



## **City of Avondale**

Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Commission



**[Link to Summary of Actions](#)**



**[Link to Meeting Minutes](#)**



**The Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Commission  
Avondale Civic Center, 11465 West Civic Center Drive, Sonoran Room  
Wednesday, November 6th, 2019 at 6:30 P.M.**

## **Summary of Action**

- 1. Meeting Called to Order at 6:31 PM.**
- 2. Introduction of New Members **Introduced****
- 3. Unscheduled Public Appearances. **None****
- 4. "One Less" Campaign Update (Staff Liaison). **Discussed****
- 5. Approval of September 18th, 2019 Minutes (For Action). **Approved****
- 6. MSP Update (Staff Liaison). **Discussed****
- 7. Green Business Program Update (Staff Liaison). **Discussed****
- 8. Rio Reimagined Brownfields Coalition Assessment Grant (Staff Liaison). **Discussed****
- 9. Discussion of Future Agenda Items. **Discussed****
- 10. Meeting Adjourned at 7:23 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Hether Krause  
Environmental & Sustainability Program Manager

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Members will attend either in person or by telephone conference call.

Los miembros asistirán en persona o vía teleconferencia.

Individuals with special accessibility needs, including sight or hearing impaired, large print, or interpreter, should contact the City Clerk at 623-333-1200 or TDD 623-333-0010 at least two business days prior to the meeting.

Personas con necesidades especiales de accesibilidad, incluyendo personas con impedimentos de vista u oído, o con necesidad de impresión grande o intérprete, deben comunicarse con la Secretaria de la Ciudad at 623-333-1200 o TDD 623-333-0010 cuando menos dos días hábiles antes de la junta del Concejo.



## **The Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Commission**

**Avondale Civic Center  
11465 West Civic Center Drive, Sonoran Room**

**Wednesday, November 6th, 2019 at 6:30 P.M.**

### **Minutes**

Called to order at 6:31 pm.

#### **1. Introduction of New Members**

Youth Commissioner Ariel Gomez introduced herself. Billy Vaughn and Matthew Gayle are new members but not present.

#### **2. Roll Call by Staff Liaison**

Commissioners Present- Carolyn Jones, Dan Rauscher, Barry Upshaw, Paul Lemmon, Maureen Wilson, Thomas Albrigo, Elisabeth Valencia and Litzy Hernandez.

#### **3. Unscheduled Public Appearances.**

None.

#### **4. “One Less” Campaign Update (Staff Liaison).**

Ms. Krause presented the analytics of the one-less campaign to the commission as compiled by the City’s marketing team and sustainability intern. Engagement peaked on social media when the one-less campaign was initially announced and during the week of the campaign.

Nextdoor app engagement was high and several residents commented about their “one less” efforts in the comments. 6,800 residents saw the campaign posts.

Facebook and Instagram engagement was high as well.

Staff participation was high, especially with the Fire Department. Photos were submitted for each day of the campaign. City participants won sustainability swag and were pictured picking up their prizes.

The West Valley View and KJZZ reached out for interviews with Ms. Krause.

Commissioner Wilson said she only saw two Facebook posts. She had to search for them and forward them to friends who were also not getting them. Next year, if the City can pay to “boost” the posts, that might help engagement.

Commissioner Wilson also shared that they reduced using several hundred plastic bags each week at the local food pantry she works at. They used the produce to be its own container. Maybe make that a campaign point next year.



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Commissioner Albrigo mentioned he wants the campaign to get to the point where we are getting metrics from local businesses about their reduced use of plastics or other single use items.

Commissioner Jones suggested getting the info out to the HOA's early so they can get blasts out to their residents to support the campaign. Commissioner Wilson agreed with the idea and suggested even turning it in to a competition between HOA's for who can be the greenest.

Chair Hernandez recommended pushing the #AvondaleOneLess during Tres Rios and Earth Day to continue to promote the message all year long.

**5. Approval of September 18th, 2019 Minutes (For Action).**

Commissioner Wilson Moved to approve. Commissioner Jones Seconded. The Motion carried unanimously.

**6. MSP Update (Staff Liaison).**

Ms. Krause will email Commissioner Gomez a link to the MSP online. The first progress report was released earlier this year. FY 20 goals are still being worked on with department directors. One of the current items is a Green Purchasing Policy and the Green Office Program (purchase office supplies) to make sure they have a high recycle content, etc. to roll out to departments. Staff is also working on a composting contract which would reduce paper towels in the trash and food waste in the lunchroom.

Commissioner Lemmon asked about the frequency of small orders. All of those considerations would be taken in to account in the green purchasing policy.

Commissioner Wilson asked that we also look at green cleaning products be used because she has experienced walking into conference rooms at City Hall and having a reaction to the smell of the chemicals used by the City cleaning vendor.

**7. Green Business Program Update (Staff Liaison).**

Green Business Event was rescheduled due to fall break conflict with the business owners. Looking to reschedule to Spring 2020 and Commissioners will be invited.

Copper State Rubber was recently certified as a Green Business. The business has over 100 trees on site and they do waste reduction where they can. Staff is committed to recycling and take their items home to recycle.

**8. Rio Reimagined Brownfields Coalition Assessment Grant (Staff Liaison).**

Ms. Krause showed Commissioners the Rio Reimagined Website and gave an overview of the planned improvements for the Salt River. The intent of these improvements is to engage the communities with the river and to bring water back to the river.

Ms. Krause attended a brownfields working group hosted by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as it relates to the Rio Reimagined project and explained what is considered a "brownfield". The EPA provides funding to cities to assess and remediate brownfield sites. This effort promotes economic development. Avondale is looking at a grant opportunity with the cities of Phoenix and Buckeye to remediate brownfield sites. Up to half of the grant funds can be used for planning as well so the funds could be used to plan the vision of that area.



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Commission is in support of the grant application. Ms. Krause will send the Rio Reimagined link out to the commissioners.

#### **9. Discussion of Future Agenda Items.**

Ms. Krause reminded commissioners that a new Chair and Vice Chair need to be selected at the first meeting of 2020 and that Commissioners Irakoze, Rauscher and Jones will be termed out next year.

Commissioner Albrigo suggested that the Green Team, Council, City Manager's Office, Clerk's office let the commission know what they want to see them doing.

Log commitments for the City's upcoming events so a Notice of Possible Quorum can be posted.

Public Works water presentation.

Rio Reimagined Update by project manager, Brian Craig, City Planning Manager.

Commence one-less planning and recognition. Commissioner Wilson proposes that we get water billing to get the one-less campaign or the high 5 recycle on the half slips in the water bills and that we promote #Avondaleoneless on all of our sustainability swag.

#### **10. Adjournment.**

Motion by Commissioner Lemmon, Second by Commissioner Upshaw. Motion carries; approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Copp  
Senior Management Analyst  
Development and Engineering Services

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