



CITY OF BOULDER
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING AGENDA
DATE: Sept 1st, 2021
TIME: 6 pm
PLACE: Online digital meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. The Aug. 11, 2021, Environmental Advisory Board meeting minutes are scheduled for approval.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Update on plastics ban and options for action – Jamie Harkins
- B. Air Quality Update – Laurel Mattrey
- C. Board’s feedback regarding CU South – Brett KenCairn
- D. Carbon Capture Innovation Initiative – Brett KenCairn

5. OLD BUSINESS/UPDATES

6. MATTERS FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD, CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY

7. DEBRIEF MEETING/CALENDAR CHECK

- A. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 6, 2021, from 6-8 p.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT

For more information call (303) 441-3272. Board packets are generally available after 12 pm the Thursday prior to the meeting, online at www.bouldercolorado.gov.

CITY OF BOULDER ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING GUIDELINES

CALL TO ORDER

The board must have a quorum (three members present) before the meeting can be called to order.

AGENDA

The board may rearrange the order of the agenda or delete items for good cause. The board may not add items requiring public notice.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The public is welcome to address the board (three minutes* maximum per speaker) during the Public Participation portion of the meeting regarding any item not scheduled for a public hearing. The only items scheduled for a public hearing are those listed under the category PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS on the agenda. Any exhibits introduced into the record at this time must be provided in quantities of eight to the Board Secretary for distribution to the board and admission into the record.

DISCUSSION AND STUDY SESSION ITEMS

Discussion and study session items do not require motions of approval or recommendation.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

A Public Hearing item requires a motion and a vote. The general format for hearing of an action item is as follows:

1. Presentations

- Staff presentation (15 minutes maximum*) Any exhibits introduced into the record at this time must be provided in quantities of eight to the Board Secretary for distribution to the board and admission into the record.
- Environmental Advisory Board questioning of staff for information only.

2. Public Hearing

Each speaker will be allowed an oral presentation (three minutes maximum*). All speakers wishing to pool their time must be present, and time allotted will be determined by the Chair. Two minutes will be added to the pooled speaker for each such speaker's allotted time up to a maximum of 10 minutes total.

- Time remaining is presented by a green blinking light that means one minute remains, a yellow light means 30 seconds remain, and a red light and beep means time has expired.
- Speakers should introduce themselves, giving name and address. If officially representing a group please state that for the record as well.
- Speakers are requested not to repeat items addressed by previous speakers other than to express points of agreement or disagreement. Refrain from reading long documents, and summarize comments wherever possible. Long documents may be submitted and will become a part of the official record.
- Any exhibits introduced into the record at the hearing must be provided in quantities of eight to the Board Secretary for distribution to the board and admission into the record.
- Interested persons can send a letter to the Community Planning and Sustainability staff at 1739 Broadway, Boulder, CO 80302, two weeks before the Environmental Advisory Board meeting, to be included in the board packet. Correspondence received after this time will be distributed at the board meeting.

3. Board Action

Board motion. Motions may take any number of forms. Motions are generally used to approve (with or without conditions), deny, or continue agenda item to a later date (generally in order to obtain additional information).

- Board discussion. This is undertaken entirely by members of the board. Members of the public or city staff participate only if called upon by the Chair.
- Board action (the vote). An affirmative vote of at least three members of the board is required to pass a motion approving any action.

MATTERS FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORYBOARD, CITY MANAGER, AND CITY ATTORNEY

Any Environmental Advisory Board member, City Manager, or the City Attorney may introduce before the board matters which are not included in the formal agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

The board's goal is that regular meetings adjourn by 8 p.m. Agenda items will not be commenced after 8 p.m. except by majority vote of board members present.

*The Chair may lengthen or shorten the time allotted as appropriate. If the allotted time is exceeded, the Chair may request that the speaker conclude his or her comments.

