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CITY SECRETARY
DALLAS, TEXAS



City of Dallas

Public Notice

230546

POSTED CITY SECRETARY
DALLAS, TX

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

June 14, 2023 at 5:30 PM

Dallas City Hall, 6ES Council Briefing Room and Videoconference (Webex)

Videoconference Link: <https://bit.ly/EVCJUN>

Telephone: +1-469-210-7159 United States Toll (Dallas)

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll

Access code: 2485 251 7858

The City of Dallas will make Reasonable Accommodations/Modifications to programs and/or other related activities to ensure any and all residents have access to services and resources to ensure an equitable and inclusive meeting. Anyone requiring auxiliary aid, service, and/or translation to fully participate in the meeting should notify the Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability by calling (214) 671-8522 three (3) business days prior to the scheduled meeting. A video stream of the meeting will be available twenty-four (24) hours after adjournment by visiting <https://dallastx.new.swagit.com/views/113>.

Individuals and interested parties wishing to speak must register with the Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability by [filling out this form](#) or calling (214) 671-8522, at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting date and time.

La Ciudad de Dallas llevará a cabo "Adaptaciones Razonables" a los programas y/o otras actividades relacionadas para garantizar que todos y cada uno de los residentes tengan acceso a los servicios y recursos para garantizar una reunión equitativa e inclusiva. Cualquier persona que necesite ayuda auxiliar, servicio y/o traducción para participar de forma plena en la reunión, debe notificar a la Oficina de Calidad Ambiental y Sustentabilidad llamando al (214) 671-8522 o TTY (800) 735-2989, cuarenta y ocho (48) horas antes de la reunión programada. Una transmisión de video de la reunión estará disponible dos días hábiles luego del levantamiento de la reunión visitando <https://dallastx.new.swagit.com/views/113>.

Las personas y las partes interesadas que deseen hacer uso de la palabra deben registrarse con la Oficina de Calidad Ambiental y Sustentabilidad [aquí](#) o llamando al (214) 671-8522, veinticuatro (24) horas antes de la fecha y horario de la reunión.

Kathryn Bazan, Chair, District 9

Philip Hiatt Haigh, District 1
Mark Wootton, District 2
Candace Thompson, District 4
Tracy Wallace, District 5
Esther Villarreal, Vice Chair, District 6
Temeckia Derrouh, District 7
Renee Roberson, District 8

Andrew Siegel, District 10
Colleen Murray, District 11
Barry Lachman, District 12
Charlie Dankert, District 13
Paula Day, District 14
Julie Hiromoto, District 15

AGENDA

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Announcements**
- III. **Public Speakers**
- IV. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. May 10, 2023
- V. **Briefing Item**
 - a. **Solar Switch Dallas – Solar United Neighbors Partnership**
[Pharr Andrews, Senior Climate Coordinator, Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability; Hanna Mitchell, Solar United Neighbors; America Garcia, Solar United Neighbors; Fred Wu, iChoosr]
Attachment: Presentation
- VI. **Briefing Memorandums**
 - a. **2023 Equity Indicators Report Update and Environmental Justice Indicators**
[M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager]
Attachment: Memo
 - b. **88th Legislature – Legislation Relating to Environment & Sustainability**
[Lillian Mauldin, Senior Government Affairs Coordinator, Office of Government Affairs]
Attachment: Memo
 - c. **Update on Hensley Field Redevelopment and Remediation**
(as presented to the ENVIS Committee on June 6, 2023)
[Carl Simpson, Assistant City Manager]
Attachment: Memo
- VII. **Discussion Items**
 - a. **Environmental Health Committee Recommendations on Batch Plant Buffer Zones**
Attachment: Memo
 - b. **Floral Farms Community Concern**
 - c. **Appointment of Members to Subcommittees**

d. Monthly Subcommittee Updates

- i. Environmental Health
- ii. Environmental Justice
- iii. Implementation
- iv. Outreach & Engagement
- v. Strategic Partnerships & Innovation

e. Monthly District Updates from Commissioners

f. Upcoming Meetings

- i. Environment & Sustainability Council Committee
Monday, August 7, 2023, 9:00AM – 11:00AM
- ii. Environmental Commission
Wednesday, August 9, 2023, 5:30PM – 7:30PM

VIII. Adjournment

Handgun Prohibition Notice for Meetings of Governmental Entities

"Pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code (trespass by license holder with a concealed handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (handgun licensing law), may not enter this property with a concealed handgun."

"De acuerdo con la sección 30.06 del código penal (ingreso sin autorización de un titular de una licencia con una pistola oculta), una persona con licencia según el subcapítulo h, capítulo 411, código del gobierno (ley sobre licencias para portar pistolas), no puede ingresar a esta propiedad con una pistola oculta."

"Pursuant to Section 30.07, Penal Code (trespass by license holder with an openly carried handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (handgun licensing law), may not enter this property with a handgun that is carried openly."

"De acuerdo con la sección 30.07 del código penal (ingreso sin autorización de un titular de una licencia con una pistola a la vista), una persona con licencia según el subcapítulo h, capítulo 411, código del gobierno (ley sobre licencias para portar pistolas), no puede ingresar a esta propiedad con una pistola a la vista."

"Pursuant to Section 46.03, Penal Code (places weapons prohibited), a person may not carry a firearm or other weapon into any open meeting on this property."

"De conformidad con la Sección 46.03, Código Penal (coloca armas prohibidas), una persona no puede llevar un arma de fuego u otra arma a ninguna reunión abierta en esta propiedad."

EXECUTIVE SESSION NOTICE

A closed executive session may be held if the discussion of any of the above agenda items concerns one of the following:

1. seeking the advice of its attorney about pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers, or any matter in which the duty of the attorney to the City Council under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Act. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.071]
2. deliberating the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the city in negotiations with a third person. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.072]
3. deliberating a negotiated contract for a prospective gift or donation to the city if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the city in negotiations with a third person. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.073]
4. deliberating the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee unless the officer or employee who is the subject of the deliberation or hearing requests a public hearing. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.074]
5. deliberating the deployment, or specific occasions for implementation, of security personnel or devices. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.076]
6. discussing or deliberating commercial or financial information that the city has received from a business prospect that the city seeks to have locate, stay or expand in or near the city and with which the city is conducting economic development negotiations; or deliberating the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect. [Tex Govt. Code §551.087]
7. deliberating security assessments or deployments relating to information resources technology, network security information, or the deployment or specific occasions for implementations of security personnel, critical infrastructure, or security devices. [Tex Govt. Code §551.089]



Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

May 10, 2023

AGENDA

LOCATION: City Hall 6ES & Webex

CHAIR KATHRYN BAZAN PRESIDING

PRESENT: [12]

* ** Mark Wootton, District 2	Andrew Siegel, District 10
Candace Thompson, District 4	Colleen Murray, District 11
Esther Villarreal, District 6	Barry Lachman, District 12
* Temeckia Derrough, District 7	Charlie Dankert, District 13
Renee Roberson, District 8	Paula Day, District 14
Kathryn Bazan, District 9	Julie Hiromoto, District 15

ABSENT: [2]

Philip Hiatt Haigh, District 1
Tracy Wallace, District 5

**Note: Members of the Environmental Commission participated in this meeting by video conference.*

***Note: Indicates arrival time after meeting called to order/reconvened*

The meeting was called to order at 5:35PM with a quorum of the Environmental Commission present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Bazan provided opening announcements.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

There were no public speakers registered for this meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

May 10, 2023

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chair Villarreal moved to adopt the April 12, 2023 Environmental Commission meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thompson and unanimously adopted.

