

The City of

CLIMATE ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 3, 2026
 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
 Civic Center Plaza Building
 4th Floor Conference Room
 1200 Third Avenue
 San Diego, CA 92101

Board Members: Cindy Lin (D1), Josh Dean (D2), Mahayla Slackerelli (D3), Madison Swayne (D4), Kelly Lyndon (Vice Chair, D6), Whitney Pearce (D7), Ronald Diaz, (D8), Dustin DeMatteo (D9), JD Weidman (Secretary, Mayoral), Kelly Mills (Mayoral), Amy Ly (Mayoral), Tanisha-Jean Martin (Chair, Mayoral), Cristina Marquez (Mayoral),

Staff Liaison: Andrew Martin, City Planning Department

Item 1: Call to Order and Roll Call (12:00 p.m.)

Board Member	Seat	Attendance
Tanisha-Jean Martin (Chair)	Mayoral	Present
Kelly Lyndon (Vice Chair)	D6	Present
JD Weidman (Board Secretary)	Mayoral	Remote via Zoom, just cause not provided*
Cristina Marquez	Mayoral	Remote via Zoom, just cause provided*
Amy Ly	Mayoral	Present
Kelly Mills	Mayoral	Present (arrived at 12:07 p.m.)
Vacant	Mayoral	Absent
Cindy Lin	D1	Present
Josh Dean	D2	Present
Mahayla Slackerelli	D3	Present
Madison Swayne	D4	Absent
Vacant	D5	Absent
Whitney Pearce	D7	Present
Ronald Diaz	D8	Present (arrived at 12:08 p.m.)
Dustin DeMatteo	D9	Present

*Not counted for quorum

Item 2: Land Acknowledgement

Mahayla Slackerelli (member) read the Land Acknowledgement.

Item 3: Adoption/Modification of Agenda Order (Action)

Whitney Pearce (member) moved to adopt the agenda without modification. The motion to adopt the agenda without modification was seconded by Josh Dean (member) and passed unanimously.

Item 4: Approval of Minutes (Action)

Kelly Lyndon (Vice-Chair) moved to amend the February 3, 2026, minutes by including the full names of all ad-hoc committees and to adopt the amended version. The motion to amend the February 3, 2026, minutes by including the full names of all ad-hoc committees and to adopt the amended version was seconded by Josh Dean (member) and passed unanimously.

Item 5: Announcements (Information)

Staff

Andrew Martin (Staff Liaison) informed the Board that San Diego Gas & Electric will be holding an information session on priority decarbonization zones (Senate Bill 1221) on March 9, 2026.

Martin also informed the Board that the San Diego Association of Governments has issued a notice of intent to award a Smart Growth Incentive Program grant for \$400,000 to the City of San Diego to fund an update to the Climate Action Plan.

Board

Mahayla Slackerelli (member) informed the Board that the next What If We Get It Right event in the speaker series will be on March 16th at 6:00 p.m., with the location yet to be determined. JD Weidman (member) will be presenting.

Item 6: Non-Agenda Public Comment

Dorene Dias (member of the public) spoke on behalf of the Jamacha Neighborhood Council. She said that the Jamacha Drainage Channel has been cleaned only twice since the 2024 flood and is now overgrown with invasive weeds. Dias also commented on a survey of wild birds conducted in the community, which found no raptors, possibly due to the time of day the study was conducted. Ronald Diaz (member) and Kelly Lyndon (Vice-Chair) suggested reaching out to the Resiliency Advisory Board with both pieces of information.

Item 7: San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance Sustainability Strategy and Alignment with the City Climate Action Plan (Information)

Dustin DeMatteo (member) presented the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance (SDZWA) Sustainability Strategy including areas of alignment with the City's Climate Action Plan. A Board discussion followed.

Item 8: Climate Advisory Board Work Plan Activities (Discussion)

Kelly Lyndon (Vice-Chair) presented a summary of the work plan activities that were agreed to at the February 3, 2026, meeting, explained how work plan materials will be coordinated, and provided an opportunity to update Board member assignments.

Item 9: Reports on Related Boards (Information)

Board members assigned to monitor related City boards provided informational updates on recent items relevant to the Climate Advisory Board.

