



**ECOS Transportation, Air Quality & Climate Change Committee  
Thursday, June 6, 2019, 6:00 p.m.  
Mogavero Architects, 1331 T Street, Sacramento  
Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:**

1. Alexandra Reagan, ECOS
2. Ralph Propper, ECOS
3. Kim Alexander, Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association
4. Dan Allison, Sac Transit Advocates and Riders (STAR)
5. J.J. Hurley, Sac Metro Air District
6. Lynne Goldsmith, ECOS/350 Sacramento
7. James Cathcart, ECOS
8. Karen Jacques, STAR/350 Sacramento
9. Jeff Tardaguila, DOGFITE
10. Delphine Cathcart
11. Muriel Strand
12. Justin Tweet, 350 Sacramento
13. Kathleen Ave, SMUD
14. Oscar Balaguer, 350 Sacramento
15. Mike Garabedian, Placer Group Sierra Club, Friends of North Fork Amer. River
16. Pat Ferris, Indivisible
17. Bruce Burdick, 350 Sacramento
18. Laith Younis, Resident
19. May Lin Chang, 350 Sacramento
20. Melissa Wood, SHCNC
21. Susan Herre, ECOS
22. Dyane Osorio, Sierra Club Mother Lode Chapter
23. Chris Brown, Sacramento Climate Coalition

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

6:05 p.m. – Current and previous attempts to ban gas-powered leaf blowers  
Kim Alexander (Curtis Park Neighborhood Assn.)

- Tanner Kelly was not able to make it to tonight's meeting; Kim Alexander

- There are currently many regulations regarding on leaf blowers in Sacramento but a lot of people don't know about them. One of them is the hours that leaf blowers are allowed, and that is from 9am to 6pm. People can call 311 to get through to code enforcement.
- One reason not to advocate for a ban is that bans are difficult to enforce in cities that have them.
- Expectations about lawn care can and should be challenged, especially a traditional lawn.
- Kim will share her talking points with Alex Reagan electronically.

6:15 p.m. – Environmental impacts of gas-powered garden equipment.

JJ Hurley (Sacramento Metro Air Quality Management District)

- JJ shared an assessment from SMAQD and an assessment from CA Air Resources Board (CARB) regarding Leaf Blower impacts. He will share the document with us electronically.
- Over 20 cities in CA currently have some form of a ban.
- The City and the Air Resources Board would be responsible for leaf blower regulations, not SMAQMD.

6:30 p.m. – Climate Action Plans developed by Sacramento Co. and Cities

Oscar Balaguer (350 Sacramento) & Ralph Propper (ECOS President)

- In 2011, Sacramento County, pursuant to CEQA, promised eleven specific measures in mitigation for GHG emissions associated with adoption of their 2030 general plan, including adopting a Climate Action Plan (CAP) and GHG reduction targets for new development. None of the mitigation measures have been implemented eight years later.
- Sacramento County is using Ascent Environmental as their consultant. The consultant is not responsible for the plan; the County is. Ascent Environmental does some environmentally damaging work in Placer County.
- Sacramento's failure to implement its adopted, CEQA-mandated measures is very similar to San Diego County's situation. San Diego's Climate Action Plan was stalled as they were sued by the Sierra Club in 2012 for not complying with their EIR's mitigation measures. The County tried for years to circumvent their CEQA responsibilities and the case went to the fourth court of appeals twice. In September 2018 the appeals court definitively ruled in favor of the Sierra Club. Because San Diego County was inventive and persistent in attempting to evade its CEQA responsibilities, the court's findings against the County provide a wealth of precedent that ECOS can use in future CAP cases, e.g., Sacramento County's,
- Oscar recommends that we ask Sac County to include the CAP and a GHG inventory for base-year 2018 in the proposed FY 2019-20 i budget. now in public review
- He also suggests we meet with staff and see how they feel. Nothing is going on with the CAP now. They have recently lost staff but they still need to move on this.
- Then we need to get together and strategize.

7:20 p.m. – Efforts by SMUD and the Capital Region Climate Readiness Collaborative to advance climate mitigation and adaptation efforts in the Sacramento region.

Kathleen Ave (SMUD)

- Talked about the work of the Capitol Region Climate Readiness Collaborative and the [International Living Building Institute](#)'s work to encourage regenerative building. This means

locally sourced wood that contains no toxins. This certification is far more meaningful than the formerly acclaimed LEED certification.

7:35 p.m. – Updates, reports and discussion of other current topics

- Metropolitan Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS)  
See MTP/SCS Update EIR Scoping Comments from ECOS [here](#).
- [Mayors' Climate Commission](#)
- SacMoves Coalition to support a transportation tax for Sacramento County – see Ralph
- Sacramento Regional Rail Working Group – new trains coming to Sacramento

7:40 p.m. – Other business and announcements / Topics for future meetings

7:45 p.m. (approx.) – Adjourn

Next TAQCC meeting: Thurs., July 11, 6:00 p.m., Mogavero Architects, 1331 T St.

Other upcoming events of interest:

June 8, 1 pm -- Sacramento Transit Riders Union (Sac TRU), 1714 Broadway  
Printable TAQCC agendas and minutes are available on the ECOS Web site.