BRIEFING ITEMS

I) Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability Stormwater Team Overview

[Kevin Hurley, Superintendent, Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability]

Attachment: Presentation (see agenda)

a) The speaker briefed the Commission on an overview of the City's Stormwater team, as well as their coordination with other City groups and external agencies.

b) Questions/Comments

i) Alan Hoffmann

(1) Do you have statistical data indicating we have a greater frequency of storms and how that impacts water treatment plants?

(a) Will defer to Dallas Water Utilities – we can check with them and get back on that.

ii) Commissioner Lachman

(1) Is 311 available in Spanish?

(a) Yes.

(2) Do you deal with landlords in multifamily housing?

(a) Yes.

(3) This may be an area for which to consider making reports anonymous (there are circumstances where people have been illegally evicted because they've made 311 complaints).

iii) Commissioner Hiromoto

(1) Regarding risks associated with increased frequency of flooding and given historical and predicted rainfall due to climate change, is there a target ratio of forest vs. impervious surface to mitigate this?

(a) This is driving the CECAP goal of increasing green space.

(b) The U.S. Geologic Survey, FEMA, and the Army Corp of Engineers are analyzing frequency and magnitude of storm events.

(2) Do we have an existing benchmark of pervious vs. impervious surfaces and a specific goal of what we want that to shift to?

(a) Yes. We use infrared broadband coverage to update and measure this. This is how we bill for stormwater fees.

iv) Vice Chair Villarreal

(1) Another question for DWU: Best trash capture mechanism for lakes?

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

May 10, 2023

- (a) Trash collection device at Bachman has been challenging over the years. PKR and DWU may be involved and can answer further questions.
- (2) Do you provide manpower or just materials for stream cleanups?
 - (a) We provide training, materials, and are available to support neighborhood events.
- (3) David Marquis
 - (a) The Army Corp of Engineers build infrastructure for storm levels predicted 50-100 years out. We've exceeded that 20 times in the past 10 years.
- (4) Commissioner Thompson
 - (a) Stream Team assists communities in cleaning creeks in Dallas parks?
 - (i) Yes.
 - (b) What does this look like?
 - (i) Saturday morning basic training. There are several types of kits. Reach out to kevin.hurley@dallas.gov if you want to coordinate.
 - (c) Who handles litter that gets into streams?
 - (i) We may come out of a stream team event with several service requests needed.
 - (ii) Regarding construction sites and industrial facilities, there are air complaints/issues, but there is also a stormwater factor. This is where Kevin's team comes in.
- (5) Commissioner Murray
 - (a) Are these inspections surprise visits or scheduled?
 - (i) Construction site inspections aren't scheduled. We have a timeframe, but they won't know the exact time. We have to go to every large site (over 5 acres) every 13 days.
 - (ii) On the industrial side, it is scheduled, since there are security protocols.
 - (b) Do you have enough crews?
 - (i) We always need more people. This is a place we need advocacy from in the budget.
 - (c) What is your budget?
 - (i) 4 million; 38 staff members.
 - (ii) Would like to see growth in industrial inspection program.
- (6) Dr. Boccalandro
 - (a) Could we do water quality testing service learning with Dallas College students?
 - (i) Opportunity for them to get involved in the Texas Stream Team. This may provide an opportunity to integrate equity.
 - (b) Could you do a presentation for Dallas College?
 - (i) Yes.
- (7) Michael Martin
 - (a) As next budget season comes up, what kind of expansion are you needing?
 - (i) Don't want to get ahead of the process.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

May 10, 2023

(8) Chair Bazan

- (a) Number of industrial stormwater permittees in the MSGP in the City – 3,000?
 - (i) 3,000 potentially regulated businesses.
- (b) There's not a requirement under the MSGP for annual inspection, as for the construction permit?
 - (i) Both permits require inspection but there's no regulatory requirement.
- (c) Of the 3,000, we're inspecting 1,000 a year. Are those complaint-driven?
 - (i) We have service requests for industrial sites and an annual plan we go through.
- (d) Is there a specific industry where we focus more heavily?
 - (i) We have certain facilities we have to inspect every year. After that, we have a list in our procedure, based on language in 30 CFR setting the definition of a high-risk facility. We try to target these first.
- (e) Lack of availability of the service request in the 311 app may cause a delay. How many delayed or misrouted complaints do we get through 311? I've found it gets closed and nothing happens. Should set something up in 311 that tells residents to call 311 instead if this is a stormwater complaint.
 - (i) May be able to get a number for this.
- (f) We have groups very focused on reducing litter in/around lakes. How can we be proactive to prevent pollution in the first place? The commission is available to help with outreach/engagement/education.
 - (i) We are continuing to do outreach (online and in-person). The challenge lies with getting people to do the right thing all the time.

(9) Rita Beving

- (a) Regarding self-inspections, is this information going to TCEQ or to you?
 - (i) Facilities are required to do those and store in binder. It's a self-policing system.
- (b) Do you go through it during inspections?
 - 1. Yes.