**CITY OF BOULDER, COLORADO
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
MEETING SUMMARY**

NAME OF BOARD/COMMISSION: Environmental Advisory Board

DATE OF MEETING: August 11, 2021

NAME/TELEPHONE OF PERSON PREPARING SUMMARY: Heidi Joyce,
303-441-3274

NAMES OF MEMBERS, STAFF, AND INVITED GUESTS PRESENT:

Environmental Advisory Board Members Present: Miriam Hacker, Martin Hoerling, Susan Peterson, H. Villanueva

Environmental Advisory Board Members Absent: Michael SanClements

City Staff Members Present: Jonathan Koehn, Brett KenCairn, Heidi Joyce

1. CALL TO ORDER

M. Hoerling declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. **B. KenCairn** reviewed the meeting protocols.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by **M. Hacker**, seconded by **M. Hoerling**, the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB) voted to approve (**M. San Clements** absent) the July 7, 2021, meeting minutes.

B. KenCarin received the email from **M. Hoerling** which included studies related to temperature extremes of 20-25 degrees Fahrenheit in unsheltered areas versus canopied areas.

M. Hoerling said the National Institute of Heat, Health, and Integrated Systems (NIHHIS) offers active engagement, at the community level, to do measurements on tree canopies. Boulder may be interested in reaching out to NIHHIS to learn more about this program.

M. Hoerling will share information at a future board meeting on Boulder's plan to address high temperatures and compound events.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

P. Culnan spoke to the recent release of the UN IPCC report. He suggested that the board let council know how dire the situation is with climate change. He spoke in opposition to the CU South project and asked the board to insist the CU South project be net zero. He further suggested that every project before the city is evaluated for its GHG emissions.

L. Segal said the board needs to be part of the city's integrated land use policy and planning. Building higher, bigger, and faster contributes to the climate crisis.

S. Peterson said EAB should weigh in on the environmental impacts of the CU South project. In this era of accelerated climate change, every decision in the city should question, will this (project/policy) restore the health of the planet. The board may want to discuss asking council to invite EAB's input on land development projects, especially projects with the largest opportunity to address the climate emergency crisis.

M. Hoerling seconded the sentiments. He requested to add and prioritize an item on the September agenda to discuss EAB's participation and input on projects with environmental impacts.

4. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

None.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Access Management and Parking Strategy (AMPS) Implementation Update – Cris Jones and Chris Hagelin

C. Hagelin and **C. Jones** presented the AMPS background, refined strategies and progress on neighborhood parking management and parking pricing, which includes fines.

Questions and Comments from the Board

- Is the current Climate Action Plan being considered in the development of this strategy?
 - Transportation works closely with Climate Initiatives on goals to reduce single occupant vehicle use, reduce VMT and thus reduce GHG emissions. The updated Climate Action Plan could be added to the list of documents that have shaped this work effort.
- How does this project facilitate a zero emissions environment for projects?
 - Transportation works with Planning on Transportation Demand Management plans (TDMPs) for new development projects. The plans are designed to reduce single occupant vehicle travel through parking management, unbundling of parking, and EcoPass neighborhood requirements. Families with access to neighborhood EcoPasses produce 55% percent less emissions than those families without access to an EcoPass.
- Do development projects (Armory) provide EcoPasses to its residents/renters?
 - EcoPasses are often provided/required by developers of multi-family developments to its occupants for the first three years. Then, it is up to the residents, property manager or HOA to continue with the program.
- If every person in Boulder has free bus access, how much would that reduce the GHG emissions footprint in Boulder?
 - It would have a massive impact. The city tried to work with RTD to provide communitywide EcoPasses but was not successful. The city is now working with the Transportation Advisory Board to provide subsidized transit passes.
- There was a suggestion for the city to work with the business/commerce community to provide/finance EcoPasses for its employees.
- Does the city reward homeowners or renters that opt not to have a parking space?

