

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION OF MONTEREY PARK AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING

Monterey Park City Hall – Engineering Conference Room
320 W. Newmark Avenue, Monterey Park, CA 91754

Tuesday
September 12, 2017
6:00 PM

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the City of Monterey Park is to provide excellent services to enhance the quality of life for our entire community.

Documents related to an Agenda item are available to the public in the Public Works Department located at 320 West Newmark Avenue, Monterey Park, CA 91754, during normal business hours and the City's website at www.montereypark.ca.gov.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

You may speak up to five (5) minutes on Agenda item. You may combine up to two (2) minutes of time with another person's speaking. No person may speak more than a total of 10 minutes. The Commission Chair and Commissioners may change the amount of time allowed for speakers.

Per the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting please call City Hall at (626) 307-1359 for reasonable accommodation at least 24 hours before a meeting. Council Chambers are wheelchair accessible.

CALL TO ORDER Commission Chair

FLAG SALUTE Commission Chair

ROLL CALL Commissioners: Shirley Hwong, Jenelle Dhing, Karl Wong, Sam Cheung, and Richard Mai

Youth Advisors: Kailey Ogawa-Monroe and Celeste Chan

AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CHANGES AND ADOPTIONS

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS (Related to Items NOT on the Agenda). While all comments are welcome, the Brown Act does not allow the City Council to take action on any item not on the agenda. The Council may briefly respond to comments after Public Communications is closed. Persons may, in addition to any other matter within the City Council's subject-matter jurisdiction, comment on Agenda Items at this time. If you provide public comment on a specific Agenda item at this time, however, you cannot later provide comments at the time the Agenda Item is considered.

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

[1.] PRESENTATIONS

1-A. OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEW COMMISSIONER

It is recommended that the Environmental Commission:

- (1) Administer an oath of office for Commissioner Sam Cheung by City Clerk; and
- (2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

[2.] OLD BUSINESS

2-A. PROMOTION OF MONTEREY PARK DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

It is recommended that the Environmental Commission:

- (1) Continue to discuss the promotion of the demonstration garden; and
- (2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

2-B. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION PRE-PLANNING FOR ECOSUMMIT

It is recommended that the Environmental Commission:

- (1) Continue to discuss the Commission's pre-planning for EcoSummit; and
- (2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

[3.] NEW BUSINESS

3-A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It is recommended that the Environmental Commission:

- (1) Approve the minutes from the regular meeting of August 8, 2017; and
- (2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

3-B. TRAFFIC COMMISSION'S INVITATION TO THEIR OCTOBER REGULAR MEETING FOR METRO'S BIKE SHARE PROGRAM PRESENTATION

It is recommended that the Environmental Commission:

- (1) Discuss the Commission's attending Traffic Commission October regular meeting for Metro's bike share program presentation; and
- (2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

3-C. WASTE HAULING SERVICE UPDATE

It is recommended that the Environmental Commission:

- (1) Discuss the waste hauling service update; and
- (2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

3-D. FIELD TRIP / TOUR OF COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT WATER TREATMENT PLANT

It is recommended that the Environmental Commission:

- (1) Discuss the Commission's attending the water treatment plant tour; and
- (2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

3-E. POTENTIAL DONATIONS FOR EARTH DAY 2018

It is recommended that the Environmental Commission:

- (1) Discuss potential donations for Earth Day 2018; and
- (2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

[4.] COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS

ADJOURN



Environmental Commission Staff Report

DATE: September 12, 2017

AGENDA ITEM NO: 2-A

TO: Environmental Commission
FROM: Bonnie Tam, Principal Management Analyst
SUBJECT: Promotion of Monterey Park Demonstration Garden

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Environmental Commission:

1. Continue to discuss the promotion of the demonstration garden; and
2. Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

At the July regular Commission meeting, the Commission directed staff to send invitation letters to the principals and the presidents of the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) at four local elementary schools, including Brightwood, Repetto, Monterey Highlands, and Ynez to invite them to attend the regular commission meeting in October to discuss the promotion of the use of the City's Demonstration Garden through school field trips and educational events.