(10) Vice Chair Villarreal

- (a) Have found issues related to City of Dallas employees in other departments not knowing about the CECAP. Executives do, but the information isn't passed down to those who report to them. Is everyone in the Stormwater team aware of the CECAP goals?
 - (i) We are involved in initiatives related to the CECAP (Try Parking It and actions related to the Water Resources goal of the CECAP). We will still do more "inreach" and do more to tie Stormwater team's work to the CECAP.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

May 10, 2023

BRIEFING MEMORANDUMS

I) Government Affairs Update

[Lillian Mauldin, Senior Government Affairs Coordinator, Office of Government Affairs]

Attachment: Memo (see agenda)

- a) The speaker briefed the commission on a summary of the City's legislative priorities related to environment and sustainability, as well as status of relevant filed bills.
- b) Questions/Comments
 - i) Chair Bazan
 - (1) HB 2127 is eligible for floor vote in Senate on 5/11. Please email/call in on this bill!
 - ii) Rita Beving
 - (1) Seconding Chair Bazan's comments on HB 2127.
 - (2) HB 4830 was on House floor yesterday. There will be a vote on 5/11.
 - (3) HB 2211 on the floor today.
 - (4) SB 1017 headed to Governor's desk.
 - iii) Commissioner Lachman
 - (1) Would HB 2127 violate the constitution?
 - (a) It is argued that the bill is so vague, broad, and ambiguous that it is unconstitutional.
 - iv) David Marquis
 - (1) Seconding the above. This may invite lawsuits.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

I) Environmental Health Committee Vaping Policy Recommendations

Attachment: Memo (see agenda)

- a) Chair Thompson provided a summary of the Environmental Health Committee's recommendations.
- b) Questions/Comments
 - i) Commissioner Lachman
 - (1) All other major cities in Texas have added vaping to their smoking ordinances.

II) Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability Recommendations for Appointment of Members to the Technical Panel

Attachment: Memo (see agenda)

- a) Susan Alvarez (OEQS) elaborated on the process for filling vacancies on the Technical Panel.
- b) Questions/Comments
 - i) Commissioner Hiromoto
 - (1) Goal would be to appoint one person to each position?
 - (a) Correct.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

May 10, 2023

- ii) Michael Martin
 - (1) Anything we can do to assist you in selection, Chair Bazan?
 - (a) Chair will contact each candidate and speak to them first.
- iii) Vice Chair Villarreal
 - (1) Total number of applicants?
 - (a) There were three.

III) Strategic Partnerships & Innovation Subcommittee Recommendations on Performance Specifications for 2024 Bond Program

Attachment: Memo (see agenda)

- a) Chair Hiromoto elaborated on the subcommittee's recommendations.
- b) Question/Comments
 - i) Alan Hoffmann
 - (1) Potential to stretch goals for existing built environment more.
 - ii) Commissioner Dankert
 - (1) Based on the conversations you've had; do you think the pilot project will happen?
 - (a) Yes.

VOTING ITEM

- I) **Consideration of Approval of Strategic Partnerships & Innovation Subcommittee Recommendations on Performance Specifications for 2024 Bond Program**
 - a) Commissioner Hiromoto moved to adopt the item.
 - b) Seconded by Commissioner Lachman.
 - c) Chair Bazan opened for discussion.
 - d) Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

I) Monthly Subcommittee Updates

- a) The Environmental Health, Environmental Justice, Implementation, Outreach & Engagement, and Strategic Partnerships & Innovation Committees provided monthly updates.

II) Monthly District Updates from Commissioners

Attachment: [Outreach & Engagement Form](#)

- a) The Commission provided updates on events and meetings they've attended in their districts.

May 10, 2023

a) Environment & Sustainability Council Committee: Tuesday, June 6, 2023, 9AM – 11AM
b) Environmental Commission: Wednesday, June 14, 2023, 5:30PM – 7:30PM

After all business of the Environmental Commission had been considered, Vice Chair Villarreal moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thompson and unanimously accepted. The Environmental Commission meeting was adjourned at 7:29PM.

Drafted by:
Erin Diehl, Board Coordinator
Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability

Date

Approved by:
Kathryn Bazan, Chair
Environmental Commission

Date

Meeting Recording



City of Dallas

Solar Switch Dallas- Solar United Neighbors Partnership

Environmental Commission
June 14, 2023

Pharr Andrews, Senior Climate Coordinator
America Garcia, Solar United Neighbors
Fred Wu, iChoosr
Office of Environmental Quality
and Sustainability
City of Dallas

Presentation Overview



- Program Purpose
 - CECAP Implementation
- Benefits of Solar Energy
- Solar Switch Dallas
- How it Works for Residents
- Success Metrics
- Next Steps



Program Purpose: CECAP Implementation



02 | Dallas generates and uses renewable, reliable, and affordable energy.

E3: Continue partnership with public utility companies on an intensive program on renewable energy options.		
E3	OEQS	Implement a Whole Home Weatherization Program resource HUB to connect residents with existing services
E9: Extend partnership with organizations like PACE and other Public Utility Companies to provide further incentives for renewable energy.		
E9	OEQS	Explore feasibility of implementing City program to incentivize solar installation for commercial and residential buildings

Benefits of Solar Energy



- Solar energy is sustainable, renewable and plentiful.
- Generating solar power can lead to less reliance on our power grid.
- Solar panels have become more popular and affordable.
 - *As more homeowners choose to install solar power systems and more companies join the market, it can be difficult for residents to determine which option and installer best fits their needs.*



Solar Switch Dallas



- Solar Switch is a group buying program for solar installations.
- This program offers a hassle-free way to install rooftop solar panels and battery storage.
- Dallas residents can come together to secure a discounted price on a rooftop solar installation for their homeowners or small business.



**WHOLE HOME
DALLAS**

In partnership with City of Dallas ✓



Solar Switch Dallas - Organizers



- 501 (c3) non-profit
- 375+ co-ops with 700+ partners in 13 states since 2007
- Advocate for interests of solar owners in local, state, federal policy
- 385K members nationwide
- Opened office in TX in 2018



- Helping residents go solar with 100+ community partners in EU and Japan since 2012
- Started operations in TX in 2017; Austin and Houston offices
- Work with 20+ TX cities on TX Power Switch for electricity aggregation and purchasing



How it Works for Residents



1. Register



2. Auction



**3. Personal
Recommendation**



4. Decision



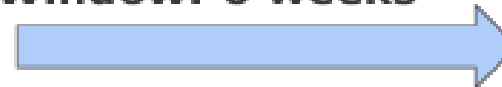
5. Install

Campaign: 4 months

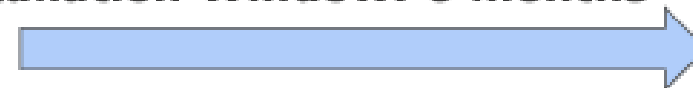
Residents can register right up until the decision deadline



Decision Window: 6 weeks



Installation Window: 6 months



How it Works: Registration



- Register at SolarSwitch.com/Dallas
- Marketing:
 - Social Media
 - Direct Mailer
 - Flyers
 - Registration Website



How it Works: Auction



- iChoosr identifies and vets solar installers for:
 - Licensing/insurance
 - Experience
 - Customer ratings
 - Financial Strength
- iChoosr manages installer auction & selection process through:
 - A reverse auction, typically yielding a 15-25% group discount
 - Two auctions per year to allow installers to scale



How it Works: Personal Recommendation



Your personal offer, test test

Based on the roof size and electricity usage provided, a system size of **5.5 kW (15 panels)** is recommended. **Note:** You can revisit your offer at any time via the link in your personal offer email.

