



# City of Brisbane

## Open Space and Ecology Committee

### Meeting Agenda

---

Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at 6:30 PM • Hybrid Meeting • 50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA

---

The public may observe/participate in Committee meetings using remote public comment options or by attending in person. Committee Members shall attend in person unless remote participation is permitted by law. The Committee may take action on any item listed in the agenda.

#### To Address the Committee

##### In Person:

Location: 50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005, Community Meeting Room

Masks are no longer required but are highly recommended in accordance with California Department of Health Guidelines. To maintain public health and safety, please do not attend in person if you are experiencing symptoms associated with COVID-19 or respiratory illness.

##### Remote Participation:

Members of the public may observe/participate in the Committee Meeting by logging onto the Zoom Webinar listed below. Please be advised that if there are technological difficulties, the meeting will nevertheless continue.

The agenda materials may be viewed online at [brisbaneca.org](https://brisbaneca.org) at least 24 hours prior to a Special Meeting, and at least 72 hours prior to a Regular Meeting. Archived videos can be replayed on the City's website, [brisbaneca.org/meetings](https://brisbaneca.org/meetings).

##### Remote Public Comments:

Remote meeting participants may address the Committee members via the Zoom Webinar or Call In Number. Meeting participants are encouraged to submit public comments in writing in advance of the meeting to [mebrown@brisbaneca.org](mailto:mebrown@brisbaneca.org). Emails will not be monitored during the meeting.

**Join Zoom Webinar:** [zoom.us](https://zoom.us) (please use the latest version: [zoom.us/download](https://zoom.us/download))  
[brisbaneca.org/osec-zoom](https://brisbaneca.org/osec-zoom)

Webinar ID: 976 4295 0160

Call In Number: 1 (669) 900-9128

Note: Callers dial \*9 to "raise hand" and dial \*6 to mute/unmute.

##### Special Assistance:

If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact Mollie Brown at [mebrown@brisbaneca.org](mailto:mebrown@brisbaneca.org) or (415) 259-1107. Notification in advance of the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

##### Call to Order

## **Roll Call**

- A. Consider any request of a committee member to attend the meeting remotely under the “Emergency Circumstances” of AB 2449

## **Adoption of the Agenda**

## **Oral Communications**

## **Approval of the Minutes**

- B. Approval of the Minutes from January 28, 2026 Meeting

## **Old Business**

- C. 6:30 PM Review Final Draft of 2026 Work Plan

## **New Business**

- D. 7:00 PM Discuss 2025 Committee Accomplishments
- E. 7:30 PM Monarch Migration email from Chris Florkowski

## **Staff Updates**

## **Subcommittee Reports**

## **Calendar Items**

## **Chair and Committee Member Matters**

## **Next Meeting**

- F. Wednesday, April 22, 2026 6:30 PM

## **Adjournment**



# CITY of BRISBANE

## Open Space and Ecology Committee Meeting Minutes

---

Wednesday, January 28, 2026 at 6:30 P.M. • Hybrid Meeting 50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA

---

### **CALL TO ORDER – 6:30 PM**

#### **ROLL CALL**

- A. Consider any request of a committee member to attend the meeting remotely under the “Emergency Circumstances” of AB 2449

Committee members present: Attapatu, Becker, Nunan, Salmon, Rogers, Walker.

Staff members present: Assistant City Manager, Fernandez; Management Analyst, Brown; Sustainability Fellow, De La Cruz

#### **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Walker moved to adopt the agenda and Rogers seconded; the motion was adopted unanimously.

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** – Chair Salmon welcomed Jason Nunan’s return to the Committee.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES –**

- B. Minutes of December 17, 2025 –Attapatu and Nunan abstained. The motion was otherwise adopted unanimously.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- C. Welcome New Member Jason Nunan

- Salmon mentioned there is one more open seat, and the applications will be closed February 18

- D. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

- Becker nominated Walker as Chair, and Atapattu seconded. The motion was adopted unanimously.
- Salmon nominated Rogers as Vice Chair, and Becker seconded. The motion was adopted unanimously.

- E. Discussion: Plaque or Commemoration for David Schooley

- Fernandez to check with Public Works on the cost of the boulder involved in the project in relation to the overall budget.
- Staff to pass along Committee’s recommendations to appropriate department.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- F. Adoption of 2026 Workplan

- Fernandez update the Committee on tree canopy goal progress.
- Staff to change language to: “Advocate for canopy coverage goal”
- Staff to delineate between two separate ad hoc subcommittees: Dark Skies, Invasive Species.
- Home Hardening ad hoc subcommittee to be removed from work plan and issues to be incorporated into Education & Outreach.
- Bike to Work Day to be amended as a “shared activity”.
- Staff to expand language on Climate Action Planning to broaden the scope to allow for the exploration of new technologies.