BACKGROUND:

The City recently finished the construction of the Demonstration Garden project that will demonstrate landscaping that is attractive, environmentally-friendly, and conserves water. The Environmental Commission has been tasked with promoting the use of the conservation garden to educate our community and school students on water savings practices through water conservation landscaping. At the July regular commission meeting, the Commission directed staff to reach out to the principals and the PTA presidents at our local elementary schools to see if kindergartens and elementary schools are interested in working with the Commission to provide educational tours to their K-8 students. Four elementary schools were selected, including Brightwood, Repetto, Monterey Highlands, and Ynez as part of the pilot program. Staff sent out the invitation letters to the principals and PTA presidents at these elementary schools in August; the invitation letters are attached in this staff report.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

Respectfully submitted by:



Bonnie Tam
Principal Management Analyst

ATTACHMENT:

1. Invitation Letters

ATTACHMENT 1

Invitation Letters

CITY OF MONTEREY PARK

320 West Newmark Avenue • Monterey Park • California 91754-2896
www.montereypark.ca.gov



Environmental Commission

Members

Shirley Hwong
Jenelle Dhing
Karl Wong
Sam Cheung
Richard Mai

Staff Liaison

Bonnie Tam

August 28, 2017

PTA President
Ynez Elementary School
120 S. Ynez Ave.
Monterey Park, CA 91754

RE: Invitation to Monterey Park Environmental Commission Meeting on the Promotion of Monterey Park Demonstration Garden

Dear PTA President:

The City of Monterey Park recently completed its first Demonstration Garden in April, and it is a water conservation pilot project in partnership with the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District dedicated to the residents and community of Monterey Park. The garden features various environmentally-friendly, drought-tolerant, and xeriscape/native plants, which demonstrate the different types of water conserving landscape, that residents can learn from, adopt, and plant at their own homes.

On behalf of the Environmental Commission, we would like to invite you to our October regular commission meeting scheduled for **October 10, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.** at Monterey Park City Hall Engineering Conference Room to discuss how the City and our community elementary schools can collaborate to promote the use of the Demonstration Garden through school field trips and events. Your participation enables our elementary school students to come together and learn about environmental concerns and steps community members can take to conserve water through landscaping and live more sustainably.

The Demonstration Garden is located at the corner of South Orange Avenue and Metro Drive across from the Garvey Reservoir. Various features and water conservation plants are showcased at the garden. A map of the Demonstration Garden is attached in this letter for your reference.

Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to email us at karlwong5@gmail.com and ptashirley@aol.com. Please call our commission staff liaison Bonnie Tam at 626-307-1383 or via email at btam@montereypark.ca.gov by **September 29** to let us know if you will be participating. An invitation was also sent to Principal Jenett Perales. We look forward to seeing you at our October Commission Meeting on October 10.

Sincerely,

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Karl Wong
Chair, Environmental Commission

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shirley Hwong".

Shirley Hwong
Co-Chair, Environmental Commission

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Richard Mai

Staff Liaison

Bonnie Tam

August 28, 2017

Ms. Jenett Perales
Principal
Ynez Elementary School
120 S. Ynez Ave.
Monterey Park, CA 91754

RE: Invitation to Monterey Park Environmental Commission Meeting on the Promotion of Monterey Park Demonstration Garden

Dear Ms. Perales:

The City of Monterey Park recently completed its first Demonstration Garden in April, and it is a water conservation pilot project in partnership with the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District dedicated to the residents and community of Monterey Park. The garden features various environmentally-friendly, drought-tolerant, and xeriscape/native plants, which demonstrate the different types of water conserving landscape, that residents can learn from, adopt, and plant at their own homes.

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Co-Chair, Environmental Commission

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Members

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Karl Wong
Sam Cheung
Richard Mai

Staff Liaison

Bonnie Tam

August 28, 2017

PTA President
Repetto Elementary School
650 S. Grandridge Ave.
Monterey Park, CA 91754

RE: Invitation to Monterey Park Environmental Commission Meeting on the Promotion of Monterey Park Demonstration Garden

Dear PTA President:

The City of Monterey Park recently completed its first Demonstration Garden in April, and it is a water conservation pilot project in partnership with the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District dedicated to the residents and community of Monterey Park. The garden features various environmentally-friendly, drought-tolerant, and xeriscape/native plants, which demonstrate the different types of water conserving landscape, that residents can learn from, adopt, and plant at their own homes.

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Jenelle Dhing
Karl Wong
Sam Cheung
Richard Mai

Staff Liaison

Bonnie Tam

August 28, 2017

Ms. Carin Gasca
Principal
Repetto Elementary School
650 S. Grandridge Ave.
Monterey Park, CA 91754

RE: Invitation to Monterey Park Environmental Commission Meeting on the Promotion of Monterey Park Demonstration Garden

Dear Ms. Gasca:

The City of Monterey Park recently completed its first Demonstration Garden in April, and it is a water conservation pilot project in partnership with the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District dedicated to the residents and community of Monterey Park. The garden features various environmentally-friendly, drought-tolerant, and xeriscape/native plants, which demonstrate the different types of water conserving landscape, that residents can learn from, adopt, and plant at their own homes.

