

**From:** [Berlinda Blackburn](#)  
**To:** [CityClerk](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Agenda Item 14.d  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 26, 2025 6:34:55 PM  
**Importance:** High

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Hello City Clerk,

I would like to make a public comment for **Agenda 14.d.**

[ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PALM DESERT MUNICIPAL CODE TO UPDATE, CLARIFY, AND CODIFY BYLAWS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR THE CITY'S BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES, AND TASK FORCES](#)

What specific discussions were outside of the intended scope of Resource Preservation and Enhancement Committee (RPEC) that the City Council Subcommittee on Boards and Commissions, composed of Councilmember Pradetto and Mayor Harnik?

Here is a partial list of discussion items from RPEC:

- Request to address the potential impacts of climate change
- Inquiries regarding solar requirements for commercial properties
- Requested update on street sweeping schedule - PM-10 is an environmental concern
- Reconsider the list of permissible shade trees to eliminate non-native species.
- The importance of both battery-operated and gas generators
- Electric Vehicle Chargers
- Stormwater Pollution Prevention
- AB2766 Programs
- Energy efficiency and sustainability related rebates and incentives available to Palm Desert residents and businesses.

### **Issue: The City's**

"Environmental Sustainability Plan and Greenhouse Gas Inventory referenced in the committee's bylaws are outdated and no longer used by staff."

### ***Solution:***

***Remove the outdated references and once completed update the bylaws with policies found in the GREENHOUSE (GHG) MEASURES FOR COMPREHENSIVE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN (CCAP) and the Resource Preservation and Enhancement Committee's 2024/2025 Workplan***

*"It shall be the responsibility of the resource preservation and enhancement committee to make recommendations to the city council with respect to matters concerning the city's programs and targets in identified actions plans. ~~environmental sustainability plan ("plan") and greenhouse gas inventory.~~ The committee shall have the authority and responsibility to review staff reports and recommendations from city staff, offer comment and feedback, and help develop appropriate policies and actions to meet the plan's goals."*

Moving RPEC's meetings to **as-needed** only when **City Council refers specific items** or **when staff determines** will basically diminish the Committee's capacity to effectively guide the City's environmental initiatives.

**To avoid previous issues where staff brought forth items to City Council during a study session and then presented to RPEC afterwards, placing RPEC in a position of deciding whether to agree or disagree with the Council's decisions and recommendation after the fact.**

These actions are not reflective of the City's mission asking residents to

**Get Involved - Shape the Future of Palm Desert!**

Sincerely,

Berlinda Blackburn

Chair, Resource Preservation and Enhancement Committee