- 15 + solar panels

Annual Production ⓘ 7,391.25 kWh

Coverage of your annual usage: 86%

Good to know: This is a personal estimation. If you proceed, the installer will conduct a site survey to validate the optimal amount of panels.

What you pay: **\$13,092**
(incl. sales tax)

Possible tax refund: ⓘ \$3,404

Final cost: **\$9,688**

- Personal offer will include:
 - Proposed system size and cost
 - Winning installer
 - Financing options available.
 - Customer deposit
 - Call to Action



How it Works: Residents Review and Decide



- No obligation to proceed
- Solar Switch will offer virtual information sessions and a customer service center.
- Residents that accept are connected with the winning installer.



How it Works: Installation



- Residents will receive a welcome email & call from installer.
- Installer completes and shares remote site assessment results and design.
- Installations completed by January.

Success Metrics



Awareness

- Webpage visits
- Time spent on website



Engagement

- Onsite events
- Virtual presentations
- Zip code tracking



Sharing

- Social media
- Mentions
- Likes



Action

- Click through rates
- Email inquiries
- Registrations

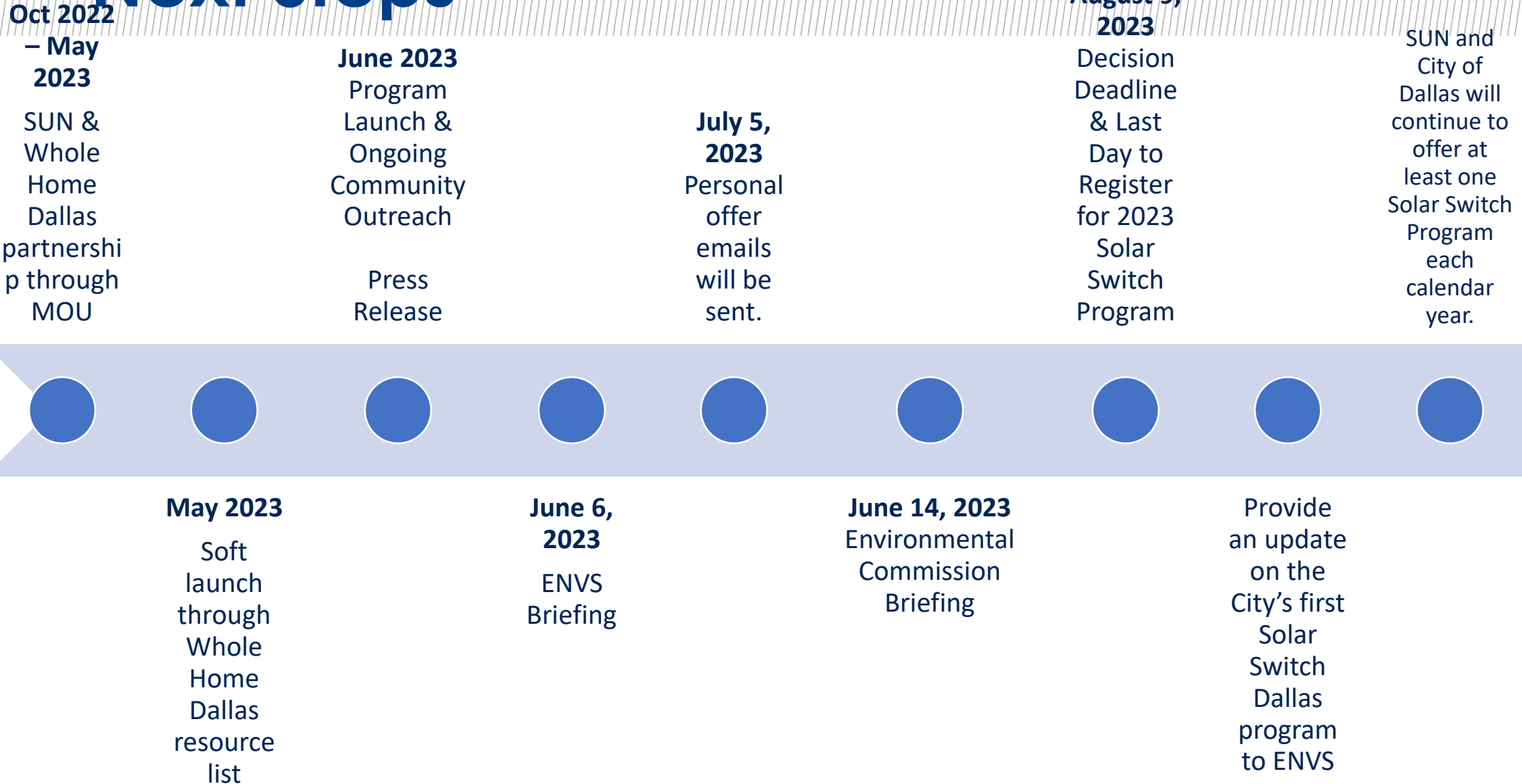
Anticipated Outcomes:

- Share joint promotional and co-branded materials throughout the annual Solar Switch Dallas program.
- Personal offer will yield participants a discounted rate for solar installation.





Next Steps





City of Dallas

Solar Switch Dallas- Solar United Neighbors Partnership

Environmental Commission
June 14, 2023

Pharr Andrews, Senior Climate Coordinator
America Garcia, Solar United Neighbors
Fred Wu, iChoosr
Office of Environmental Quality
and Sustainability
City of Dallas

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE June 14, 2023

TO Honorable Chair Bazan and Members of the Environmental Commission

SUBJECT **2023 Equity Indicators Report Update and Environmental Justice Indicators**

Since the release of the initial Equity Indicators Report in 2019, Office of Equity and Inclusion has received extensive input from community residents about the data, methodology and disparities. One consistent theme is that environmental justice-related (EJ) indicators should be included in the [Equity Indicators Report](#) which consist of 60 indicators.

In early 2023, the Chair Paula Blackmon of the Environmental and Sustainability Committee and the Environmental Commission requested that environmental justice indicators be included in the updated Equity Indicators Report to advance the City's progress in addressing environmental concerns in communities overburdened by environmental injustices.

