
Tuesday, March 3, 2026, 6:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBER
6650 Beach Boulevard
Buena Park, CA 90621

CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
Tuesday, March 3, 2026 - 6:00 p.m.

1. GENERAL

1.A. CALL TO ORDER

1.B. ROLL CALL

James, Bendinelli, Schooner, Singhal, Figueroa

1.C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. COMMUNICATIONS

2.A. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

— This is the portion of the meeting set aside to invite public comments regarding any matter within the jurisdiction of the Climate Action Commission. Public comments are limited to no more than three minutes each. If comments relate to a specific agenda item, those comments will be taken following the staff report for that item and prior to the Commission vote. Those wishing to speak are asked to complete a speaker identification form located at the Council Chamber entrance and place it in the box near the speaker's lectern.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.A. Approval of Meeting Minutes - February 3, 2026 and February 5, 2026

4. OLD BUSINESS

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.A. DISCUSS FUTURE COMPOST EVENTS/PROGRAMS

5.B. FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION REGARDING CITY LANDSCAPING STANDARDS

6. CITY/STAFF UPDATES, INFORMATION ITEMS, FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

6.A. CITY/STAFF UPDATES, INFORMATION ITEMS, FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

7. ADJOURNMENT

7.A. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned to the next regular meeting on Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

This agenda contains a brief general description of each item to be considered. Supporting documents are available for review and copying at City Hall or at www.buenapark.com. Supplementary materials distributed to the Commission less than 72 hours before the meeting are posted to the City's website at www.buenapark.com and copies are available for public inspection beginning the next regular business day. This governing body is prohibited from discussing or taking action on any item which is not included in this agenda; however, may ask clarifying questions, ask staff to follow-up, or provide other direction. The order of business as it appears on this agenda may be modified by the governing body.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need accommodations to participate in this meeting, contact Public Works at (714) 562-3655 or the California Relay Service at 711. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make arrangements to assure accessibility.

If you would like to participate in any matter of business on the agenda and would like translation in Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog, or Vietnamese, please **contact Public Works at (714) 562-3655 48-hours prior to the meeting**. Residents requiring translation during Oral Communications are encouraged to bring interpreters.

시의회 목록에 있는 정식 안건에 대해 의견을 발표하고 싶으신 경우, 중국어, 한국어, 스페인어, 타갈로에 대한 통역사가 필요하시면 시미팅 48시간전 시서기 오피스로 (714-562-3655) 연락하시면 됩니다. 정식안건이 아닌 주민 발언시간에 발표하실 경우, 본인의 통역사를 직접 모시고 오시면 감사하겠습니다.

Si le gustaría participar en audiencia pública o cualquier asunto de negocios programado en la agenda y necesita traducción en chino, coreano, español, tagalo o vietnamita, comuníquese con la Oficina del Secretario de la Ciudad, 48 horas antes de la reunión al (714) 562-3655. Para participar en los comentarios públicos sobre cualquier otro asunto dentro de la jurisdicción del ayuntamiento, se les recomienda que traiga un intérprete.

I, Elizabeth Genera, City of Buena Park, do hereby certify, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that a full and correct copy of this agenda was posted pursuant to Government Code Section 54950 et. seq., at Buena Park City Hall, 6650 Beach Blvd., and uploaded to the City of Buena Park website www.buenapark.com.

Elizabeth Genera
City of Buena Park
Public Works

Date Posted: February 26, 2026



A. Approval of Meeting Minutes - February 3, 2026 and February 5, 2026

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, March 3, 2026, 6:00 PM	APPROVAL OF MINUTES Item: 3A.
Prepared By	Department Head Approval
Elizabeth Genera, Senior Administrative Assistant	Mina Mikhael, Director of Public Works/City Engineer
Presented By	
Elizabeth Genera, Senior Administrative Assistant	

Attachments

[ca minutes 2-3-26.pdf](#)

[ca minutes 2-5-26.pdf](#)



City of Buena Park

MINUTES
CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION MEETING
FEBRUARY 3, 2026

1A. CALL TO ORDER

The Climate Action Commission met on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 6650 Beach Boulevard, Buena Park, CA.