#### **STAFF UPDATES**

- Fernandez updated Committee that staff’s GIS tech Bob Sage mapped out easements in the area, and Staff meeting with property owner is forthcoming.
- De La Cruz updated Committee on upcoming Winter Planting Day February 14 in collaboration with San Bruno Mountain Watch, SSF Scavenger, and Pollinator Partnership.
- Brown updated Committee that she will be signing up for updates with MTC in regard to PCA Grant, and public committee meetings are held Friday at 9:30 A.M. in San Francisco

#### **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND REORGANIZATION**

- Events (Becker, Salmon) – Winter Planting Day February 14, as discussed
- Education and Outreach (**Rogers**, Walker) – Library display focus on winter planting, fire safety, and defensible space. Next display will be in March
- Climate Action Planning (Atapattu, Walker) – CAP to be updated this year
- Open Space Plan update (Nunan, Rogers, **Salmon**) – Nunan to replace Becker
- \*Crocker Trail Frog Habitat (Nunan, **Rogers**, Salmon) – Nunan to join
- Tree Subcommittee Meeting (Rogers, **Salmon**) – Meeting to be scheduled
- Baylands Specific Plan subcommittees – no updates
- Sierra Point Park Planning (Salmon) – no updates
- Liaisons – Meeting scheduled March 10, 4:30-5:30 P.M.
- PCA Grant (**Becker**, Salmon) – Meeting to be scheduled

**CALENDAR ITEMS** – Winter Planting Day, as discussed and Earth Day Habitat Day scheduled for April 18

**CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBER MATTERS** – none

**NEXT MEETING:** March 25, 2026

**ADJOURN – 7:38 P.M.**

# 2026 OSEC Work Plan

The Open Space and Ecology Committee provides policy and programmatic recommendations on environmental issues.

## Priority Projects:

- Support the health and growth of the urban tree canopy utilizing the recent Tree Inventory, via education and outreach, grants, and potential other means. Advocate for adoption of canopy coverage goal.
- Update Climate Action Plan (CAP)
  - i. Consider strategies and new technologies to reduce emissions from existing buildings and transportation
  - ii. Review and recommend plans to meet Climate Emergency Declaration goals
  - iii. Begin research on Climate Action Fund
- Provide input on Quarry and Baylands Developments, especially open space designs, as needed

## Routine/Ongoing Efforts:

- Two new ad-hoc subcommittees: Dark Skies and Invasive Species
- Review and approve annual vegetation management plan for Brisbane Acres
- Review Open Space Plan and its implementation and update as necessary
- Support three to four habitat restoration days per year
- Improve/maintain Crocker Trail frog habitat
- Education and Outreach
  - Day in the Park community festival
  - Bike to Work Day
  - Lipman Science Fair
  - Quarterly library displays
  - Publications through weekly Blast, monthly Star, City website, social media sites, and MCTV
  - Outreach to targeted areas, e.g. on trash

---

**Fw: for OSEC: Western Monarch Butterfly 'Migration Is Collapsing,**

---

**From** Fernandez.Christina <cfernandez@brisbaneca.org>

**Date** Mon 3/16/2026 2:32 PM

**To** sustainabilityfellow <sustainabilityfellow@ci.brisbane.ca.us>; Brown, Mollie <mebrown@ci.brisbane.ca.us>



**Christina Fernandez | She/Her**

Assistant City Manager, City Manager's Office

Cell: (628) 224-7574 | Email: [cfernandez@brisbaneca.org](mailto:cfernandez@brisbaneca.org)

*City Hall Public Walk-in Hours: M – Th: 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM, F: 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM*



---

**From:** C Florkowski <chrisflorkowski@yahoo.com>

**Sent:** Monday, February 2, 2026 10:11 PM

**To:** Fernandez.Christina <cfernandez@brisbaneca.org>

**Subject:** for OSEC: Western Monarch Butterfly 'Migration Is Collapsing,

Hello Christina,

Can you share this with OSEC?

