



**CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

**A G E N D A
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2026, AT 6:30 P.M.**

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1424 MISSION STREET, SOUTH PASADENA, CA 91030**

South Pasadena Commission Statement of Civility

As your appointed governing board, we will treat each other, members of the public, and city employees with patience, civility and courtesy as a model of the same behavior we wish to reflect in South Pasadena for the conduct of all city business and community participation. The decisions made today will be for the benefit of the South Pasadena community and not for personal gain.

NOTICE ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & ACCESSIBILITY

The South Pasadena Natural Resources and Environmental Commission Meeting will be conducted in-person from the Council Chambers, Amedee O. "Dick" Richards, Jr., located at 1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena.

The meeting will be available:

- In Person – **Council Chambers 1424 Mission Street South Pasadena**
- Via Zoom – **Webinar ID: 880 7206 2700**

To maximize public safety while still maintaining transparency and public access, members of the public can observe the meeting via Zoom in one of the three methods below.

1. Go to the Zoom website, <https://zoom.us/join> and enter the Zoom Meeting information; or
2. Click on the following unique Zoom meeting link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88072062700>; or
3. You may listen to the meeting by calling +1-669-900-6833 and entering the Zoom Meeting ID.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Michael Noe

ROLL CALL:

Chair Michael Noe
Vice Chair Alex Rajewski
Commissioner Liam R. de Villa Bourke
Commissioner Casey Law
Commissioner Emily Ng
Commissioner Margaret Yi
Commissioner Lorcan Swift (Youth Commissioner)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chair Michael Noe

PUBLIC COMMENT**1. GENERAL (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)****ACTION/DISCUSSION****2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 24, 2026, NREC REGULAR MEETING**Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission review and approve the March 24, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes.

3. FARMERS MARKET: PLASTICS REDUCTIONRecommendation

It is recommended that the Commission discuss potential activations at the South Pasadena Farmers Market to encourage patrons and vendors to adopt plastic alternatives.

4. NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION WORKPLAN REVIEWRecommendation

It is recommended that the Commission review and approve a workplan for the remainder of FY 2025-26 and FY 2026-27.

PRESENTATION**5. SB 1383 X SOUTH PASADENA SCHOOL DISTRICT COMPLIANCE**Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission discuss strategies for facilitating the South Pasadena Unified School District's transition to a 3-stream waste collection system in accordance with Senate Bill 1383 requirements.

6. PUBLIC WORKS FLEET REPLACEMENTSRecommendation

It is recommended that the Commission receive a presentation regarding the City Council's recent decision concerning the transition of the Public Works vehicle fleet.

COMMUNICATIONS**7. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS****8. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS**

9. STAFF LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS**10. UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events
(www.cleanla.lacounty.gov/hhw)
- LA County Smart Gardening Workshops & Webinars
(www.cleanla.lacounty.gov/smartgardening)
- MWD Turf Removal + CA Native Landscape Webinars
(www.greengardensgroup.com/turf-transformation)

ADJOURNMENT**FOR YOUR INFORMATION****FUTURE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETINGS**

July 28, 2026	Regular Meeting	6:30 p.m.
September 22, 2026	Regular Meeting	6:30 p.m.
November 17, 2026	Regular Meeting	6:30 p.m.

PUBLIC ACCESS TO AGENDA DOCUMENTS AND BROADCASTING OF MEETINGS

Commission meeting agenda packets, any agenda related documents, and additional documents are available online for public inspection on the City's website:

<https://www.southpasadenaca.gov/government/boards-commissions>

Meeting recordings will be available for public viewing after the meeting. Recordings will be uploaded to the City's YouTube Channel no later than the next business day after the meeting.

The City's YouTube Channel may be accessed at:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnR169ohzi1AlewD_6sfwDA/featured

AGENDA NOTIFICATION SUBSCRIPTION

If you wish to receive an agenda email notification please contact the Sustainability Division via email at NRECPublicComment@SouthPasadenaCA.gov or call (626) 403-7240.

ACCOMMODATIONS

The City of South Pasadena wishes to make all of its public meetings accessible to the public. If special assistance is needed to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk's Division at (626) 403-7230 or CityClerk@southpasadenaca.gov. Upon request, this agenda will be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disabilities. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will assist staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility to the meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II).