1B. ROLL CALL PRESENT: Schooner, Singhal, James, Bendinelli, Figueroa
STAFF: Lotus Thai, Sustainability Manager
Matt Foulkes, Director of Community & Economic Development
Elizabeth Genera, Recording Secretary

1C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. COMMUNICATIONS

This is a portion of the meeting set aside to invite public comments regarding any matter within the jurisdiction of the Climate Action Commission. Public comments are limited to no more than 3 minutes for each speaker.

2A. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

*****M/S/P – Bendinelli/Singhal – Approval of Meeting Minutes – December 2, 2025***

4. OLD BUSINESS – No items.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5A. COMMISSION APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

To have fair and equitable representation, the chair and vice-chair positions shall rotate between commissioners/committee members in numerical order by districts in January of each calendar year, pursuant to the manner and process established in City Council Policy No. 22 (2023).

Sagil James (District 1) was appointed as Chair; Dominic Bendinelli (District 4) was appointed as Vice Chair for 2026 calendar year.

5B. DISCUSS FRONT YARD LANDSCAPING STANDARDS

Matt Foulkes, Director of Community & Economic Development presented information and the background of the City's municipal code Chapter 19.332.010 pertaining to front yard landscaping standards. In summary, the chapter states:

- In single-family residential zones, all required yards which abut streets shall be landscaped and a minimum of 50% of the required yard shall be maintained with "landscaping."
- All landscape installation or rehabilitation shall meet the requirements of the City's Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance.
- Artificial turf may be used in lieu of natural turf within the front, side, and rear yards but a minimum of 20% of the landscaped area shall contain living plant material.
- Landscaped areas shall be kept in a neat and clean condition; free of debris, dead, or dying vegetation.
- Vegetation in landscaped areas shall be mowed, groomed, trimmed, pruned, and watered to keep the landscaping in a healthy, growing condition.
- Irrigation systems shall be kept in working condition.
- New construction shall plant a minimum of (1) tree along each street frontage.
- Pavement or hardscape shall not exceed 50% percent of a front yard.
- No person shall damage or remove any tree from private property without first obtaining approval from the Community and Economic Development Department. The Department may approve the removal or relocation of a tree if the tree is:
 - To be relocated on the same property.
 - Posing an immediate threat to health, safety, or property.
 - Dead, diseased, and/or in severe decline as determined by a Certified Arborist.
 - Damaging public property or creating a public safety hazard.
 - Damaging improvements on private property.
 - Interfering with public utilities.
 - Removed to preserve the health of other nearby trees.
 - A non-native tree and is to be replaced by a healthy native tree.

Chapter 13.30.020 – Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance

- Applies to new landscaped areas greater than 500 square feet.
- Rehabilitate/renovated landscaped areas greater than 2,500 square feet.
- Requires preparation by a licensed landscape professional.
- Requires preparation of calculations for water demand by plant species, water usage and irrigation system efficiency.
- Mostly applies to commercial and industrial development or new residential development.

In September 2025, City Council, with input from the Climate Action Commission, adopted its first Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP). The CAAP has several actions that relate to landscaping:

Water and Wastewater W1c: Develop a community education program for drought-tolerant landscaping, including recommended native and low-water plant species and off-the-shelf water-efficient landscape designs.

Water and Wastewater W2c: Encourage use of rain barrels for use in irrigation of residential and commercial landscaping.

Natural and Urban Lands NU1b: Educate the community on developing and managing landscapes to increase carbon sequestration and drought tolerance.

Municipal M5c: Replace non-programmed turf at City-owned buildings and facilities with native, drought-tolerant landscaping.

Mr. Foulkes stated there are many resources and programs to encourage drought tolerant landscaping and rebates.

6. CITY/STAFF UPDATES, INFORMATIONAL ITEMS, FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Office of Sustainability will partner with SCE and the OC Power Authority to host *Lumipoolooza Energy Expo*. The event will be held during the summer concert series on July 22 at Boisseranc Park.

