

Environmental Policy Commission Minutes  
March 4, 2013 EPC Work Session

**EPC Members in Attendance**

X	Josh Sawislak (Chair)	✓	Sam Gaugush	X	Kurt Moser
✓	Chinling Chen	✓	Scott Barstow	X	Geoffrey Goode
X	Steve Walz	✓	Ryan Sloan	✓	Rebecca Jablon
X	Ryan Wojtanowski	✓	Monica Starnes	✓	Jim Kapsis

[✓ = In attendance X= Absent]

**City Staff**

Bill Skrabak, Khoa Tran

**Begin 7:30 PM**

**Welcome and Introductions**

- Scott called the meeting to order and welcomed Jennifer Hovis, Earth Day Chair, and Jim Durham, BPAC Vice Chair.

**Public Comments**

- None.

**LOCAL MOTION Commuter Challenge, Megan Cummings, Transportation Management Plan (TMP) Planner**

- LOCAL MOTION is a City initiative that serves as a resource to connect Alexandria residents, employers and employees with alternative transportation programs.
- One such initiative is Carshare Alexandria, the City works with Zipcar, and will reimburse residents and businesses up to \$85.
- LOCAL MOTION also promotes Capital Bikeshare, the Guaranteed Ride Home Program, and similar initiatives.
- The Commuter Challenge is a two-week challenge, beginning April 1<sup>st</sup>, that is a friendly competition between Alexandria employers.
  - o The challenge is to encourage alternative modes of transportation (car/vanpool, walk, bike, transit and telework) among commuters.
  - o Two years ago, approximately 250 individuals (representing seven employers) participated.
  - o Last year, approximately 500 individuals (representing nine employers) participated, and nearly 65,000 vehicle miles traveled were saved.
  - o The goal this year is 1,000 individual participants.
  - o The deadline for registration is March 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - o Megan and her colleagues will go to registered companies to provide support and resources.
  - o EPC suggested that Local Motion make better use of the emails of past participants such as asking permission from participants on inclusion in the e-news or other City email lists.

**2013 Alexandria Earth Day Logistics, Jennifer Hovis, Chair, Earth Day Planning Committee, and Chinling Chen, Vice-Chair, Earth Day Planning Committee**

- Earth Day festivities will be held April 20, 2013 from 10 am to 2 pm.
- Earth Day Planning meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month; all are welcome, the next meeting will be March 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at Lee Center.
- The theme will be Water, Every Drop Counts.

- The day will feature an upcycling showcase and tree sale.
- The EPC is one of the key sponsors of the event, and EPC members should please plan to attend from 7:30/8 am to 3 pm.
- Deadline for exhibitors is March 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- More exhibitors and more sponsors are needed.
- The EPC mans a tent during Earth Day, sells/hands out t-shirts, checks in volunteers, provides general information, presents an Eco-City exhibit (provided by the City), and provides a children's educational activity. The EPC should think of which activity they would like to do.
  - o Chinling will start a working list of potential activities.
- Jennifer will come back to the April 15<sup>th</sup> EPC meeting with a sign-up sheet for EPC members to sign-up for specific day-of tasks.

#### **TPB Community Leadership Institute, Scott Barstow, EPC Vice-Chair**

- Scott stated that Josh wanted to make EPC members aware of the opportunity of the TPB Community Leadership Institute, and that all should apply if interested. The application deadline is March 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Staff and Commission Member Updates**

- FY 2014 Proposed City Budget:
  - o The proposed budget was released on February 26<sup>th</sup>.
  - o The EPC voted to authorize the EPC chair to send a letter regarding the proposed budget.
  - o Khoa will send to the EPC an example of a similar letter sent by the EPC in years past.
  - o Bill and Khoa will go through the budget and pull out highlights to send on to the EPC.
- 2012 Eco-City Progress and Environmental Indicator Report
  - o Khoa is in the process of pulling all of the data, he will come back to the EPC with a draft report.
- A PRGS Monitoring Group meeting will be held Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>.
- The City gave a stormwater presentation to the Federation of Civic Associations
- The City is getting together a final draft of the CSO permit.

**Adjourn 9:00 PM**