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING

*I declare under penalty of perjury that I posted this notice of agenda for the meeting to be held on **May 26, 2026**, on the bulletin board in the courtyard of City Hall at 1414 Mission Street, South Pasadena, CA 91030, and on the City's website as required by law, on the date listed below.*

5/21/2026	/S/	<i>Danielle Garcia</i>
Date	Danielle Garcia, Water Conservation Analyst	

ITEM 2

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 24, 2026, NREC REGULAR MEETING



**CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2026, AT 6:30 P.M.**

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1424 MISSION STREET, SOUTH PASADENA, CA 91030**

PRESENT:	Chair	Michael Noe
	Vice Chair	Alex Rajewski
	Commissioner	Liam R. de Villa Bourke
	Commissioner	Casey Law
	Commissioner	Emily Ng
ABSENT:	Commissioner	Margaret Yi (Excused)

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. GENERAL (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

In Person Public Comments:

None.

Zoom Public Comments:

None.

ACTION

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 2026, NREC REGULAR MEETING

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission review and approve the January 27, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes.

COMMISSION ACTION & MOTION

A motion was made by Commissioner de Villa Bourke, seconded by Commissioner Rajewski and approved by roll call vote for the approval of the January 27, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion carried 5-0-1, by the following vote:

AYES: Noe, Rakewski, De Villa Bourke, Law, Ng.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Yi.

ABSTAINED: None.

DISCUSSION

3. EARTH MONTH ACTIVITIES

Danielle Garcia, Public Works Analyst, presented the upcoming Earth Month activities scheduled throughout April 2026. She specifically highlighted opportunities for constituents to participate in these environmentally focused programs.

Commissioners provided feedback for future years, suggesting the addition of activities that appeal to all age ranges and involve local businesses. They also recommended incorporating more hands-on community activations to serve as daily reminders throughout April and on Earth Day.

In Person Public Comments:

None.

Zoom Public Comments:

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

4. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS

Councilmember Cacciotti provided updates on regional transportation and environmental efforts, highlighting Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy open space funding, Metro Foothill Gold Line design progress, and community bike bridge events supported by local school and police coordination. Additionally, a recent application announced that staff will be applying towards the regional EV charging infrastructure resiliency program.

Additionally, Councilmember Cacciotti & commissioners conducted a discussion regarding data centers and hazardous conditions they present for communities they are situated in.

5. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Rajewski highlighted the recently renovated park near the Arroyo Seco noting the bike track and walking path leading into the nature park, while also encouraging residents to take advantage of the City's generous online rebates for water-wise appliances and irrigation.

New Youth Commissioner Swift introduced himself, expressing his interest in environmental science and his plans to study environmental law in college

Chair Noe requested timeline and budget updates on the Urban Forest Management Plan, clarification on the City's coyote safety and wildlife management responses, and confirmation on whether the West Side Reservoir replacement environmental documents will come before the Commission. Additionally, he emphasized the importance of engaging the South Pasadena Unified School District in three-stream waste compliance and requested that Athens Services provide an update on school board outreach at the May meeting.

6. STAFF LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS

Michael Vartanians, City Engineer, welcomed youth Commissioner Swift to the group. Additionally, updates provided on the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project, MSRC grant application and the FY 25-2026 Street Improvement Project.

7. UPCOMING EVENTS

- City of South Pasadena Annual Sustainability Fair | April 11 | Nature Park | 1-4PM
- April MWD Landscape Training – Protect the Pollinators | April 16 | Virtual Webinar | 6PM-7:15PM | <https://greengardensgroup.com/g3-events/protect-the-pollinators-upper-water-260416/>
- Compost & Mulch Giveaway | April 25 | 9AM-12PM
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events (www.cleanla.lacounty.gov/hhw)
- LA County Smart Gardening Workshops & Webinars (www.cleanla.lacounty.gov/smartgardening)
- MWD Turf Removal + CA Native Landscape Webinars (www.greengardensgroup.com/turf-transformation)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further matters, Chair Noe adjourned the meeting of the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission at 7:41PM to the next Regular Commission meeting scheduled for May 26, 2026.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

FUTURE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETINGS

March 24, 2026	Regular Meeting	6:30 p.m.
May 26, 2026	Regular Meeting	6:30 p.m.
July 28, 2026	Regular Meeting	6:30 p.m.