- Shared unbundled, managed, and paid parking is the city's policy. There is a requirement in the TDMP for multifamily residential new developments and unbundled parking is a top consideration/requirement.
- Tax rebates may be an effective way to address parking.
- Would parking privileges be given to all electric cars in the performance-based strategies?
 - Privileges could be considered but currently are not part of the strategy.
- Are impacts being evaluated by the city's Climate Initiatives team?
 - An impact assessment was not included in the scope. Some work has been done on implications of off-street parking facilities. The intent is to reduce driving and to direct parking in off-street facilities (garage), rather than on-street parking.
- The proposed increased fines may not be high enough to discourage parking violations.
- Studying behaviors may help inform decisions on setting incentives and pricing.
- Fines could be set higher to deter bad behaviors but may not always have to be enforced.
- There should be no maximum for parking fines, fines should be discretionary.
- An immediate impact on environment is to have less parking spaces. Is there a strategy to consider less parking spaces?
 - Discussions are occurring on other uses of parking spaces and curbside management in the ROW (Uber, Lift drop off, outdoor dining, bike corrals).
- The city has been awarded a grant for policy development of curbside management. There is an opportunity for EAB to participate on a working group for policy options on how the city manages the curb.
- Is there an opportunity to include anti-idling in the strategies/ordinance changes that will move forward to council?
 - This will be reflected in the notes and will be explored.
- Parking is such a big use of land and is an infrastructure problem bigger than roadways.
- There should not be any free parking in the City of Boulder. Funds raised from on-street parking should go into improving land use.
- The city needs to enforce the cash out programs.
- The board requested that any recommendation/feedback on this topic come before the EAB for agreement before going to council.

B. Air Quality Update – This topic was postponed to a future board meeting.

C. Resilience Analysis – Paul Chinowsky

P. Chinowsky gave a presentation on climate risk and vulnerability due to climate change.

Board Discussion:

- Where in Boulder is there a resiliency risk with roads? Are the roads that will service CU South resilient?
 - The City of Boulder should never have been built from a resiliency

perspective. Boulder Canyon is a significant risk. There are multiple resiliency problems with CU South – the area is highly prone to flooding.

- The city will soon begin to analyze areas of significant vulnerabilities. A formal process will be developed that will integrate city operations.
- In addition to carbon capture, water and runoff capture should be a consideration of resilience.
- EAB appreciates the work underway and particularly the tool that was presented by **P. Chinowsky**.
- The city needs to know its tail risks because that is where impacts emerge.
- A next step is to intersect vulnerabilities and map highest areas of risks and actions that need to be taken.
- A meeting will be scheduled later this year for an EAB discussion on next major milestones.

M. Hacker left the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

D. Board's Feedback Regarding CU South

Board Discussion:

- **B. KenCairn** will re-share CU South information with the EAB.
- EAB needs to represent the Rights of Nature, carbon sequestration, endangered species and floodplain impacts in CU South area. Disappointed that Council did not ask for input from EAB on the CU South project.
- Desire from the board to request that City Council request input from the EAB before moving forward with any decisions on the CU South project.
- EAB will draft a statement on the CU South project and will discuss this topic at the September board meeting.

E. Carbon Capture Innovation Initiative – This topic was postponed to a future board meeting.

6. OLD BUSINESS/UPDATES

7. MATTERS FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD, CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY DEBRIEF MEETING/CALENDAR CHECK

8. DEBRIEF MEETING/CALENDAR CHECK

- The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 1, 2021 from 6-8 p.m.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Environmental Advisory Board adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Approved:

Chair

Date

DRAFT Position Statement from the City of Boulder Environmental Advisory Board on the topic of the CU South Development

The proposed development of the CU-South site will have major environmental impacts. Among these are land use changes that will reduce the site's carbon capture capability, changes in surface water flow that could potentially increase flood risks, and significant increases in greenhouse gas emissions associated with the overall project and its aftermath.

The IPCC Sixth Assessment Report, just released, describes the dire status of environmental conditions, and provides a strong call for action in order to avoid the worst consequences of climate change. Among its recommendations, with which the Boulder Environmental Advisory Board (EAB) concurs, is the rapid adoption of societal development pathways toward achieving net-zero emissions.

The position of the EAB is that the development of the CU-South site be conducted with a goal toward net-zero emissions and net-zero environmental impact. This statement reflects the EAB's view of the present and worsening climate crisis that requires a commensurate action and response. It also highlights an opportunity for the City of Boulder and CU-Boulder to accelerate goals outlined in the Boulder Climate Action Plan. The EAB sees this as a key moment for both entities to take a highly visible leadership role toward sustainable and environmentally responsible development.