CLIMATE & RESILIENCY COMMISSION MEETING

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

Wednesday, September 16th, 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 Buchanan called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM.

Present: Chairperson Michelle Buchanan, Vice Chairperson Cindi Gilliand, Councilmember David Zito, and Commissioners Matthew Cleary, Ken Flagg, and Mika Nagamine

Junior Commissioners Madeline Boles, Beckett Caine, Lyra Graziano and Tess Franklin

Absent: Commissioner Jenny Byars, Heidi Dewar, and Heather Rock, Junior Commissioner Lila Gilbert

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

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA *(action)*

Motion: Moved by Gililand. Seconded by Cleary. Approved 6/0/3 (Absent: Byars, Dewar, Rock)
Motion Carried.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES *(action)*

- July 22, 2026

Motion: Moved by Cleary. Seconded by Zito. Approved 6/0/3 (Absent: Byars, Dewar, Rock)
Motion Carried.

4. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

5. CLIMATE ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION PRESENTATION *(informational)* – City Staff

Ms. Grucky presented an update on Climate Action Plan Implementation.

The Commission had no questions or comments.

6. **SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAN ORDINANCE UPDATE PRESENTATION** *(informational)* – City Staff

Ms. Grucky presented an overview of the proposed plastic ban ordinance, which will be taken to Council on September 30th.

Councilmember Zito commented on adding aluminum as an item to the single-use plastics survey sent to restaurants. Ms. Grucky explained that the ordinance allows aluminum as an acceptable item, so it wasn't called out in the survey.

Commissioner Gililand inquired about the cost of compostable materials vs. single-use items. Ms. Grucky responded that items are often more expensive.

Commissioner Flagg asked what bioplastic is. Ms. Grucky described that bioplastic is a type of plastic made with degradable materials such as cornstarch that are said to be compostable in certain recycling facilities. However, bioplastic items are not compostable with EDCO's facilities. Commissioner Cleary agreed with this definition and clarification.

7. **SURFRIDER OCEAN FRIENDLY RESTAURANTS PROGRAM** *(informational)* – Vicki Conlon, Surfrider

Ms. Conlon from the Surfrider Foundation presented on the Ocean Friendly Restaurant program (OFR), highlighting the requirements for participating restaurants, volunteer opportunities, and outreach guidelines.

Commissioner Nagamine asked about Surfrider's outreach to farmers markets. Ms. Jones from Surfrider responded that they have collaborated with Vista's farmers market in the past to be completely plastic free. She offered to connect Ms. Grucky with the farmers market manager to present at a future meeting.

Vice Chairperson Gililand asked about how many existing OFR participants are in Solana Beach. Ms. Conlon responded that Naked Café has participated, but needs to renew their certification, and that Lofty Coffee used to participate over 5 years ago.

Ms. Conlon and Jones exemplified the Del Mar Village Association, who is currently conducting outreach with restaurants to implement the program and single-use plastic regulations.

Commissioner Cleary stated that he would like to participate in the audit program. Commissioner Cleary commented that EDCO benefits from restaurants not using single-use plastics as well, since these items often contaminate the organic recycling bins.

8. **SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES** *(informational)*

a) Pollinator Friendly City & Urban Forestry – Junior Commissioner Graziano provided an update on moving forward with the idea of starting an urban forestry and tree planting club at her and Commissioner Franklin's school. Junior Commissioner Franklin provided an update on a new survey the subcommittee has developed for residents in Solana Beach to obtain more information about pollinator and native plants on private property in the City. The subcommittee requested to include this survey on the Weekly Update, Nextdoor, and Facebook. Ms. Jamaleddine responded that the City can distribute the survey at upcoming events, including the Clean Air Fair on October 3rd and the Fire Department Open House on October 31st. Commissioner Gililand explained that the Community Outreach subcommittee is developing a community organization contact list, and would be happy to share it.
b) Resiliency – No present members.
c) Decarbonization – Commissioner Nagamine provided an update on outreach efforts to the HOA presidents about electrification. Chairperson Buchannan explained that the response rate was low, but responses indicated that HOA contacts would be willing to share HPWH rebate information within their HOAs.
d) Community Outreach – Commissioner Gililand provided update on the development of a community organization contact list and asked for any feedback from staff.

9. JUNIOR COMMISSIONER UPDATES *(informational)*

No updates.

10. 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 CRC agenda at a future date. Pursuant to the Brown Act, there will be no action taken on these items.

Commissioner Cleary provided an update that there have been 3 load fires in the City due to batteries. Commissioner Cleary asked the group to use their individual influence to let others in the community know that batteries should not go in trash, compost, or recycling.

Ms. Grucky provided an update on all upcoming City events:
- Saturday, September 19 at 9am: Coastal Cleanup Day.
- Saturday, October 3 at 9am: EDCO Fall Sustainable Recycling Day at La Colonia.
- Saturday, October 3 at 11am: California Clean Air Day event at the Solana Beach Library.
- Saturday, November 14: World Kindness Day at Fletcher Cove. This event will feature a Clothing Swap and Fixit Clinic.

Commissioner Flagg asked where to properly dispose of old batteries. Ms. Grucky responded that there is a battery disposal receptacle in City Hall, they can also be picked up for $10 or dropped off at a HHW facility.

Councilmember Zito explained that the HHW pickup is for all hazardous waste, not just batteries.

Chairperson Buchanan provided an update that SB 868, a bill that would allow residents to plug in portable solar devices into their standard wall outlet, is currently awaiting action from Governor Newsom. Ms. Grucky elaborated that all bills that have passed legislation,

have until September 30th to be signed into law or vetoed by the Governor.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting is adjourned at 6:32 PM

Diana Jamaleddine

Approved: 11/4/2026

Diana Jamaleddine, Sustainability Management Assistant