Community Forest Advisory Board

Tanisha-Jean Martin (Chair) and Cindy Lin (Member) updated the Board on Community Forest Advisory Board activities.

- The Ready Set Grow program has planted over 4,000 trees.
- The Community Forest Advisory Board is examining new Zone Zero regulations.

- The Community Forest Advisory Board is the primary body for reviewing proposed city tree removal.
- There are currently Board vacancies for Districts 3, 5, 6, and 8, and upcoming vacancies for Districts 1 and 4.

Mobility Board Updates

JD Weidman (Board Secretary) and Dustin DeMatteo (member) updated the Board on Mobility Board activities.

- The Mobility Board has drafted a letter titled “FY 2027 Draft Budget – San Diego Mobility Board Priorities.” JD Weidman suggested that the Board support the letter. The Mobility Board’s letter will be circulated for review, and an action item will be placed on the agenda for the April 7, 2026, meeting.

Resiliency Advisory Board

Ronald Diaz (member) and Kelly Lyndon (Vice-Chair) updated the Board on Resiliency Advisory Board activities.

- The Resiliency Advisory Board heard a presentation on climate change implications for homelessness.
- The Resiliency Advisory Board heard a presentation on stormwater from the California Coastkeeper Alliance.
- The Resiliency Advisory Board has stormwater as a work-plan priority and may provide recommendations to address the stormwater deferred-maintenance backlog and funding issues.
- There are currently Board vacancies for Districts 4, 5 and 9.

Item 10: Ad Hoc Committee Status (Discussion)

Ad-hoc Committee on Building Decarbonization to Align With Staff to Plan and Sequence CAB Engagement

Whitney Pierce (member) spoke as Chair of the Committee on work completed to date.

- The Committee is focused on identifying key City initiatives that they will recommend City staff present to the Board. One identified initiative is the Transitioning to Healthy and Sustainable Buildings: Building Decarbonization Plan.

Ad-hoc Committee on CAP Transparency and Public Understanding to Recommend Initial Plan

Dustin DeMatteo (member) spoke as Chair of the Committee on work completed to date.

- The Committee reviewed the Climate Dashboard and found it to be strong.
- The Committee would like to work with the City to improve the visual elements and storytelling components in reporting and planning to better engage the public.
 - Some examples of qualitative storytelling efforts include the Tennyson Thrives effort in Hayward, CA and Cool Petaluma in Petaluma, CA.
- Cindy Lin (member) asked staff about partnerships that could facilitate storytelling. Andrew Martin (Staff Liaison) stated that the City is open to partnerships, depending on the details.

Item 11: City Activities Supporting Climate Action Plan Implementation (Information)

Andrew Martin (Staff Liaison) provided reviewed upcoming milestones for City initiatives supporting climate action. The 2025 Building Code Update went to City Council on March 3, 2026, for first reading. The 2026 Land Development Code Update is going to the Land Use & Housing Committee on March 5, 2026. The Climate Action Implementation Plan is going to City Council on March 9, 2026. The Comprehensive Speed Management Plan is anticipated to go to City Council in March 2026.

Item 12: Recommendation Letter Encouraging Continued City Engagement on Neighborhood Decarbonization Pilots (Discussion, Possible Action)

The Board reviewed a draft letter encouraging continued engagement by City leadership and staff in the implementation of Senate Bill 1221 Neighborhood Decarbonization Pilots. Whitney Pearce (member) moved to send the letter to the City. The motion to send the letter to the City was seconded by Cindy Lin (member) and passed unanimously.

Item 13: Proposed Agenda Items for Future Meetings

Kelly Lyndon (Vice-Chair) reported that The San Diego Regional Energy Network (SDREN) is available to present at the April 7, 2026, meeting.

Further additions and edits were made to the ongoing list of potential future agenda items. Future topics included docked e-bike sharing, a presentation by WILD Coast, SD Climate Week, electrification resolutions at school districts with the Climate Action Campaign, and preservation and conservation work by the Mission Trails Regional Park Foundation.

Item 14: Adjournment

Tanisha Jean Martin (Chair) adjourned the meeting at 1:30.