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Shirley Hwong
Co-Chair, Environmental Commission

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Jenelle Dhing
Karl Wong
Sam Cheung
Richard Mai

Staff Liaison

Bonnie Tam

August 28, 2017

PTA President
Monterey Highlands Elementary School
400 Casuda Canyon Drive
Monterey Park, CA 91754

RE: Invitation to Monterey Park Environmental Commission Meeting on the Promotion of Monterey Park Demonstration Garden

Dear PTA President:

The City of Monterey Park recently completed its first Demonstration Garden in April, and it is a water conservation pilot project in partnership with the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District dedicated to the residents and community of Monterey Park. The garden features various environmentally-friendly, drought-tolerant, and xeriscape/native plants, which demonstrate the different types of water conserving landscape, that residents can learn from, adopt, and plant at their own homes.

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Chair, Environmental Commission

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Shirley Hwong
Co-Chair, Environmental Commission

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Jenelle Dhing
Karl Wong
Sam Cheung
Richard Mai

Staff Liaison

Bonnie Tam

August 28, 2017

Dr. Debbie Kotani
Principal
Monterey Highlands Elementary School
400 Casuda Canyon Drive
Monterey Park, CA 91754

RE: Invitation to Monterey Park Environmental Commission Meeting on the Promotion of Monterey Park Demonstration Garden

Dear Dr. Kotani:

The City of Monterey Park recently completed its first Demonstration Garden in April, and it is a water conservation pilot project in partnership with the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District dedicated to the residents and community of Monterey Park. The garden features various environmentally-friendly, drought-tolerant, and xeriscape/native plants, which demonstrate the different types of water conserving landscape, that residents can learn from, adopt, and plant at their own homes.

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Jenelle Dhing
Karl Wong
Sam Cheung
Richard Mai

Staff Liaison

Bonnie Tam

August 28, 2017

PTA President
Brightwood Elementary School
1701 Brightwood Street
Monterey Park, CA 91754

RE: Invitation to Monterey Park Environmental Commission Meeting on the Promotion of Monterey Park Demonstration Garden

Dear PTA President:

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Karl Wong
Chair, Environmental Commission

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Environmental Commission

Members

Shirley Hwong
Jenelle Dhing
Karl Wong
Sam Cheung
Richard Mai

Staff Liaison

Bonnie Tam

August 28, 2017

Ms. Natalie Tee-Gaither
Principal
Brightwood Elementary School
1701 Brightwood Street
Monterey Park, CA 91754

RE: Invitation to Monterey Park Environmental Commission Meeting on the Promotion of Monterey Park Demonstration Garden

Dear Ms. Tee-Gaither:

The City of Monterey Park recently completed its first Demonstration Garden in April, and it is a water conservation pilot project in partnership with the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District dedicated to the residents and community of Monterey Park. The garden features various environmentally-friendly, drought-tolerant, and xeriscape/native plants, which demonstrate the different types of water conserving landscape, that residents can learn from, adopt, and plant at their own homes.

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Sincerely,

Karl Wong
Chair, Environmental Commission

Shirley Hwong
Co-Chair, Environmental Commission

Spanish Garden

- ~Easy care succulents and cacti
- ~Colorful bougainvillea, sages, and Spanish lavenders

Modern Mediterranean

- ~Colorful curbside appeal
- ~Emphasis on using drought tolerant Mediterranean plants with color
- ~Plantings incorporate the existing Silk tree and Oak tree
- ~Additional trees to increase shade
- ~Expanded rest area, new bench, and two new paths

Olive Grove and Outlook

- ~Use existing Olive trees
- ~Expanded rest area with two new benches under shade
- ~Lavender, sages, and agave to complement the Spanish Garden and Native Meadow Garden
- ~Views across the canyon

Erosion Control Slope

- ~Utilizes existing slope that faces drainage area

Asian Garden

- ~Northern and southern entrances to garden
- ~Complements neighborhood
- ~Use existing Pine trees
- ~New dry riverbed with boulders
- ~Drought tolerant Geijera to create a willow-like look
- ~Use existing winding path

Native Meadow Garden

- ~Additional trees to existing Eucalyptus for increased screening for adjacent houses
- ~Native drought tolerant plants
- ~Grasses and wildflowers

Screening

- ~New shrubs 4 feet to 10 feet tall at property line to protect residents' privacy
- ~Removal of existing Eucalyptus that pose a risk of property damage

Artificial Turf

- ~340 sf of artificial turf to demonstrate alternatives to traditional water-thirsty lawn



Conceptual Diagram of Demonstration Garden

City of Monterey Park

November 2016





Environmental Commission Staff Report

DATE: September 12, 2017

AGENDA ITEM NO: 3-A

TO: Environmental Commission
FROM: Bonnie Tam, Principal Management Analyst
SUBJECT: Approval of Minutes

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Environmental Commission:

1. Approve the minutes from the regular meeting of August 8, 2017; and
2. Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

None.

