



**Item 1**

**JOINT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
February 26, 2020**

**The Joint Sustainability Committee convened in a regular meeting on February 26, 2020 at City Hall in Austin, Texas.**

**Chair Kaiba White called the Board Meeting to order at 6:30 pm.**

**Board Members in Attendance:**

Kaiba White Chair, David Carroll, Fisayo Fadelu, Melissa Rothrock, Rob Schneider, Kelly Davis, Wendy Gordon

**Board Members Absent:**

Katie Coyne Vice-Chair, Nhat Ho, Karen Magid, Karen Hadden, Holt Lackey, Alberta Phillips

**City Staff in Attendance:**

Phoebe Romero, Cavan Merski

CALL TO ORDER

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**CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

The speakers signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

- None

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the January 22, 2020 Joint Sustainability Committee meeting were approved. Motion to approve (Commissioner White), Second (Commissioner Carroll)- 7 approved, 0 opposed.

## 2. NEW BUSINESS

- a) FY2021 Budget Process Update – Michael Benbow, Financial Services (Discussion and/or possible action) – 30 minutes
  - May 8<sup>th</sup> is the key date for departments to submit their budgets to the Budget Office, so any requests for departments should be made prior.
  - Focus is on equity of Fire and EMS services, homelessness, Strategic Direction '23 operational efficiency improvements and budget sustainability.
  - Deficits are driven by healthcare costs; low unemployment in Austin makes retention difficult.
  
- b) Cap Metro Project Connect Update – Rob Borowski, Chief Sustainability Officer (Discussion and/or possible action) – 30 minutes
  - Overview of CapMetro Project Connect proposed routes and estimated cost.
  - CapMetro plans a major purchase of electric buses in 2022 when a large portion of the current fleet will be retired.
  - Questions surrounding density corridors, fare structure and future park and ride buildouts were discussed.
  
- c) Austin Energy Resource Plan Update – (Discussion and/or possible action) – 30 minutes
  - Commissioner White provided updates on Resource Planning Working Group.
  - Issues with additionality or customer tiers can be raised in the rate case process next year.
  - Local solar can track with peak demand since it is sited with actual AE customers.
  
- d) High Tech Funding for Affordable Housing in Austin – (Discussion and/or possible action) – 30 minutes
  - Item was moved to be addressed at a future meeting.
  
- e) Commission members report back on any relevant discussions from their respective boards and commissions – (Discussion)
  - No updates were shared during this meeting.

## 5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Housing petition
- CapMetro financials
- Ongoing updates from Office of Sustainability on the Community Climate Plan revision

- Equity analysis of Atlas 14
- Green Infrastructure Plan
- Adaptation overview from US Forest Service workshop

Motion to adjourn (Commissioner Schneider)

**Meeting adjourns at 7:58 pm.**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 2 days (48 hours) before the meeting date. Please call Zach Baumer with the Office of Sustainability at 512-974-2836, for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.

For more information on the Joint Sustainability Committee, please contact Zach Baumer at ([zach.baumer@austintexas.gov](mailto:zach.baumer@austintexas.gov) or 512-974-2836).