ITEM 4

NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION WORKPLAN REVIEW

Natural Resources & Environmental Commission

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Work Plan



Topics
Parks Master Plan ➤ Update & Implementation
Urban Forest Master Plan ➤ Tree Ordinance
Electrification & EV Projects ➤ Fleet Transition ➤ Charging Infrastructure
Plastics Reduction ➤ City Wide Plastics Reduction ➤ Community Events (i.e. Farmers Market, Arts Crawl, etc.)
SB 1383 Compliance ➤ Commercial Business Compliance ➤ Residential Compliance
Public Works Projects/Programs/Plans ➤ Huntington & Fremont Corridor Improvement ➤ Arroyo Seco Reuse Project ➤ Westside Reservoir Reconstruction Project ➤ Mobility/Active/Bicycle Master Plan Update ➤ Water Master Plan ➤ Sanitary Sewer Master Plan ➤ Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan ➤ Mission Slow Street

ITEM 5

SB 1383 X SOUTH PASADENA SCHOOL DISTRICT COMPLIANCE

Outreach & Education



THIS IS **ATHENS SERVICES**



Founded more than
65 years ago in 1957



Family-owned and operated,
recycling and waste
diversion company based in
Southern California



Athens Services



BROAD RANGE OF SOLUTIONS:



Residential and commercial



Roll-off and construction and demolition (C&D)



Street sweeping



Composting of organics waste



Focused on **landfill avoidance**

SB 1383: CA's Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Law

Requires Participation From All Residents, MFDs, & Businesses

Statewide Goals by 2025:

- 75% reduction of organics to landfill
- 20% recovery (for human consumption) of currently disposed edible food

Purpose:

- Supports AB 32, fast tracks climate change mitigation, & improves public health and environment
- Targets reduction of methane emissions from landfills

reducing
landfill
waste and
pollution

recycling
organic
material
into new
products

Fighting
California's
climate
crisis

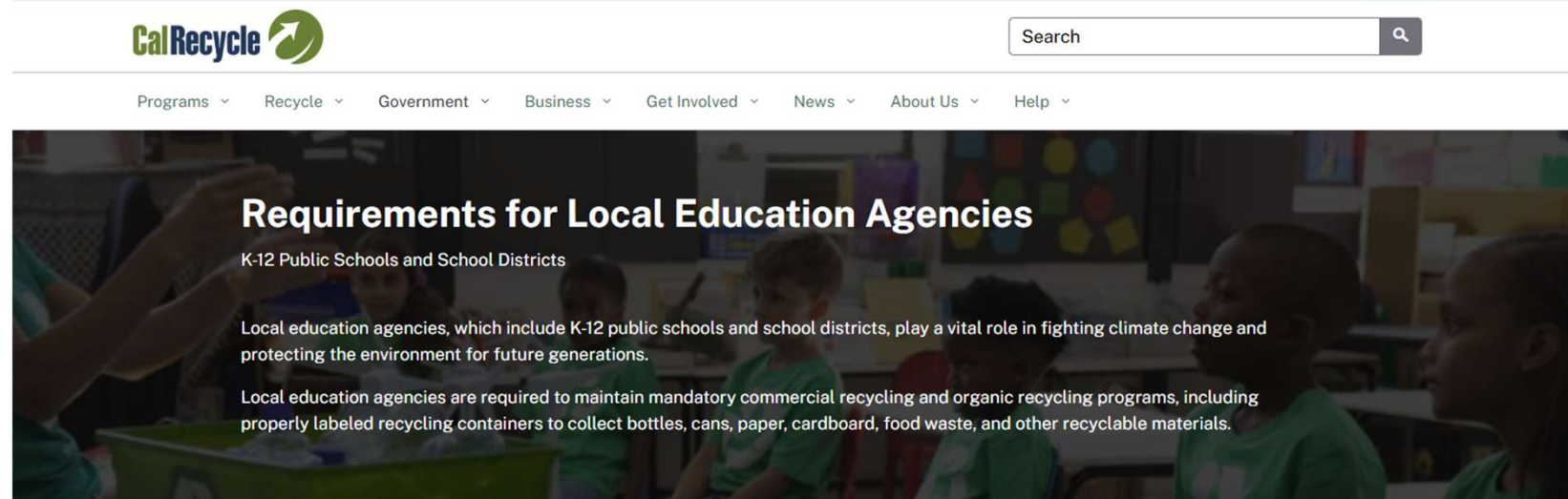
rescuing
food and
feeding
Californians
in need



AthensServices.com

SB 1383:

Requirements for Local Education Agencies



Impacted Schools and Districts

SB 1383 applies to all local education agencies, including:

- K-12 public and charter schools
- School districts
- County offices of education (that are not subject to the control of the city or county solid waste regulations)

SB 1383:

Requirements for Local Education Agencies

- **Collection Requirements**
 - Subscribe to an organics collection service
- **Education**
 - Schools must educate employees and students about organic waste prevention and how to properly sort waste into the correct containers
 - Clear signage and container labeling encourages proper sorting and minimizes contamination.
- **Containers**
 - Schools must provide containers to collect organic waste and recyclables in all areas where disposal containers are provided, except in restrooms.
 - Schools are not required to provide a collection container if a material type is not generated in a particular room (e.g., food waste in a classroom).
 - Containers must conform to the proper color or labeling requirements
- **Edible Food Recovery Program**
 - Since January 1, 2024, local education agencies with an on-site food facility (like a school cafeteria) are required to donate all edible food that they would otherwise throw away to a food recovery organization.
This requirement benefits local communities by diverting food to hungry Californians.