Staff is working on purchasing *Buena Park Sustainabuddies* merchandise give-a-ways for special events.

The City of Buena Park and the Noon Lions invite residents to join them for a free metro link train ride to San Juan Capistrano on February 28. Residents can register on line by February 22.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. The next regular scheduled meeting will be held on March 3, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Elizabeth Genera, Recording Secretary

Climate Action Commission Chair



City of Buena Park

MINUTES CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION MEETING FEBRUARY 5, 2026

1A. CALL TO ORDER

The Climate Action Commission met on Thursday, February 5, 2026, at 9:15 a.m. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 6650 Beach Boulevard, Buena Park, CA.

- 1B. ROLL CALL** PRESENT: Schooner, Singhal, Figueroa
STAFF: Lotus Thai, Sustainability Manager
Laurie Aubuchon, Senior Management Analyst
Elizabeth Genera, Recording Secretary

1C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. COMMUNICATIONS

This is a portion of the meeting set aside to invite public comments regarding any matter within the jurisdiction of the Climate Action Commission. Public comments are limited to no more than 3 minutes for each speaker.

2A. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None

3. NEW BUSINESS

3A. ECOS TOUR

Commissioner Schooner, Singhal, and Figueroa were in attendance along with staff: Lotus Thai and Laurie Aubuchon. Staff and Commissioners toured ECOS, a sustainable household cleaning product manufacturer in Cypress. The tour included an overview of their manufacturing process, their outdoor solar garden, and office space. The meeting ended at 11:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m. The next regular scheduled meeting will be held on March 3, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Elizabeth Genera, Recording Secretary

Climate Action Commission Chair

A. DISCUSS FUTURE COMPOST EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, March 3, 2026, 6:00 PM	NEW BUSINESS Item: 5A.
Prepared By	Department Head Approval
Lotus Thai, Sustainability Manager	Matt Foulkes, Director of Community & Economic Development
Presented By	
Lotus Thai, Sustainability Manager	

BACKGROUND

Since April 2023, EDCO has sponsored the City's "Declutter, Drive-Up, & Drop Off" event. This free event allows residents to safely dispose of electronic waste, have their sensitive documents shredded, and pick up compost and mulch. The event takes place in a parking lot under Edison's right-of-way in November and April each year. In addition to keeping e-waste out of the landfill, this event helps contribute to the City's annual procurement target set by Senate Bill (SB) 1383. SB 1383 requires the City to procure or give away 6,530 tons of compost and mulch every year.

Cool OC is a local non-profit that inspires OC residents to take climate action. The organization hosts community workshops, resource fairs, youth programs, and community engagement projects. They have participated in the City's annual Sustainability Fair and recently hosted a composting workshop at the City's Community Garden.

DISCUSSION

At the December 2025 Climate Action Commission meeting, Commissioner Schooner requested a discussion on how to expand the compost/mulch giveaway program. Some cities have compost and mulch piles that are accessible to the public during normal business hours. This allows the community to collect compost and mulch frequently and assists the cities in reaching their SB 1383 procurement target. The main barrier for Buena Park to have a consistent compost/mulch pile is a location where compost/mulch can be dumped by a truck. The City's Community Garden area is a natural place to have compost/mulch piles; however, the area is locked and only accessible to gardeners (except for community events).

B. FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION REGARDING CITY LANDSCAPING STANDARDS

Meeting	Agenda Group
Tuesday, March 3, 2026, 6:00 PM	NEW BUSINESS Item: 5B.
Prepared By	Department Head Approval
Lotus Thai, Sustainability Manager	Matt Foulkes, Director of Community & Economic Development
Presented By	
Matt Foulkes, Director of Community and Economic Development	

BACKGROUND

On February 3, 2026, the Climate Action Commission received a presentation about the City's current landscaping requirements. A request was made by the Commission to continue the conversation at the March 3, 2026 meeting. The March discussion will cover examples of lawns that are in compliance and not in compliance, statistics on Code Enforcement cases related to landscaping, and potential Municipal Code clarifications.