

College Environmental Advisory Group  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, October 5, 2011



DRAFT

**Attendance:**

Ralph Riddle	<a href="mailto:rwiddle@comcast.net">rwiddle@comcast.net</a>
Manny Da Silva	<a href="mailto:dasilvamanny@fhda.edu">dasilvamanny@fhda.edu</a>
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Julie Ceballos	<a href="mailto:ceballosjulie@fhda.edu">ceballosjulie@fhda.edu</a>

No agenda was provided so we focused on these topics:

- Meeting dates for the quarter
- Community garden at the Children's Development Center
- Waste Diversion/Smoking on Campus
- VTA Ecopass bus passes
- Bike rental program
- Photovoltaic (solar cell) projects
- Prior Meeting minutes/notes

**Meeting Dates**

We agreed to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month in Kirsch Center at 2:45 PM, and the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month in Admin 109. Manny will assure this room is available and report at our next meeting.

**Child Development Center Community Garden Project**

Kristal updated the status of this project. It is still in the design phase. Implementation is planned for Nov-Dec 2011.

**Waste Diversion and Minimization**

Manny updated the CEAG group on the ongoing process to maximize diversion of campus waste from landfill to recycling. Construction on Campus has delayed some projects. For example the waste compactors location is on hold until several projects have been completed. Hopefully this will be as soon as the end of October. The new compactors will reduce the number of collection trips by the waste disposal contractor, Recology, from daily to once a fortnight.

Julie wondered how to inform the student body about the new process so as to reinforce the importance of waste diversion and recycling.

Alicia said this will be one focus of CEAG this year.

Smoking in unauthorized areas continues to be a problem. Manny told the group that there is no enforcement mechanism to insure students smoke only in designated areas. Currently,

smoking “out of bounds” is informally policed by staff and faculty admonishing recalcitrant smokers. Smoking is not allowed on K-12 campuses. There is a bill awaiting Gov. Brown’s signature that would make it illegal to smoke in un-authorized areas on college campuses. This new law will allow the campus police to cite students, with fines going to health services.

Julie suggested forming “green teams” on campus to educate the community about conserving electricity and reducing paper waste.

### **VTA Ecopass**

The ecopass program is now underway. We discussed the problem that, although the program has been heavily promoted, a relatively small percentage of students seem to be aware of it. On the other hand, although all students pay a \$4/\$5 fee for the pass per quarter, VTA set the fee based on the assumption that not all students would use the service. We decided to wait for more data to measure actual ridership before planning additional promotions.

At the June 1 meeting we agreed to invite a representative from “Zimride” to attend a CEAG meeting. Zimride is a ride sharing program that is being used by Foothill College. This service is attractive to Foothill, which has no bus service, and could not benefit from Ecopass. It could still reduce our transportation impact at De Anza. This topic was not discussed during the meeting today.

### **Student Bike Rental Program**

Victor told the group that this program has been a success. There are now 20 bicycles available for students to rent and they are all subscribed.

### **Reporting**

At the June 1 meeting, Manny/Joe/Julie proposed scheduling a special meeting this summer to discuss reporting for:

- STARS
- President’s Climate Commitment

We did not discuss this topic during the meeting today.

### **Photovoltaic P/V(solar cell) projects**

Manny discussed the P/V projects inst5allikng 1.2 MW of panels over parking lots A&B will be completed in November. Additional installations are planned. Manny will provide more information and we agreed to discuss this further at our next meeting, on October 12<sup>th</sup>. Alicia said we will also solidify our goals for the remainder of the year.

### **Meeting Minutes/notes**

The notes from June were approved. Julie agreed post them on the CEAG web site.