



CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

PO Box 190 | Huntington Beach, CA 92648

2017 ANNUAL REPORT



Board Members

Jessica Budica (Chair – 8/2016 – 8/2017)
Debbie Killey (Vice-Chair 8/2016 – 8/2017, and Chair 8/2017-Present)
Mark Sheldon (Secretary 8/2016 – 8/2017)
Michelle Claud-Clemente (Vice-Chair 8/2017-Present)
Shawn Thompson (Secretary 8/2017-Present)
Jeff Coffman
Kim Nicolson
Kyle Scrimgeour
Tony Soriano

City Council Liaisons

Jill Hardy and Billy O'Connell

City Staff Liaison

Antonia Graham
Assisted by Kirsten Graham

Planning Commission Liaison

Dan Kalmick

I. Introduction

The Huntington Beach (HB) City Council (Council) established an Environmental Board (Board) over 40 years ago. Much has changed in the intervening years and in 2009 the Council streamlined several Boards and Committees to reflect those changes. The purpose of the Board was revised and expanded to include economic, environmental and social sustainability.

Powers and Duties Generally, as described in the Huntington Beach Municipal Code

The Environmental Board shall be empowered and have the duty to:

- A. Study the environment of the City of Huntington Beach and investigate all actual and potential threats to a clean environment for the City and its inhabitants; and
- B. Report to the City Council, and to other City boards, commissions, departments and officers its recommendations for legislation and other action that could or might curtail or limit those activities which appear to be an actual present threat, or which may become a potential threat in the future, to the assurance of a clean, healthy, desirable environment for the City and its inhabitants; and
- C. Advise the City Council and staff on sustainability challenges and opportunities to enhance the overall sustainability, economic, ecological and social environments of Huntington Beach; and
- D. Perform such other duties as may from time to time be properly assigned or delegated to it by the City Council.

What the Environmental Board does to carry out these duties:

- 1) Review and comment on City of Huntington Beach General and Specific Plans as well as Environmental Reports to promote sustainability and a healthy community
- 2) Assist with the City's programs to promote reduced consumption of water and energy, increased recycling and waste diversion and sustainable energy practices
- 3) Support the City's evolving environmental goals and sustainability programs through external awareness, educational and advisory projects
- 4) Promote community awareness of sustainable practices through events such as the student sustainable art competition
- 5) Deliver an Annual Report to the Council on plans and results

II. Goals and Objectives 2017

The following goals and objectives were identified in the 2016 Annual Report:

- 1) Continue to incorporate guest speakers at each meeting to provide the Board and others with pertinent information on environmental and sustainability issues
- 2) Continue to have monthly guest speakers that promote the mission of the Environmental Board and educate members on current environmental and sustainability issues.
- 3) Hold quarterly field trips for Environmental Board members.
- 4) Secure funds to continue the Sustainability Award Program.
- 5) Research and provide recommendations to the City of Huntington Beach staff on the state of waste management on beaches, parks, and in public areas.
- 6) Facilitate public-private partnerships for sustainability projects like Community Home Energy Retrofit Program (CHERP), energy performance districts, and landscape projects.
- 7) Develop an anti-litter campaign.
- 8) Encourage public involvement in the Environmental Board meetings and events.
- 9) Sponsor a Beach Clean-up Day in partnership with City or non-profit.
- 10) Sponsor a Park Clean-up Day in partnership with City or non-profit.
- 11) Each Board Member should participate in one community event that supports the Environmental Board's mission of promoting sustainability, economic, ecological, and social environments of the City of Huntington Beach.
- 12) Each board member shall provide public comment at a city council meeting at least once. Board members should be communicating to city council on a monthly basis.
- 13) Each board member shall provide at least one contact per year as a public speaker for board meetings.

To help accomplish its goals and objectives, the Board has established one standing committee (the Executive Committee, consisting of the Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary), and ad hoc committees. At the beginning of the 2016-2017 Board Year, the ad hoc committees included:

- Resource Management
- Ocean Debris & Water Quality
- Natural Environment
- Energy Issues

Beginning in February 2017, the ad hoc committees were reconfigured as:

- Education and Outreach
- Natural Resource Management and Open Space
- Life Cycle Management & Circular Economy
- Sustainable Energy
- Active Transportation

III. Accomplishments

Below is a summary of events and accomplishments achieved during calendar 2017 by the Environmental Board.