The Office of Equity and Inclusion (OEI) has engaged Every Texan to update the City of Dallas Equity Indicators Report in 2023. In response to the Chair, EVS committee and community input, the Office of Equity and Inclusion and the Office of Environmental Quality and Sustainability (OEQS), have met with Every Texan to discuss the inclusion of environmental justice indicators. Throughout the month of April and May, OEQS and City departments have shared feedback on potential indicators for the 2023 Report.

Equity Indicators Report

The Equity Indicators report is a multi-year snapshot of disparities in outcomes across five thematic areas: Economic Opportunity, Education, Neighborhoods and Infrastructure, Justice and Government, and Public Health. The Equity Indicators Report serves as a measurement tool and demonstrates the City's ongoing commitment to respond to resident and community voice by highlighting new indicators, such as the EJ measures. Residents and all stakeholders will also be able to see where persistent disparities continue based on indicators highlighted in both the 2019 and the updated 2023 Report.

Racial Equity Plan: Big Audacious Goal

The City of Dallas centers environmental justice as a critical factor in advancing racial equity. In response to community feedback, the Racial Equity Plan (REP) identified Environmental Justice (EJ) as a Big Audacious Goal. More specifically, to advance equity *by addressing the disproportionate impact of pollution and climate issues on historically disadvantaged communities*. The updated indicators focus on the following measures:

1. comparatively measuring the overall weighted average Environmental Justice Score for a neighborhood based upon the Dallas Environmental Justice Screening tool metric, assessing overall neighborhood measure of proximity to environmental pollution.
2. comparatively measuring the tree canopy coverage in communities across Dallas.
3. comparatively measuring the kilowatts of solar installed on single-family homes in Dallas.
4. comparatively measuring the distance to fresh, healthy foods to households in Dallas.

The work to update the Equity Indicators report with EJ measures is outlined in three-phases with the following tentative timeline:

1. Phase I: Planning, Data Prep and Analysis.

Deliverable: 60 indicators updated with new City University of New York scores 1-Jul-2023

2. Phase II: Narrative Updates / Writing Phase

Deliverable: Preliminary Draft Complete 29-Jul-2023

3. Phase III: Review, Modification, and Finalization of Report

Deliverable: Final Report Complete 24-Aug-2023

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or Dr. Lindsey Wilson, Director of the Office of Equity and Inclusion, at lindsey.wilson@dallas.gov.



M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira
Assistant City Manager

Cc: Hon. Paula Blackmon, Chair, ENVS Committee

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Tammy Palomino, Interim City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Deputy City Manager
Jon Fortune, Deputy City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
Dr. Robert Perez, Assistant City Manager
Carl Simpson, Assistant City Manager
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer
Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Directors and Assistant Directors

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE June 14, 2023

TO Honorable Chair Bazan and Members of the Environmental Commission

SUBJECT **88th Texas Legislature – Legislation relating to Environment and Sustainability**

On October 26, 2022, the Dallas City Council adopted the 88th Texas Session Legislative Program (Resolution 22-1637). The legislative priorities include supporting legislation that focuses on resource sustainability, conservation, climate change, and environmental equity to build a more resilient city.

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Environmental Commission with a high-level overview of proposed state legislation that may have an impact on the City. This list includes bill updates through Monday, May 29, 2023, which was also Sine Die. bill summaries that have been briefed to the committee via memorandum can be found [here](#).

Environment-related bills include, but are not limited to the following:

H.J.R. 27 (Craddick) – Grow Texas Fund: would have amended the Texas Constitution to, among other things: (1) create the Grow Texas Fund (Fund) within the state treasury; (2) authorize the legislature to appropriate money from the Fund for use in areas of the state from which oil and gas are produced and then only to address infrastructure needs in areas of the state determined by the legislature to be significantly affected by oil and gas production; and (3) authorize the grant of money from the Fund to state agencies and other political subdivisions for an authorized purpose. **Did not pass.**

H.B. 1158 (Darby) – Clean Energy Projects: would have: (1) removed the requirement that an application for a permit for an advanced clean energy project under the Clean Air Act had to be received by the commission before January 1, 2020; (2) added to the list of programs that may be considered for a new technology implementation grant: (a) the installation of a system to reduce or eliminate carbon dioxide emissions; and (b) projects that utilize technology to capture, use, reuse, store, or sequester carbon dioxide emissions for the principal purpose of preventing carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere and are constructed integral or adjacent to a petrochemical plant or an electric generation facility, including a facility powered by coal, natural gas, hydrogen, or ammonia; and (3) exempted from the sales tax components of tangible personal property used in connection with the capture, use, reuse, storage, or sequestration of carbon dioxide emissions for the principal purpose of preventing carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere. **Did not pass.**

- Companion: **S.B. 2243 (Johnson)**. **Did not pass.**

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H.B. 26 (Ordaz Perez) – Medical Waste Facilities: would have required applicants for a facility to store, process, or dispose of medical waste to provide notice of the application to state, county, city, and tribal government officials. **Did not pass.**

- Companion: **S.B. 173 (Blanco)** **Did not pass.**

S.B. 471 (Springer) – Complaint Fees: Would impose fees on citizens who file more than 3 complaints before TCEQ in a calendar year, charging them a fee for filing any additional complaints. **Sent to the governor for signature.**

Concrete Plant & Related Environmental Permitting Bills:

S.B. 1397 (Schwertner) – TCEQ Sunset Bill with Concrete Considerations: would have created additional mandates for TCEQ concrete plant permits, public meetings for permit applications, and electronic postings of permit applications. Would have created an enforcement diversion program for small businesses and local governments. **Sent to the governor for signature.**

- Companion: **H.B. 1505 (Bell):** **Did not pass.**

Climate Bills:

S.B. 784 (Birdwell) – Greenhouse Gasses: would have disallowed cities from creating an ordinance that directly regulates greenhouse gas emissions. **Passed; effective on 9/1/23.**

- Companion: **H.B. 2211 (Landgraf)** **Did not pass.**

S.B. 179 (Miles) – Emissions Permitting: would have mandated TCEQ to consider the cumulative effects of contaminant emissions when determining whether and under which conditions a preconstruction permit should be renewed. **Did not pass.**

S.B. 1017 (Birdwell)– Restricting a Fuel Source: would have disallowed cities from creating an ordinance or regulation that limits access to an energy source. This includes a wholesaler, retailer, energy producer, or even a service station. A city may not adopt an ordinance or regulation that restricts the use, sale, or lease of an engine based on a fuel source. **Passed; effective on 9/1/23.**

- Companion: **H.B. 2374 (Landgraf)** **Did not pass.**

S.B. 1114 (Hancock) – Restricting a Fuel Source: would have disallowed cities from passing an ordinance or regulation that restricts the use of a fuel source to aid in the reduction of greenhouse gases or conservation of natural resources. This includes entering into a contract that would directly or indirectly the use or sale of a product otherwise permitted by law. **Did not pass.**