BACKGROUND:

None.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bonnie Tam", is written over a horizontal line.

Bonnie Tam
Principal Management Analyst

ATTACHMENT:

1. Meeting Minutes

ATTACHMENT 1
Meeting Minutes

**MONTEREY PARK ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 8, 2017**

The Environmental Commission of the City of Monterey Park held a Regular Meeting of the Commission in the Engineering Conference Room, located at 320 West Newmark Avenue in the City of Monterey Park, Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Wong called the meeting to order at 6:23 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE:

Chair Wong led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL:

Chair Wong called the roll:

Commissioners Present: Shirley Hwang, Jenelle Dhing, and Karl Wong

Commissioner Absent: Richard Mai

Youth Advisors Present: Kailey Ogawa-Monroe and Celeste Chan

ALSO PRESENT: Principal Management Analyst Bonnie Tam and Monterey Park resident Simon Chan

AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CHANGES AND ADOPTIONS

None.

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

1. PRESENTATION

1-A. OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEW YOUTH ADVISOR

City Clerk Vincent Chang administered the oath of office for newly-appointed Youth Advisor Celeste Chan, followed by a presentation of a Certificate of Appointment. A commission handbook was given to Youth Advisor Chan.

2. OLD BUSINESS

2-A. PROMOTION OF MONTEREY PARK DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

The Commission continued to discuss the promotion of the demonstration garden. Principal Management Analyst Bonnie Tam provided the Commission with the landscape architect information of the project under the direction of the Commissioners at its June Commission regular meeting. The landscape architect is Jaime Yamashita of Five Point Design from Santa Monica. Chair Wong mentioned that he left several voice messages to Ms. Yamashita but has not heard from her. Principal Management Analyst Bonnie Tam to obtain alternate contact information and will forward it to the Commission at next regular meeting. At last

regular meeting, Commissioner Mai suggested that the Commission could reach out to the president of the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) at local schools to see if kindergartens and elementary schools are interested in working with the Commission to provide educational tours to K-8 students. Principal Management Analyst Bonnie Tam suggested that a letter can also be sent to the school principals, and the Commission unanimously agreed. The Commission would like to start with contacting four local elementary schools as part of the pilot program: Brightwood, Repetto, Monterey Highlands, and Ynez and directed Principal Management Analyst Bonnie Tam to send invitation letters to the PTA presidents and school principals in August to invite them to attend the October Commission regular meeting to start the conversation.

2-B. MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY (MRF) TOUR

Athens Services offered the Environmental Commission a MRF tour on June 21. Chair Wong, Co-Chair Hwong, and Commissioner Mai attended the tour. Chair Wong continued to discuss waste management and showed some photos taken at a Los Angeles landfill site and answered questions from Commissioners. At last regular meeting, Chair Wong requested to feature an article about the recent Athens Services MRF tour in the *Cascades* September Issue. Principal Management Analyst Bonnie Tam confirmed that the article was submitted to be featured in the *Cascades* September Issue.

3. NEW BUSINESS

3-A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approve the minutes from the regular meeting of July 11, 2017.

Action Taken: The Environmental Commission approved the minutes from the regular meeting of July 11, 2017.

Motion: Chair Wong moved to approve the July 11, 2017 minutes and Co-Chair Hwong seconded, motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes:	Commissioners:	Hwong, Dhing, Wong
Noes:	Commissioners:	None
Absent:	Commissioners:	Mai
Abstain:	Commissioners:	None

3-B. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION PARTICIPATION IN THE NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Chair Wong briefed the Commission their participation in the National Night out event on August 1, 2017. The Commission ordered 200 reusable shopping totes

as giveaways and all of them were given out at the event. The Commission also took the opportunity to display and distribute various public educational flyers pertaining to bulky item pickups, grease traps usage, and E-waste and Used Oil recycling opportunities/events. Information such as Spirit bus schedules, residential trash collection brochures, and Demonstration Garden maps were also distributed as part of the educational outreach effort at the event.

3-C. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION PRE-PLANNING FOR ECOSUMMIT

Chair Wong briefed the Commission on the involvement in the Ecosummit event that was proposed by Mark Keppel High School Student Stanley Lin. The proposed concept of the Ecosummit is to be held at the Barnes Park with four to six organizations that focus on the issues of air quality, water agriculture, and animal protection, etc. Due to lack of information from Stanley Lin, this item will be continued to next regular commission meeting.

4. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS

Co-Chair Hwong announced that the Monterey Park Bruggemeyer Library had hosted a “Flower and Fruit Show” on Sunday, August 6 at 3 p.m. in the Friends Room.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for consideration, the meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Bonnie Tam
Staff Liaison to the Environmental Commission
City of Monterey Park

Approved on September 12, 2017 at the Environmental Commission regular meeting