Share Tables

Designated locations where children can place unconsumed food and beverage items (i.e., prepackaged food and beverages; unopened, wrapped food and beverages; or food items with a peel)

Benefits

- Supported by USDA, CA Department of Education, and CA Health Department
- Extra food can be utilized by students or donated to local food recovery organizations
- Highest and best use
- SaveTheFoodLA.com

RETHINK
BEFORE YOU WASTE YOUR FOOD



Use the
Food Share Baskets
In the dining areas.

If you are full or do not want your fruit,
veggies, or unopened packaged food,
Don't Waste It, Share It!

AthensServices.com

Every day, Americans waste enough food to fill the Rose Bowl, a 90,000 seat stadium.

Where Does It Go?

ORGANICS

Plant Matter & Food Scraps



100% Fiber-based, Food-Soiled Paper (NO Bioplastics)



Where Does It Go?

LANDFILL

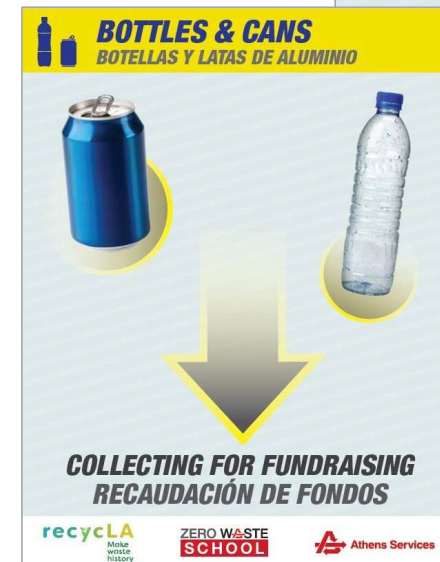
non-recyclable trash no longer of use



AthensServices.com

Outreach Materials

Online & Printed Resources



Annual Education

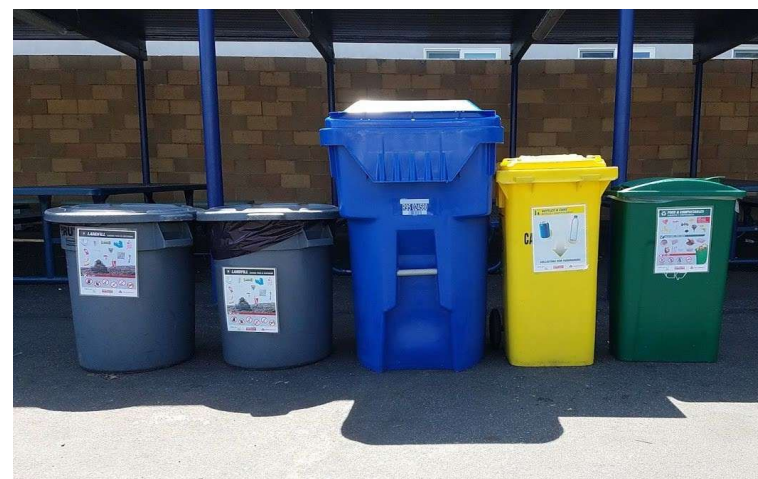
- ⚡ School Assemblies
- ⚡ Lunch & Learn
- ⚡ Career Day Presentation
- ⚡ Touch A Truck & Presentation
- ⚡ PTA Presentations for Parents



AthensServices.com

ATHENS 6 STEPS TO ZERO WASTE PROGRAM

- 1: Schedule a Walk-Through
 - Observe infrastructure and provide recommendations
- 2: Identify “Zero Waste Leadership Team”
 - Admin, teachers, custodial, foodservice, student body
- 3: Conduct Campus Waste Inventories
 - Containers and signage
- 4: Identify Approach/Goals
 - Phased-in approach
- 5. Implement Sorting Stations and Signage
- 6. Kick Off Zero Waste Program
 - Assembly and routine check-ins



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