A. Presentations

The Board has a Speakers Program to provide the members of the Board and others with pertinent information on environmental and sustainability issues. Featured presentations from 2017 include:

- January 2017: Robin Estanislau, Huntington Beach City Clerk, reviewed rules and associated resources applicable to the Environmental Board and to other city boards.
- February 2017: Chris Hall with OC Food Access Coalition, spoke about their programs to improve food accessibility and nutrition information in Orange County.
- March 2017: No Speaker
- April 2017: Diana Dehm, Executive Director of the International Surfing Museum, spoke on the Museum's activities and plans related to sustainability.
- May 2017: No Environmental Board Meeting
- June 2017: Ann Craciun, speaking about Non-Toxic Irvine's activities reviewing the toxicity of pesticides being used there.
- July 2017: No Environmental Board Meeting
- August 2017: April Economides spoke about the Energize CA program for energy entrepreneurship (energize-ca.org), being administered in Orange County by Sustain OC, on behalf of the Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator (LACI).
- September 2017: Todd Gasparik, Director of Marketing for Smart Planet Technologies, spoke concerning recyclable coated paper products.
- October 2017: Noemi Luna-Ochoa, CivicSpark Fellow (9/2017 – 8/2018) spoke concerning Education and Outreach for the City's EPIC Project (Oakview Microgrid).
- November 2017: No Speaker
- December 2017: No Environmental Board Meeting

B. Green Events

- Members participated in a Wetlands Cleanup (March 18, 2017)
- Members participated in a Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) Workshop in Huntington Beach (March 20, 2017)
- The July 2017 Environmental Board meeting was cancelled so members could attend the July 19-20, 2017 workshop on "Advancing Coastal Resiliency" at UC Irvine.
- Participated in the planning and execution of a Coastal Clean-up Day event at Central Park on 09/16/2017
- Members participated in a "Dumpsters on Parade" event in October 2017 to celebrate the program which used local artists to beautify city trash dumpsters.

C. Development Planning

The Board reviewed environmental documents and in some cases provided comments to reduce environmental impacts and enhance sustainability. The documents included:

- Draft Negative Declaration No. 16-001 for Amendments to The Sunset Beach Specific Plan (SBSP) Beachfront Flood Requirements.
- Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration No. 16-003 (Windward Residential Development)
- Draft Recirculated Mitigated Negative Declaration No. 13-008 (Rofael Marina and Caretaker Facility).
- General Plan Update and Environmental Impact Report
The General Plan Update and EIR was a particularly major civic project spanning several years. The Entire Environmental Board participated in the review and comment on the final documents.
- Water Quality Control Policy on the Use of Coastal and Estuarine Waters for Power Plant Cooling (Once-Through Cooling Policy)
- Notice of Preparation of a Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Magnolia Tank Farm (MTF) Project

D. Committee Activity/Reporting

Some projects (in addition to others mentioned elsewhere) which Board committees/representatives participated in or observed included:

- Education and Outreach
Activities included planning and conduct of a Sustainability Art Contest, Central Park Cleanup, Coastal Cleanup Day, development of the Teen Team and member participation in STEAM Education.
- Natural Resource Management and Open Space
Activities included examination of Non-Toxic Pesticide/Herbicide programs for possible implementation in Huntington Beach.
- Life Cycle Management & Circular Economy
Activities include participation in Fix-It Clinics.
- Sustainable Energy
Activities include participation in meetings on Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), the Huntington Beach EPIC project, and other community energy programs.
- Active Transportation
Activities include review of Active Transportation plans and city participation in the Bicycle Trail network.

E. Environmental Awards

In a change from prior years' Environmental Awards, The Environmental Board sponsored a student environmental art contest, with participation invited at all Huntington Beach schools. Winners were selected from different grade levels.

The reception for the showing of Art Contest winners at the Surfing Museum was held with Budica, Clemente, and Killey in attendance. Plans for an ongoing annual Art Contest were discussed with greater outreach to schools in Huntington Beach, and partnership with the Huntington Beach Public Arts Alliance.

F. Field Trips

Environmental Board members participated in field trips to the following sites:

- San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) (February 2017)
- South Coast Air Quality Management District (February 2017)
- Back Bay Science Center, hosted by Environmental Board Member Clemente (March 2017)
- Aquarium of the Pacific (April 2017)
- Bolsa Chica (June 2017)
- Secret Garden in Huntington Beach Central Park (June 2017)

IV. Goals and Objectives for 2018

The following goals and objectives are planned for 2018:

- Continue to incorporate guest speakers at selected meetings to provide the Board and others with pertinent information on environmental and sustainability issues
- Hold quarterly field trips for Environmental Board members
- Continue the Student Environmental Art Contest
- Research and provide recommendations to the City of Huntington Beach staff on the state of waste management on beaches, parks, and in public areas.
- Promote Recycling and Waste Reduction Campaign.
- Encourage public involvement in the Environmental Board meetings and events.
- Sponsor a Beach Clean-up Day in partnership with the local organizations.
- Sponsor a Park Clean-up Day.
- Each Board Member should participate in one community event that supports the Environmental Board's mission of promoting sustainability, economic, ecological, and social environments of the City of Huntington Beach.
- Each board member shall provide public comment at a City Council meeting at least once. Board members should be communicating to City Council on a monthly basis.
- Each board member shall provide at least one contact recommendation per year as a public speaker for board meetings.