



# CITY of BRISBANE

## Open Space and Ecology Committee Meeting Minutes

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Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 6:30 P.M. • Hybrid Meeting 50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA

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### **CALL TO ORDER – 6:31 PM**

#### **ROLL CALL**

- A. Consider any request of a committee member to attend the meeting remotely under the “Emergency Circumstances” of AB 2449

Committee members present: Armstrong, Atapattu, Becker, Ebel, Rogers, Salmon, Walker

Staff members present: Director of Public Works, Breault; Deputy Director of Public Works, Kinser; Management Analyst, Brown; Sustainability Fellow, De La Cruz

#### **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Rogers moved to adopt the agenda and Becker seconded; the motion was adopted unanimously.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Salmon mentioned the upcoming Habitat Restoration Day Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, and the Frog Habitat Restoration Day Saturday May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Spring plant sale at Mission Blue Nursery will also take place on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** – none

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

- B. Minutes of March 26, 2025 - Ebel motioned to approve the minutes and Becker seconded. Salmon abstained; the motion was otherwise adopted unanimously.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- C. Consider process and possible subcommittee for OSEC Baylands DEIR review
- Committee divided responsibility of the remaining chapters for review.
  - Kinser mentioned that, according to a suggestion by City staff, the schedule of dates for comments on the Specific Plan will be June 17<sup>th</sup> and comments for DEIR due July 15<sup>th</sup> /August 19<sup>th</sup> respective of chapters.
  - Committee would like to focus on DEIR, and revisit the Specific Plan as needed in the future, should any comments arise out of the EIR review.
  - De La Cruz to send Committee links to Specific Plan and DEIR; schedules of review dates, and chapter assignments.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- D. Public Tree Inventory and Management Plan – Bob Sage, GIS Manager
- Sage introduced himself to the newer members of the Committee, as well as the scope of the Tree Inventory Hub Site - 5,000 trees with 43 attribute fields- now condensed into an easy to digest webpage format.

- Sage clarified the trees on the inventory are City owned, and show everything except trees in the Acres, and confirmed that trees that need vine removal, or PG&E maintenance are not included in the management plan.
- Sage walked the Committee through the interactive apps, created by the City from PlanetGeo Data, to show areas such as diversity, size, and tree health throughout the City.
- Sage also pointed out potential planting sites and mentioned that he plans to build out a Vine Volunteer Management app to use in future on mobile phones to highlight the trees that require maintenance for vine growth on them.
- Sage also mentioned that maintenance on trees with high priority health issues have already begun, and a three-phase 5-year management plan is in place
- Kinser highlighted that the health management plan is projected to cost \$510,000, and asked for a recommendation from the Committee to bring the scope to Council.
- Kinser mentioned other sources of funding for tree health are around \$100,000 per year and are dedicated to tree trimming, replacement, and maintenance, and a smaller amount to tree planting.
- Breault mentioned that given upcoming budgeting asks and constraints within the Department, input and support from the Committee would be valuable.
- Salmon recommended a community-based tree growing program, Breault agreed an “adopt-a-tree” program would be a good idea.
- The Committee recommended a three-year plan with five-years as a backup position.

#### E. Tree Canopy Goal Recommendation –

- Salmon brought up comments from the March meeting: along with the community “tree garden”, the cutting of the eucalyptus trees required treatment from leftover stumps; tree canopy is an important process in cooling; and fire resiliency is crucial in canopy planning.
- Kinser mentioned it would be a good idea for the subcommittee to meet with the Fire Department to give their recommendations on fire resiliency and tree maintenance.
- Three options for tree canopy recommendations were discussed – the original Goal of 23%, 25% with exceptions, and CalGreen’s 20/50 scenario.
- Kinser noted that, as the CalGreen solution would include undeveloped land, staff advised against this option since grassland areas in the City should remain as-is.
- Committee agrees the CalGreen scenario would give good justification for the 23% goal, which was agreed to be a reasonable and actionable starting recommendation.

- The tree subcommittee will meet to refine ways to meet that goal in concert with fire resiliency planning, and Salmon to meet with City Fire Department in near future.

**STAFF UPDATES** - none

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND REORGANIZATION**

- Education and Outreach (Armstrong, **Rogers**, Walker) – Will meet to discuss education and outreach for the upcoming tree planting and care projects. De La Cruz to follow-up on next library display. Summer Dark Skies event to be revisited at a later date
- Climate Action Planning (Ebel, Walker) – Next subcommittee meeting to be held Wednesday April 30 and will recap for full Committee at next meeting
- Open space plan update (Becker, Rogers, **Salmon**)– Salmon mentioned an update for Open Space Element in the General Plan, and suggested familiarity with Open Space Element in the General Plan for the upcoming meeting
- \*Crocker Trail Frog Habitat (**Rogers**, Salmon) – Rogers mentioned the upcoming Frog Habitat Day, with pictures from the event to be featured in the City’s “Blast” messaging
- Tree Issues (Ebel, Rogers, **Salmon**) – Subcommittee meeting to be scheduled in near future
- Baylands Specific Plan subcommittees – none
- Liaisons – Salmon and Walker have made a workplan, approved by the Liaisons. Kinser will bring it to Council
- PCA Grant – Salmon mentioned the May 2nd deadline to add the 6 properties that now qualify for inclusion. Salmon will investigate whether she can do the application for submission by staff.

**CALENDAR ITEMS** – Events as discussed.

**CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBER MATTERS** – none

**NEXT MEETING:** May 28, 2025

**ADJOURN – 8:21 PM**