The article linked below is about the declining populations of Monarch butterflies. And of course, we have our own endangered butterflies on the mountain. I live in an apartment and lack any meaningful way to contribute, so I would be interested in how we as a community can help. The article points to "...avoiding pesticides, planting native milkweed and nectar-rich flowers, protecting overwintering groves..."

Has OSEC/the City of Brisbane recently done awareness campaigns about pesticide use? (Has the city looked into its own pesticide use, if there is any?)

OSEC has sponsored cleanups and removal of invasive species. Has there been any planting of the appropriate plants? Do we have community properties that would be suitable? The sidewalk strip alongside the community garden comes to mind, as does the area behind the former library. (I know Michele and others are knowledgeable about which plants are suitable and which are not.) Can we make use of the library to make seeds available?

<https://www.kqed.org/science/1999965/western-monarch-butterfly-migration-is-collapsing-scientists-say-you-can-help>

thanks!  
~Chris

## Western Monarch Butterfly ‘Migration Is Collapsing,’ Scientists Say. You Can Help

[Sarah Mohamad](#)

Feb 2, 2026

Updated 2:13 pm PT



A monarch butterfly wearing a Cellular Tracking Technologies’ transmitter, which tracks its migration pattern in real-time. This winter’s annual Western Monarch Count was the third lowest on record. Scientists say habitat loss, climate change and pesticide use are driving the long-term decline. *(Courtesy of Cellular Tracking Technologies)*

[Western monarch butterflies](#) once arrived on California’s coast by the millions, clustering in eucalyptus, pine and cypress groves from Mendocino to Baja California. This winter, volunteers counted fewer than 13,000.

The 29th annual [Western Monarch Count](#), conducted during the peak overwintering period in late November and early December, is the third lowest since monitoring began in 1997, following [another poor winter](#) and weak summer breeding. The three lowest tallies have occurred in the past six years — 1,901 monarchs in 2020, 9,119 in 2024 and [12,260 in 2025](#) — raising concerns about the long-term health of the western monarch migration.

In the 1980s, western monarchs regularly numbered in the low millions. Today’s numbers are not surprising but a sign of a migration under sustained stress.

Sponsored

“Western monarchs are in serious trouble. The migration is collapsing,” said Emma Pelton, a senior conservation biologist with the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation, which carries out the annual count.

Long-term research shows western monarch populations have declined by about 10% per year since the 1980s, driven largely by habitat loss, pesticide use and climate change.

Milkweed — the only plant monarch caterpillars can eat — has disappeared from much of the West due to development and herbicides. Insecticides can poison monarchs directly or reduce the nectar plants that adults rely on. And climate change is intensifying heat waves, droughts and storms that disrupt the butterflies’ breeding and migration.



A monarch butterfly lands on a plant growing in the schoolyard at International Community School in Oakland on Oct. 20, 2022. *(Beth LaBerge/KQED)*

“When populations get this small, they become far more vulnerable to both short-term stress and long-term pressures,” said Isis Howard, a conservation biologist with the Xerces

Society who coordinates the count. “With low overwintering numbers becoming more common, monarchs have fewer chances to rebound from extreme weather or pesticide exposure.”

The loss of overwintering habitat adds another layer of risk. Since tracking began, more than 60 known monarch groves along California’s coast have been destroyed, according to Sarina Jepsen, director of the Xerces Society’s endangered species program. In just the past year, at least three active sites were significantly damaged by inappropriate tree removal, often tied to development, Jepsen said.

“Without adequate places for monarchs to overwinter, we will lose the migration,” she said.

There were, however, a few bright spots. Among the 249 sites where this winter’s count found monarchs, Natural Bridges State Beach in Santa Cruz County hosted the largest overwintering cluster, with about 2,500 butterflies.

Researchers also deployed [ultralight radio tags](#) at some sites to better understand how monarchs move within and between groves, data that could help improve habitat management.

Howard said she wasn’t surprised by the low numbers, given weak signs from last summer’s breeding season.

“I’m always hoping for a bounce-back,” she said, “but I also know it’s going to take years of dedicated conservation action to see the long-term recovery we’re really looking for.”

That action, she added, can start close to home. Californians can help by avoiding pesticides, planting native milkweed and nectar-rich flowers, protecting overwintering groves and participating in community science projects like the Western Monarch Count or iNaturalist, which allows people to record and share their observations of plants and animals.

“There’s an insect apocalypse underway, and monarchs aren’t even the worst off,” Howard said. “But we can change course. We need to act now, and everyone has a role to play.”