



**AGENDA**  
**NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**  
TUESDAY, June 28, 2016

7:00 p.m.

AMEDEE O. "DICK" RICHARDS, JR. COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena, CA 91030

Commissioners: Al Benzoni, Kay Findley, William Kelly, Scott Kuhn, Stephen Leider,  
Noah Puni, Emily Ng and Nancy Wilms  
City Council Liaison: Council Member Robert S. Joe  
Staff Liaison: Jennifer Shimmin

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting: May 24, 2016.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS**

Time reserved for those in attendance who wish to address the Commission. All attendees should be aware that the Commission may not discuss details or vote on non-agenda items. Your concerns may be referred to staff or placed on a future agenda. Note: public input will also be taken during all agenda items.

**BUSINESS ITEMS**

- 1) **Polystyrene Ban (Puni)** – Discussion and possible action on a ban of polystyrene containers. (30 minutes)
- 2) **Public Education on Tree Watering (Kelly)** – Discussion of an article on proper tree watering techniques. (10 minutes)
- 3) **NREC 2015-16 Annual Report (Kelly)** Discussion of what to include in the NREC Annual Report to the City Council (10 minutes)
- 4) **NREC Meetings** Discussion and decision about going dark for the summer (10 minutes)
- 5) **Water Conservation Programs and Drought Actions (Shimmin)** - City had a total water reduction of 29.1% for April 2016 versus 2013. The City self-certified at a 0% reduction, should still maintain efforts.

**INFORMATION ONLY (No Discussion Required) (15 minutes)**

- 6) **Water Conservation Rebates Report** – MWD current FY: 68 applicants paid for turf removal and 34 on the reservation list; 227 paid applicants for all other rebate items. City current FY: 62 toilets rebated.
- 7) **Code of Ethics And Values** - All Commissioners are required to sign.
- 8) **Urban Forest Update**
- 9) **Drought Restriction Violation Update** - 227 first time violation tags issued so far FY 2015-16.
- 10) **Commissioner Training** - A recommended Commissioner training will take place on 8/24/16.
- 11) **Arbor Access** - Scheduling of software demo.
- 12) **Upcoming Events** - Clean Air Car Show and Green Living Expo will be on 9/10/16.

**CHAIR COMMUNICATIONS**

**COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS**

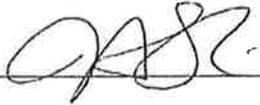
**STAFF LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS**

**COUNCIL LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS**

**ADJOURNMENT** – Next Regular Meeting – July 26, 2016

STATE OF CALIFORNIA     )  
CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA     )  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES     )

I declare under penalty of perjury, that I am an employee of the City of South Pasadena, and that I posted this Agenda on the bulletin board in the courtyard of the City Hall at 1414 Mission Street, South Pasadena on 6-24-16, as required by Law.

Date: June 24, 2016                      Signature: 

## South Pasadena Natural Resources Commission

**DATE:** June 13, 2016  
**TO:** South Pasadena Natural Resources & Environmental Commission  
**FROM:** Bill Kelly & Noah Puni  
**RE:** Proposal to Restrict Polystyrene within Food and Retail Operations

### Proposed Action:

The South Pasadena Natural Resources & Environmental Commission recommends that the City of South Pasadena ban the use of polystyrene for pre-packaged take-out food within the city, using the City of Manhattan Beach's polystyrene ordinance (attached). In addition, the ordinance would provide for a hardship exemption.

### Rationale:

Polystyrene contributes to litter and washes into the ocean where it breaks into small ingestible bits of material eaten by fish and other marine life, resulting in illness and death. Polystyrene is not economically recyclable and was listed earlier this year by the State of California as a carcinogen. Many less harmful alternatives are readily and economically available. Major cities across the nation, including Chicago, New York, Philadelphia, Seattle, Boston, Washington, Portland, and Honolulu have adopted bans on use of polystyrene for pre-packaged takeout food. In California, 96 cities—including the City of Pasadena most recently—have banned polystyrene. Municipal bans in California have come as cities face a state goal of reducing the amount of waste that goes to landfills by 75 percent, meaning that readily recyclable materials are preferred for compliance purposes. Major fast food companies, including McDonald's for instance, already have eliminated use of polystyrene.

