minutes – Meeting of January 23, 2024



**CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024, AT 7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Meeting of the South Pasadena Natural Resources and Environmental Commission was called to order by Chair Michael Siegel on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at 7:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, 1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena, California.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT

Chair	Michael Siegel
Commissioner	Liam R. de Villa Bourke
Commissioner	Amy Davis Jones
Commissioner	Casey Law
Commissioner	Emily Ng
Commissioner	Richard Tom

ABSENT

Commissioner	Rona Bortz
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CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Arpy Kasparian, Environmental Services & Sustainability Manager and Melanis Stepanian, Management Assistant were present at Roll Call. Other staff members presented reports or responded to questions as indicated in the minutes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Flag Salute was led by Chair Siegel.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. PUBLIC COMMENT – GENERAL (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

In Person Comments:

Angelo Gladding shared his concerns regarding the tree code in the City’s Housing Element.

No additional public comments were submitted.

PRESENTATION

2. **SOUTH PASADENA SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES**

Arpy Kasparian, Environmental Services & Sustainability Manager, presented on the sustainability programs and initiatives in place such as the Water Conservation Program, Climate Action Plan, the ban on Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers, and SB 1383.

Ted Gerber, Public Works Director, shared an update on programs in place such as the City Hall Electrification, SCE Charge Ready Program, Mound Parking Lot Solar Project, and Huntington Green Street Stormwater Project.

ACTION

3. **SELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission select and nominate a Chair and Vice Chair of the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission for the 2024 year.

COMMISSION ACTION AND MOTION

A motion was made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Tom and approved by roll call vote to appoint Michael Siegel as the Commission Chair. The motion carried 6-0, by the following vote:

AYES: Siegel, de Villa Bourke, Jones, Law, Ng, and Tom.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Bortz

ABSTAINED: None.

COMMISSION ACTION AND MOTION

A motion was made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Tom and approved by roll call vote to appoint Emily Ng as the Commission Vice Chair. The motion carried 6-0, by the following vote:

AYES: Siegel, de Villa Bourke, Jones, Law, Ng, and Tom.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Bortz

ABSTAINED: None.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 28, 2023, NREC MEETING**

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission review and consider approval of the November 28, 2023, Meeting Minutes.

COMMISSION ACTION AND MOTION

A motion was made by Commissioner Tom, seconded by Commissioner Law and approved by roll call vote to approve the November 28, 2023, NREC Meeting Minutes. The motion carried 5-0-1, by the following vote:

AYES: Siegel, de Villa Bourke, Jones, Law, and Tom.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Bortz

ABSTAINED: Ng

COMMUNICATIONS**5. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS**

Councilmember Cacciotti discussed the City's accomplishments and ongoing electrification projects within and outside of the City. He touched on the advancements made with the ban on gas-powered leaf blowers, highlighting the collaboration with AGZA. Councilmember Cacciotti also shared updates with the LA Metro Gold Line.

6. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Tom had no comments.

Commissioner Law shared his gratitude for the Public Works Staff for joining the Arroyo Vista Elementary School STEM Night.

Commissioner Jones thanked City Staff for their efforts with the ban on gas-powered leaf blowers and shared that the noise has significantly reduced in her neighborhood. She also stressed that she has observed residents utilizing artificial turf and suggested alternatives due to the heat island effect caused by the artificial turf.

Chair Siegel encouraged viewers to visit Transition South Pasadena's upcoming event at the Community Garden on Saturday, January 27, 2024.

Commissioner de Villa Bourke discussed his observations of the increased security and scanning of cards on the Metro.

Commissioner Ng shared that she was previously a youth commissioner. She also promoted an open seat on the Los Angeles County Youth Climate Commission in District 5.

7. STAFF LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS

Environmental Services & Sustainability Manager, Arpy Kasparian, thanked previous Commission members, Ella Hushagen and Michelle Hammond, for their service and welcomed new Commission members, Liam R. de Villa Bourke and Emily Ng.

8. UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mobile Electric Leaf Blower Demonstration – February 9
- Sowing South Pasadena: Learning to Garden with Native Plants – February 13
- LA County Smart Gardening Webinars - Various dates
(<https://www.ladpw.org/epd/sq/webinars.cfm>)
- MWD Turf Removal + CA Native Landscape Webinars - Various dates
(<https://greengardensgroup.com/turf-transformation/>)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further matters, Chair Siegel adjourned the meeting of the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission at 8:13 P.M. to the next Regular Commission meeting scheduled for February 27, 2024.

Respectfully submitted:

Arpy Kasparian
Staff Liaison, Environmental Services &
Sustainability Manager

APPROVED:

Michael Siegel
Chair

Approved at Commission: February 27, 2024