Urban Agriculture Bill + Solar / Wind (Local Control) Bills:

H.B. 92 (Landgraf) – Residential Food Production: would have, among other things, (1) prohibited a municipality and a property owners' association from adopting or enforcing an ordinance or restrictive covenant that prohibits any of the following activities on a residence homestead property: (a) the growing of fruits and vegetables; (b) the raising or keeping of: (i) six or fewer domestic fowl; or (ii) six or fewer adult rabbits; or (c) installing for on-site use: (i) a solar or wind- powered energy device; (ii) an underground shelter; (iii) rain barrels or a rainwater harvesting system; or (iv) a standby electric generator; (2) allowed a municipality and a property owners' association to impose: (a) reasonable regulations on the growing of fruits and vegetables on a residence homestead that do not have the effect of prohibiting growing those plants, including a requirement that the growing area be maintained in good condition if visible from the street or adjoining property and for the trimming or removal of a tree for the maintenance of a utility easement; and (b) reasonable regulations on the raising and keeping of rabbits and fowl on a residence homestead to control odor, noise, safety, or sanitary conditions that do not have the effect of prohibiting the raising or keeping of these animals, including: (i) limitations on the number of animals that is more than the minimum number allowed by this law or a total combined number of eight fowl and rabbits; (ii) a prohibition on raising or keeping of a rooster; (iii) defining the minimum distance between an animal shelter and a residential structure; (iv) requiring fencing or shelter sufficient to contain the animals; (v) defining the minimum requirements for combined housing and outdoor space as provided by this law; (vi) adopting requirements to address sanitary conditions to prevent offensive odors or pests; or (vii) requiring that the animals be kept in the side or rear yard; and (3) provided that an adopted ordinance or restrictive covenant that violates this law is void. Enabling legislation for HJR 9. **Did not pass.**

H.B. 692 (Rogers) – Land Applications: would mandate the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to issue an authorization by rule for land application of dairy waste and to allow the disposal of dairy waste from a concentrated animal feeding operation into a control or retention facility. **Passed; effective on 9/1/23.**

- Companion: **S.B. 872 (Springer)** **Did not pass.**

Wildland-Urban Interface Bills:

H.B. 260 (Murr) – Appraisal of Open Space Land: would require the chief appraiser to take into consideration the effect that the presence of a disease or pest, or the designation of an area as a wildlife or livestock disease or pest area, has on the net income from the land when calculating net to land of open-space land located in or adjacent to an area designated as a wildlife or livestock disease or pest area. **Sent to the governor for signature.**

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Waste:

H.B. 1503 (M. Gonzalez) – Scrap Tires: would have created a scrap tire remediation grant program for the elimination of unsightly scrap tires for both inland and along coastal areas and public rights-of-ways. **Did not pass.**

Disaster Related Bills:

H.B. 558 (Raymond) – Executive Orders: would have provided that an executive order, proclamation, or regulation issued by the governor during a declared state of disaster that restricts the operation of or the hours of operation for a business that sells alcoholic beverages may not include a federal tax-exempt organization that benefits veterans of the United States armed forces. **Did not pass.**

H.B. 911 (Harrison) – Disaster Orders: would have, among other things, provided that: (1) a state or local official may issue recommendations and nonbinding guidelines to assist with a state of disaster and may coordinate public and private resources to prevent or respond to the disaster; (2) notwithstanding any other law, an order issued by the governor or a state or local official that regulates or infringes on the rights of any private person must be: (a) narrowly tailored to serve a compelling public health or safety purpose; and (b) limited in duration, applicability, and scope to reduce any infringement on individual liberty; (3) district and appellate courts have jurisdiction to hear cases challenging a state or local disaster order and shall expedite hearings for the cases; (4) a court may invalidate or enjoin a disaster order or the application of a disaster order that is not narrowly tailored to serve a compelling public health or safety purpose because of the order's inequality in application to or impact on groups, situations, or circumstances; (5) only the governor may issue an order that infringes on a protected constitutional right in a non-trivial manner, including but not limited to: (a) the rights to travel, work, assemble, and speak; (b) the freedom of religious exercise; (c) the right to contract without state interference; (d) property rights; (e) the freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures; and (f) the freedom to purchase lawfully acquired firearms and ammunition; (6) an order in (5), above, expires on the 30th day after the date the governor issues the order unless the governor or legislature terminates the order on an earlier date or the legislature extends the order on or before the expiration date; and (7) the governor may only suspend state agency orders and rules (not statutory requirements) during a state of disaster. **Did not pass.**

H.B. 1023 (Harrison) – Disaster Declarations: would have provided that during a federally declared public health emergency, a clinical laboratory is considered a state agency for purposes of regulation by the United States Food and Drug Administration when the laboratory is performing a laboratory developed test on a pathogen or agent that is the basis for the emergency declaration. **Did not pass.**

H.B. 1078 (Martinez) – Disaster Identification System: would have, among other things, provide that: (1) the Texas Division of Emergency Management may include in its state emergency plan provisions for the use of a disaster identification system; (2) in an

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area subject to a state of disaster declaration, a person may elect to participate in a disaster identification system activated for that area; (3) the disaster identification system shall authorize the use of a device that is capable of displaying a flashing light and continuous light in either the color white or the colors blue, green, red, and yellow to communicate with disaster relief personnel; and (4) an executive order or proclamation declaring a state of disaster activates for the area subject to the declaration the disaster identification system described above. **Did not pass.**

Power/Electrical Grid Bills:

H.B. 2502 (Reynolds) – Energy Efficiency: would have allowed for the creation of a fund administered by SECO to issue loans for energy audits, upgrades or retrofits, etc. for commercial and residential buildings to make them more energy efficient. **Did not pass.**

H.B. 2263 (Darby) – Energy Conservation: would give the Texas Railroad Commission exclusive jurisdiction over any energy conservation program and would disallow preventing a customer from participating in such a program based on the type of energy used. **Sent to the governor for signature.**

- Companion: **S.B. 1050 (Hughes)** **Did not pass.**

S.B. 114 (Menendez) – Electricity: would have, among other things: (1) provided that a retail electric customer is entitled to: (a) participate in demand response programs through retail electric providers and demand response providers; and (b) receive notice from the retail electric provider that serves the customer: (i) when the independent organization for the ERCOT power region issues an emergency energy alert about low operating reserves to providers of generation in the power region; or (ii) of planned outages and the length of time the outages are expected to last; and (2) required the Public Utility Commission to adopt rules that require each retail electric provider in the ERCOT power region to create a residential demand response program to reduce the average total residential load by at least: (a) one percent of peak summer and winter demand by December 31, 2024; (b) two percent of peak summer and winter demand by December 31, 2025; (c) three percent of peak summer and winter demand by December 31, 2026; and (d) five percent of peak summer and winter demand by December 31, 2027. **Did not pass.**