### Discussion:

The Natural Resources & Environmental Commission and City of South Pasadena Public Works Department have been considering recommending that the City adopt an ordinance to ban use of polystyrene for some two years. NREC and City staff reasoned that it would be timely for the City to proceed once the City of Pasadena adopted a polystyrene ordinance. The City of Pasadena did so on May 9, 2016.

In considering its recommendation on polystyrene to the City of South Pasadena, NREC most recently heard presentations by Josephine Miller of the City of Santa Monica's Office of Sustainability & the Environment, who discussed that city's ban, as well as by Morey Wolfson of the Pasadena Environmental Advisory Commission on Pasadena's action. In addition, NREC heard brief testimony from South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce President Laurie Wheeler

and former Chamber President, Scott Feldman, both indicating that the Chamber does not oppose a City of South Pasadena ban.

After studying the issue and hearing testimony, NREC has decided to recommend that the City of South Pasadena model its ordinance after the City of Manhattan Beach's, which is one of the most comprehensive polystyrene municipal ordinances because it includes polystyrene cup lids and straws, which many city ordinances (for instance, Pasadena's and Santa Monica's) do not include. The proposed ordinance would include a hardship exemption for businesses, although in other cities it has rarely been used—if ever. In addition, NREC recommends that any City of South Pasadena ordinance not take effect until 90 days after its enactment in order to give City staff time to notify local businesses of the new requirement and the availability of substitute products. The 90-day lead time also will give restaurants time to clear their existing inventory, without having to absorb the cost, and to line up substitute product suppliers.

Finally, NREC recommends that City staff send a notification letter to all businesses affected by the ordinance and include in the mailing a fact sheet on the ordinance and a list of substitute products. In addition, NREC recommends that the City publicize its action to ban polystyrene to local newspapers and through the City's community newsletter, web site and social media platforms.

**Attachments:**

Manhattan Beach Ordinance  
Presentation by City of Pasadena Staff  
Presentation by Josephine Miller, City of Santa Monica  
Presentation by Morey Wolfson, Pasadena Environmental Advisory Commission  
Distributors of Compostable Recyclable Food Service Products  
Clean Water Action Polystyrene Foam Cost Comparison to Alternatives  
Clean Water Action Illustrative Restaurant Cost Structure  
Draft CA Polystyrene Ordinance Matrix  
OEHHA Notice on Polystyrene

Item no. 1

**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT**

**SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986  
(Proposition 65)**

**NOTICE TO INTERESTED PARTIES  
APRIL 22, 2016**

**CHEMICAL LISTED EFFECTIVE APRIL 22, 2016  
AS KNOWN TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
TO CAUSE CANCER: STYRENE**

Effective **April 22, 2016**, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) is adding *styrene* (CAS No. 100-42-5) to the list of chemicals known to the state to cause cancer for purposes of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65<sup>1</sup>).

The listing of styrene is based on formal identification by the National Toxicology Program (NTP), an authoritative body<sup>2</sup>, that the chemical causes cancer. The criteria used by OEHHA for the listing of chemicals under the "authoritative bodies" mechanism can be found in Title 27, Cal. Code of Regs., section 25306.

The documentation supporting OEHHA's determination that the criteria for administrative listing have been satisfied for styrene is included in the Notice of Intent to List posted on OEHHA's website and published in the February 27, 2015 issue of the California Regulatory Notice Register (Register 2015, No. 9-Z). OEHHA received 13 public comments on the Notice of Intent to List. The comments and OEHHA's responses are posted with the Notice of Intent to List.

A complete, updated chemical list will be published in the *California Regulatory Notice Register* and is available on the OEHHA website. In summary, styrene is listed under Proposition 65 effective April 22, 2016 as known to the state to cause cancer, as follows:

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<sup>1</sup> Health and Safety Code section 25249.5 *et seq.*

<sup>2</sup> See Health and Safety Code, section 25249.8(b) and Title 27, Cal. Code of Regs., section 25306.

<b>Chemical</b>	<b>CAS No.</b>	<b>Toxicological Endpoint</b>	<b>Listing Mechanism*</b>
<i>Styrene</i>	100-42-5	cancer	AB (NTP)

\* Listing mechanism: AB – “authoritative bodies” mechanism (Title 27, Cal. Code of Regs. section 25306).