

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (EQ) POLICY COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

Thursday, April 8, 2021

Zoom

[Policy Committee Slides](#)

ATTENDANCE

Members: Chris Rogers (Chair); David Pollock (Vice Chair); Paul Akinjo; Jan Arbuckle; Emily Beach; Daniel Brotman; Illece Buckley–Weber; Tom Butt; Jon Canavan; Kim Carr; Jen Cavanaugh; Anna Chouteau; Margaret Clark; Robert Collacott; Pat Eklund; Eric Friedman; Debra Garnes; Marvin Heinz; Jean Josey; Ariel Kelley; Mina Layba; Jesse Loren; Diana Mahmud; Jenny McAdams; Marjorie Mohler; Kitty Moore; Cynthia Moran; Melissa Morgan; Devin Murphy; Eric Nelson; Andy Pease; Randall Putz; Gabriel Quinto; Lisa Ann Rapp; Julie Ryan; Kristine Scott; Martha Singh; Gary Singh; Andy Sobel; Niroop Srivatsa; Mireya Turner; Gillian van Muyden; Teresa Vargas; Arwen Wacht; Kevin Wilk; Bryce Wilson; Frank Yokoyama

League Partners:

Staff: Derek Dolfie, Legislative Representative; Caroline Cirrincione, Legislative Policy Analyst

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Chris Rogers, Council Member, Santa Rosa, and Vice Chair David Pollock, Councilmember, Moorpark, welcomed committee members and provided an introduction.

II. Public Comment

Chair Rogers asked if there was any public comment. There was no public comment.

III. Legislative Update

Legislative Representative Derek Dolfie briefed the committee on key bills of importance to cities and what to expect in this year's legislative session. These measures covered issues such as treated wood waste, utility-initiated power shut-offs, single-use plastics, community choice aggregation, SB 1383 implementation, and solar permitting, among other topics. A list of the Cal Cities EQ interest bills can be found [here](#), and a complete list of all the Cal Cities EQ bills can be found [here](#).

IV. Legislative Agenda

Mr. Dolfie briefed the committee on action items for consideration. The first measure for the committee's consideration was [AB 897 \(Mullin\)](#), which would encourage regional climate adaptation planning to reduce climate risk; foster collaboration among local, regional, and state entities; and develop guidance for potential state, federal, or private investment in regional adaptation projects. After Mr. Dolfie's overview of the measure, a discussion ensued. Committee members expressed interest in this regional approach, asked questions about which cities they would be able to collaborate with, and provided an overview of work already being done through various Council of Governments. Ultimately, a motion was made to support AB 897, which passed with 39-1, with 2 abstain.

The second bill for consideration was [SB 1 \(Atkins\)](#), which would establish new planning, assessment, funding, and mitigation tools for California to address and respond to sea

level rise. After Mr. Dolfie's overview of the measure, he introduced Cal Cities Coastal Cities Group (CCG) Leadership Committee Chair Ed Waage, Mayor, Pismo Beach, and Vice Chair Eric Friedman, Council Member, Santa Barbara, who spoke in favor of the measure. They explained that this measure would provide much needed funding opportunities and encourage regional collaboration to benefit coordination with the California Coastal Commission. The CCG Chair and Vice Chair also expressed their interest in working with the Coastal Commission on the definition of "existing development." After these remarks, Mr. Dolfie opened it up for committee discussion, and a motion was made to support SB 1 and allow the CCG to work with the Coastal Commission on the definition of an existing development, which passed with 41-1, with 1 abstain.

V. Funding Climate Measures In Your Community Discussion

Due to time constraints, Chair Rodgers decided to defer this discussion to the next policy committee meeting.

VI. Next Meeting

Mr. Dolfie reminded committee members they would be meeting again on April 15, 2021, from 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm.