

ECOS Transportation, Air Quality & Climate Change Committee Thursday, February 4, 2021, 5:45 p.m. Videoconference, hosted by Zoom

Link to join the TAQCC Zoom Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85805612058>

To phone in: 669 900 6833, Meeting ID: 858 0561 2058

Meeting Notes

5:45 p.m. – Social time -- meet and greet

Attendance: Sue Teranishi, Susan Herre (ECOS), Angela Elizabeth, Catherine Foster, Sandra Hall, Bill Magavern (CCA), Ruth MacDonald, Logan Louis Levy, Karen Jacques, Muriel Strand, Nancy Hughet, May Lin Chang, Alex Reagan (ECOS staff), Ralph Propper (ECOS Pres.), John Deeter (co-chair).

Guest: Debra Banks (SABA)

6:00 p.m. – Welcome, Introductions, Check-Ins, and Changes to Agenda

6:05 p.m. – Sacramento Slow and Active Streets

• Debra Banks, Executive Director, Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates

Banks: "Slow streets" program was recommended by the Mayors' Climate Commision; the program reduces traffic congestion and greenhouse gas emissions. The City of Sacramento is implementing a pitot program, called "Slow and active streets," scheduled to begin Feb. 14 in Midtown. It involves closing streets to through traffic, and allowing access to local vehicles using cones and barriers. The City in the interest of environmental justice, would like to extend the program to disadvantaged communities, and is looking at several locations in the Oak Park area. Other areas, such as East Sac, and Tahoe Park have expressed interest.

The pilot program was intended to last just six months, but time is running out with implementation only just beginning. Advocates should push the City to continue the program, and should show support by using the designated streets as much as possible.

Discussion: The Farm-to-Fork Al Fresco effort, which has moved dining onto sidewalks and into on-street parking areas in Downtown and Midtown Sacramento in response to the Covid epidemic, is another example of reclaiming streets for non-vehicular activities.

The long term goal of "slow streets" is a grid of bike routes covering the City, aiming to put essential destinations within 15 minutes by biking or walking.

7:05 p.m. – Other current issues

Climate Action Plans (Susan Herre)

Herre: Sacramento County circulated an Administrative Draft of its Climate Action Plan (CAP) for comment among a number of stakeholder groups, and is now preparing a version for public comment.

• Climate Emergency Declarations (Chris Brown)

- Implementation of the Mayors' Climate Commission Recommendations
- CapCity freeway bridge over American River

Deeter: Caltrans wants to go forward with widening the CapCity bridge over the American River with a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) in advance of expansion of the freeway between Downtown and Arden Way which will require a full EIR. ECOS submitted a comment letter to Caltrans opposing the MND, and Save the American River Association also raised habit issues not adequately addressed in the MND. ECOS recently met with Caltrans in advance of their written reply, and it's uncertain what Caltrans will do. Litigation on this issue is possible.

7:35 p.m. — Other business and announcements / Topics for future meetings **TAQCC membership. Deeter:** ECOS Organization Committee has recommended that the standing committees (including TAQCC) establish criteria for membership. In particular, there are a number of ECOS Board members who have expressed interest in TAQCC as well as others who have regularly attended TAQCC meetings. A meeting involving these people is being planned, tentatively scheduled for Thurs., Feb. 18. One possible criterion for membership is involvement in activities supporting ECOS and TAQCC outside regular meetings.

Discussion: People expressed interest in many issues: climate change, transit, environmental equity, etc. ECOS membership should be required for committee membership.

7:45 p.m. (approx.) – Adjourn

Next TAQCC meeting: Thurs., March 4, 5:45 p.m., videoconference

Other upcoming events of interest:

Feb. 13, 1 pm -- Sac Transit Riders Union (videoconference)

Printable TAQCC agendas and minutes are available on the ECOS Web site.

Angela link city transportation projects

https://sacramento.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=21&event_id=3839&meta_id=605620