



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

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2023, 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 Siegel on Tuesday, August 22, 2023, at 7:03 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, 1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena, California.

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT**

Chair	Michael Siegel
Vice Chair	Ella Hushagen
Commissioner	Casey Law
Commissioner	Richard Tom
Commissioner	Michelle Hammond

**ABSENT**

Commissioner	Amy Davis Jones
Commissioner	Rona Bortz

Leonna DeWitt, Public Works Assistant, announced a quorum.

**CITY STAFF PRESENT:**

Arpy Kasparian, Environmental Services & Sustainability Manager and Leonna DeWitt, Public Works 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 Michael Siegel.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

No Public Comments in-person, via zoom, or submitted prior to the meeting.

**PRESENTATIONS****2. SENATE BILL 1383 ORGANICS RECYCLING IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE**

Environmental Services & Sustainability Manager, Arpy Kasparian, shared an update on the implementation of Senate Bill (SB) 1383, Organics Recycling, in the City.

**DISCUSSION****3. CURRENT TREE ORDINANCE REVIEW**

Environmental Services & Sustainability Manager, Arpy Kasparian, walked through the current tree ordinance for the City of South Pasadena and requested feedback from Commissioners to revise the existing ordinance.

**ACTION****4. Approval of Minutes of July 25, 2023 NREC Meeting****Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Commission review and consider approval of the June 27, 2023, Meeting Minutes.

**COMMISSION ACTION AND MOTION**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Law, seconded by Commissioner Tom and approved by roll call vote to approve the July 25, 2023 NREC Meeting Minutes. The motion carried 5-0-2, by the following vote:**

**AYES:** Siegel, Hammond, Hushagen, Law, Tom.  
**NOES:** None.  
**ABSENT:** Bortz, Jones.  
**ABSTAINED:** None.

**COMMUNICATIONS****5. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS**

Councilmember Cacciotti provided updates from multiple events. On Friday, July 7, Councilmember Cacciotti presented alongside AGZA Founder, Dan Mabe, and other City Staff about the harmful effects of gas-powered lawn equipment on human health.

**6. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS**

Commissioner Hammond had no comments.

Vice Chair Hushagen had no comments.

Commissioner Law discussed his support of the Slow Streets Program at the August 16 City Council Meeting.

Chair Siegel promoted the weekly “bike bus” program where elementary students can bike along specific routes to travel to school. The start time is 7:55am every Tuesday.

## 7. **STAFF LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS**

Ted Gerber, Public Works Director, shared updates on The Slow Streets Project and encouraged residents to participate in the survey sharing their opinions of the program. Ted also reported on the 2 items relating to the City Electrification Project- the Electrification of the City Police Fleet has begun the “outfitting” of the police vehicles and he touched on the emergency backup systems being discussed for the City.

## 8. **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Free Household Hazardous Waste and E-Waste Collection Event – 8/26/23, 900 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra
- LA County Smart Gardening Webinars - Various dates (<https://www.ladpw.org/epd/sg/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 8:54pm to the next Regular Commission meeting scheduled for September 26, 2023.

Respectfully submitted:

DocuSigned by:

*Arpy Kasparian*

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Arpy Kasparian  
Staff Liaison, Environmental Services &  
Sustainability Manager

APPROVED:

DocuSigned by:

*Michael Siegel*

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Michael Siegel  
Chair

*Approved at Commission: September 26, 2023*