S.B. 330 (Hall) – Electric Grid Resilience: would have, among other things: (1) prohibited a city from enacting or enforcing an ordinance or other measure that bans, limits, or otherwise regulates inside the boundaries of the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the city a micro-grid that is certified by the Texas Grid Security Commission; and (2) required the Texas Grid Security Commission to establish resilience standards for cities. **Did not pass.**

- Companion: **H.B. 1412 (Schaefer)** **Did not pass.**

Transportation & EV-Related Bills:

H.B. 2214 (Johnson) – Electric Vehicle Funding: would increase funds allocated from the Texas Emissions Reduction Plan for battery storage related to renewables and clean fleets while decreasing the allocation of funds toward natural gas vehicles. **Did not pass.**

H.B. 108 (Cortez) – Classroom Teachers Park Free: would: (1) require the Texas Department of Transportation to issue specialty license plates to: (a) classroom teachers with at least 15 years of service teaching public school students; and (b) retired classroom teachers with at least 20 years of service teaching public school students; and (2) prohibit a governmental authority from collecting a parking fee through a parking meter for a vehicle displaying these licensees. **Sent to the governor for signature.**

H.B. 167 (Cortez) – Red Light Cameras: would have provided that photographic traffic signal enforcement contracts, including those executed before May 17, 2019, are void. **Did not pass.**

- Companion: **S.B. 446 (Menendez)** **Did not pass.**
- **H.B. 177 (Cortez)** **Did not pass.**

H.B. 820 (King) – Additional Hybrid Vehicle Registration Fee: would have provided that applicants for registration or renewal of registration for a hybrid or electric vehicle shall pay an additional fee of \$200 if the vehicle is an electric vehicle and \$100 if the vehicle is a hybrid vehicle with 90% of the fees to be deposited into the state highway fund and 10% to be deposited into a new electric vehicle battery disposal account administered by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. **Did not pass.**

H.B. 1156 (Rogers) – Surplus Traffic Safety Equipment: would have provided, among other things, that the Texas Department of Transportation and Texas Department of Public Safety may directly donate or sell at a discounted rate surplus traffic and roadwork safety equipment to Texas cities. **Did not pass.**

S.B. 1001 (Schwertner) – EV Charging Vendors: would establish a framework for the licensing of EV charging and supply equipment. **Sent to the governor for signature.**

- Companion: **H.B. 3343 (K. King)** **Did not pass.**

Water Related Bills:

H.B. 40 (Zwiener) – Property Tax Exemption: would have exempted property taxes the portion of appraised value of a person's property that is attributable to the installation in or on the property of a rainwater harvesting or graywater system. Enabling legislation for HJR 25. **Did not pass.**

H.J.R. 25 (Zwiener) – Property Tax Exemption: would have amended the Texas Constitution to authorize the legislature to exempt from property taxation the portion of the appraised value of a person's property that is attributable to the installation in or on

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the property of a rainwater harvesting or graywater system. Enabling legislation is HB 40. **Did not pass.**

H.B. 640 (Julie Johnson) – Street Maintenance Sales Tax: would have, among other things, provided that: (1) for a city in which a majority of the voters voting in each of the last two consecutive elections concerning the adoption or reauthorization of the street maintenance sales tax favored adoption or reauthorization and in which the tax has not expired since the first of those two consecutive elections, the city may call an election to reauthorize the tax for a period of eight or ten years, instead of four years; and (2) revenue from the street maintenance sales tax may be used to maintain and repair: (a) a city street or sidewalk; and (b) a city water, wastewater, or stormwater system located in the width of a way of a city street. **Did not pass.**

- Companion: **S.B. 612 (Johnson)** **Did not pass.**

H.B. 583 (Raymond) – Drinking Water Report: would have required the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to produce an annual report on public drinking water supply systems in Texas and deliver the report to the legislature not later than September 1 of each year. **Did not pass.**

- Companion: **S.B. 382 (Zaffirini)** **Did not pass.**

H.B. 585 (Raymond) – Water Treatment Facilities Reporting: would have: (1) required the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to create a plan to protect water treatment facilities from: (a) electrical outages; (b) catastrophic weather events; (c) terrorist attacks; (d) the projected effects of climate change; and (e) other potential disruptions to providing water service; and (2) required TCEQ to submit the plan to the governor and the legislature by September 1, 2024. **Did not pass.**

H.B. 874 (Bowers) – Water Rights: would have provided that a water right is not cancelled for nonuse if the nonuse resulted from an executed temporary or permanent forbearance agreement that: (1) promotes restoration, preservation, or enhancement of instream flows; (2) was entered into by the holder of the permit, certified filing, or certificate of adjudication; and (3) was filed with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality not later than the 180th day after the date the agreement was executed. **Did not pass.**

- Companion: **S.B. 894 (Zaffirini)** **Did not pass.**

S.B. 40 (Zaffirini) – Water Utilities: would have required the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to develop and implement an alert system that must include the ability to provide notifications through electronic instant messaging to be activated in the event of a boil water notice and any related information, including any rescission or expiration of the boil water notice. **Did not pass.**

S.B. 53 (Zaffirini) – Texas Water Development Board Financing: would have provided that: (1) a political subdivision may use financial assistance from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) to pay for the installation, maintenance, operation, and

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fueling of a backup power generator for a facility of a public water supply and sanitary sewer system; (2) assistance under the bill shall only be provided to political subdivisions that demonstrate an inability to pay for the installation, maintenance, operation, and fueling of a backup power generator described by (1), above, in accordance with TWDB rules; (3) if the TWDB determines that a political subdivision to which assistance has been provided under (1), above, is ineligible to receive the assistance, the TWDB may seek reimbursement from the political subdivision; and (4) the TWDB shall adopt rules to implement the bill. **Did not pass.**

S.B. 223 (Campbell) – Wastewater Permitting: would have required the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to hold at least one public meeting on an application for an initial permit for a wastewater treatment facility in the county in which the facility is proposed to be located. **Did not pass.**

S.B. 382 (Zaffirini) – Drinking Water Report: would have required the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to produce an annual report on public drinking water supply systems in Texas and deliver the report to the legislature not later than September 1 of each year. **Did not pass.**

