



CLIMATE & RESILIENCY COMMISSION MEETING

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

Wednesday, November 12th, 5:30 PM
City Hall Council Chambers
635 S. Highway 101, Solana Beach, California

Minutes contain a summary of the discussion and actions taken by the Climate & Resiliency Commission during a meeting. Climate & Resiliency meetings are audio recorded. The audio recordings capture the complete proceedings of the meeting and are available for review.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Sharman called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

Present: Chairperson Sharman, Vice Chairperson Michelle Buchanan, Commissioners Mika Nagamine, Cindi Gilliland, Heidi Dewar, Ken Flagg

Junior Commissioners Cole Leshner, Beckett Caine, Lila Gilbert, Oona Norwell, and Madeleine Boles

Commissioners Byars and Rock join at 5:31 PM

Absent: Councilmember Zito

Also Present: Nicole Grucky, Sustainability Program Manager; Diana Jamaleddine, Sustainability Management Assistant

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: Moved by Gililand. Seconded by Buchanan. Approved 8/0/1 (Absent: Zito)
Motion Carried.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- September 17, 2025

Motion: Moved by Flagg. Seconded by Dewar. Approved 8/0/1 (Absent: Zito)
Motion Carried.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

5. CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE DEFAULT PRODUCT PRESENTATION – Clean Energy Alliance Staff

Clean Energy Alliance (CEA) Staff presented about the opt-up policy process to the change the default power supply for Solana Beach residents to 100% renewable through a 20-month process.

Commissioner Flagg had a question regarding the current opt-up process for individual customers.

Commissioner Dewar asked about the cost difference on average per month. CEA Staff responded that the cost is small but depends on individual usage. Commissioner Dewar asked about different CEA incentive programs, including the Solar Plus and Battery Bonus Programs.

Commissioner Gililand inquired about existing data on the 8% of Solana Beach residents who have opted out. CEA Staff responded that this generally is a result of mistrust towards government, discomfort with the automatic enrollment, amongst others.

Commissioner Nagamine asked if there are existing multifamily incentive programs. CEA Staff stated that they are currently working on apartment incentives under the Solar Plus program family.

Vice Chairperson Buchanan asked about program funding and the likelihood of getting off the waitlist for a program.

Commissioner Rock mentioned the impact of IRA tax credits.

Chairperson Sharman requested data on the estimate reduction of greenhouse gases as well as the estimate increase in cost. CEA Staff responded that they have estimates but will need further analysis for individual cities due to load differences.

Ms. Grucky asked if someone who opts out completely would be able to opt back in. CEA Staff explained that residential customers that opt out to SDG&E must pay a fee or give a 6-month notice and then stay with SDG&E for at least 12 months.

Commissioner Rock had a question about the difference between nonrenewable clean energy and renewable. CEA Staff explained that this is largely hydroelectricity.

6. CLIMATE ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION PRESENTATION – City Staff

Ms. Grucky provided an update on CAP status with recent staff efforts.

Vice Chairperson Buchanan asked whether the microtransit RFP is for electric vehicles only. Ms. Grucky responded that the RFP is EV preferred, but undefined.

Commissioner Rock asked for clarification on the EV charging infrastructure progress with SDG&E.

7. HEAT PUMP WATER HEATER INCENTIVE PROGRAM PRESENTATION – City Staff

Ms. Grucky provided an overview of the Heat Pump Water Heater Incentive Program.

Commissioner Nagamine requested for the City to begin marketing the program as soon as possible.

Public comment asked when the program would be implemented and administered. Ms. Grucky responded that it is planned to be launched in January, and that two applications will be offered after a heat pump water heater permit is obtained.

Community member stated concern about how people generally replace their water heater in an emergency. Ms. Grucky responded that this program would not be for emergency situations but for residents planning ahead.

8. COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS OPTIONS AND FUNDING – Commissioners Byars & Rock

Commissioner Byars proposed to fund a cost benefit analysis for the Climate Action Plan to rank and prioritize actions.

Commissioner Flagg asked about potential to adapt from the Encinitas cost benefit analysis coming out soon. Commissioner Byars responded that this could be an option.

Commissioner Dewar asked about what the final product would look like.

Commissioner Gililand asked whether the final output of the project would be adaptable over time (static report or a live document). Byars responded that a live document would be ideal, but an analysis by consultant EPIC would create a static report. Commissioner Gililand expressed concern about the Berkeley student group consulting option, and their quality of work.

Commissioner Nagamine expressed concern regarding the one-year timeline for this project, considering that the CAP refresh will begin in 2027.

Commissioner Dewar stated that she would be open to approving RFP process, rather than recommending funding.

Commissioners discussed the investment of a cost benefit in relation to the total CAP budget, the CAP timeline, and the length of time a cost benefit analysis would take.

Motion by Commissioner Byars to direct staff to initiate RFP process. Commissioner Rock seconds the motion.

Motion: Moved by Byars. Seconded by Rock. Approved 7/1/1 (No: Flagg; Absent: Zito)
Motion Carried.

9. VISION STATEMENT PRESENTATION – Commissioners Byars & Rock

Commissioner Rock presented marketing campaign idea for the Climate Action Plan titled 'Our Solana Future'.

Commissioner Dewar expressed support for this idea and would like to see the addition of resilient habitats.

Commissioner Gililand requested the addition of a recommendation section to let the

audience know what they can do individually.

Vice Chairperson Buchanan asked if City staff or Commissioners would develop this project. Commissioner Rock clarifies that the Subcommittee would take the lead in developing this project.

Junior Commissioner Leshner recommended hyperlinking CAP sections into the final vision statement product. Junior Commissioner Gilbert commented that could be helpful to add a section to define terminology in the original CAP.

10. DEEP DECARBONIZATION PRESENTATION – Commissioner Sharman

Chairperson Sharman presented about renewable energy in California and the potential for geothermal energy.

Commissioner Flagg expressed support for local energy and mentioned futures markets for electricity.

Commissioner Gililand and Vice Chairperson Buchanan discussed how to encourage homeowners and building owners to install renewable energy.

Commissioner Dewar asked a question about the investment and return, which led to a discussion.

11. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT OUT

- a) Pollinator Friendly City – Commissioner Dewar provided update on the City Hall native pollinator garden progress.
- b) Localized Energy – No update.
- c) Community Outreach – No update.
- d) Building Performance Standards – No update.
- e) Microtransit – No update.
- f) Organizational and Prioritization – Commissioner Byars provided update on the progress from the two presentations today.

12. JUNIOR COMMISSIONER UPDATES

Junior Commissioner Leshner provided update on work with the Eco Rotary Club SMRT garden. Junior Commissioner Leshner explained how this is a self-sustaining storm water garden and believes that similar features should be implemented in the City.

13. NEW/PROPOSED BUSINESS: New or proposed business provides an opportunity for Commissioners to discuss items not on the agenda but that may be added to the CAC agenda/workload at a future date. Pursuant to the Brown Act, there will be no action taken on these items.

Ms. Grucky updated the date of the next meeting to January, and the cancellation of the December meeting.

Chairperson Sharman shared resignation from the Commission for the following year.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting is adjourned at 7:29 PM



Approved: 1/21/2026

Diana Jamaleddine, Sustainability Management Assistant