- **Companion:** **H.B. 583 (Raymond)** **Did not pass.**

S.B. 469 (Springer) – Water Infrastructure: would: (1) for purposes of the Texas Water Assistance Program and other funding initiatives by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), define “rural political subdivision” as: (a) a nonprofit water supply or sewer service corporation, district, or municipality that has a service area with a population of 10,000 or less no part of which is located in an urban area as defined by the United States Bureau of the Census or otherwise qualifies for funding from a federal agency; or (b) a county in which no urban area has a population of more than 50,000; and (2) provide that the TWDB may direct the comptroller to transfer amounts from the financial assistance account to the rural water assistance fund to provide financial assistance to rural political subdivisions for the purpose of providing low-interest loans for water or water-related projects. **Sent to the governor for signature.**

Local Regulation of Commercial Activity:

S.B. 149 (Springer) – Restricting Commercial Activity: would disallow a city to adopt or enforce an ordinance that imposes a restriction, regulation, or condition on commercial activity. This would apply to the proposed gas-powered landscape equipment and concrete batch plant ordinance of Dallas and perhaps other commercial activity affected by climate plan measures. **Did not pass.**

H.B. 2127 (Burrows) – Restricting Commercial Activity: would have allowed a taxpayer to take action against a municipality or county if adversely affected by an ordinance or regulation. Specific state administrative codes applicable to this bill include agriculture, finance, insurance, labor, occupational, and the natural resource code. A claimant is entitled to declaratory and injunctive relief plus attorney fees. Again, this could

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have applied to the gas-powered landscape ordinance of Dallas, perhaps the concrete ordinance, and more. **Sent to the governor for signature.**

- Companion: **S.B. 814** (Creighton) **Did not pass.**

S.B. 1860 (Hughes) – Relating to the adoption of a climate policy in a municipal charter: Would require that city climate plans be voted on by city constituents and would require approval by the appropriate state agency. **Sent to the governor for signature.**

- Companion: **H.B. 4930** (Craddick) **Did not pass.**

Should you have any questions, please contact me or Clifford Sparks, State Legislative Director, at Clifford.Sparks@dallas.gov.

Sincerely,



Carrie Rogers
Director
Office of Government Affairs

c: Members of the Ad Hoc Legislative Committee
T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Tammy Palomino, Interim City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Billerae Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Deputy City Manager
Jon Fortune, Deputy City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager
Dr. Robert Perez, Assistant City Manager
Carl Simpson, Assistant City Manager
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer
Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Directors and Assistant Directors
Clifford Sparks, State Legislative Director

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE June 14, 2023

TO Honorable Chair Bazan and Members of the Environmental Commission

SUBJECT **Update on Hensley Field Redevelopment and Remediation**
(as presented to the ENVIS Committee on June 6, 2023)

The United States Navy leased the property now known as Hensley Field from the City of Dallas in 1949 to operate Naval Air Station Dallas. The Navy closed Naval Air Station Dallas in 1999 and returned Hensley Field to Dallas with environmental contamination on the property. The City filed a lawsuit in 2001 over the contamination and the City and Navy entered a settlement agreement in 2002 ("Settlement Agreement"). Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement, the Navy was required to remediate the property and groundwater to unrestricted residential standards within 15 years.

The Navy's deadline to complete the remediation passed in 2017, and the remediation is still not complete. In addition, the Navy has informed the City that per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances ("PFAS"), are on the property. Further investigations by the Navy have confirmed the presence of PFAS in the soil and groundwater.

Though the Navy did not meet its deadline, the City is exploring a path forward to safely redevelop the site. At the Navy's request, the City funded and created a Master Redevelopment Plan ("Redevelopment Plan"). The City Council approved the Redevelopment Plan on December 14, 2022. The City is ready to begin selecting a developer to start redevelopment.

The City is also negotiating an amendment to the Settlement Agreement with the Navy in an attempt to reach a long-term resolution that will govern the remaining remediation and future redevelopment of Hensley Field. The negotiations are ongoing, and Navy technical staff and members of the Navy's legal team have weekly meetings with the City's legal and technical staff to discuss the City's proposed long-term resolution.

Should you have any questions, please contact the City Attorney's Office.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carl Simpson'.

Carl Simpson
Assistant City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Tammy Palomino, Interim City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
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Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Directors and Assistant Directors

Memorandum



DATE June 14, 2023

CITY OF DALLAS

TO Honorable Chair Bazan and Members of the Environmental Commission

SUBJECT **Environmental Health Committee Recommendations on Concrete Batch Plant Buffer Zones**

This memorandum outlines suggestions from the Environmental Health Committee (EHC) of the Environmental Commission for defining buffer zones for batch plants and all entities producing particulate matter (PM) or any toxins that impact the health of neighborhoods nearby.

While these plants are vital for construction projects, they pose significant health hazards due to PM emissions, including fine particles and toxic substances. Particulate matter, specifically PM_{2.5} (particles with a diameter of 2.5 micrometers or less) and PM₁₀ (particles with a diameter of 10 microns or less), has been extensively studied and linked to a wide range of adverse health effects, including respiratory and cardiovascular problems, exacerbation of asthma, and an increased risk of lung cancer. In addition, the fine particles can penetrate deep into the lungs and enter the bloodstream, causing inflammation and damaging organs.

Several studies have highlighted the harmful health effects of concrete batch plants and the release of PM in their vicinity. For instance, a study by Gavett et al. (2021) found that living near a concrete batch plant was associated with increased respiratory symptoms and decreased lung function in children. Another study by Li et al. (2019) discovered a significant correlation between the concentration of PM emitted from concrete batch plants and increased hospital admissions for respiratory diseases in the surrounding population. One study demonstrated the harmful effects on the structure of lung tissue at distances as far as 3,000 feet.

Communities close to batch plants and entities that produce similar toxins experience a high incidence of adult and childhood asthma, chronic bronchitis, hemorrhagic stroke, dementia, cardiovascular disease, and increased hospital admissions and ER visits. The quality of life in these districts is directly related to exposure to these pollutants.

In Dallas County, batch plants are concentrated exclusively in District 6, District 7, and District 8, creating an environmental disparity. The Environmental Health Committee, therefore, supports the recommendation to increase the concrete batch plant buffer zone from 400 feet to at least 1,500 feet from residential areas.


Candace Thompson (Jun 7, 2023 11:07 CDT)

Candace Thompson
Chair, Environmental Health Committee
District 4, Environmental Commission

DATE June 14, 2023

SUBJECT **Environmental Health Committee Recommendations on Concrete Batch Plant Buffer Zones**

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c: Carlos Evans, Director, Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability
Susan Alvarez, Assistant Director, Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability
Erin Diehl, Board Coordinator, Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability