



**HEALTH, SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2025**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The Health, Social and Environmental Affairs Committee conducted a meeting on Tuesday, May 27, 2025 at City Hall (Mayor's Conference Room), 1737 Main Street, Second Floor, Columbia, SC 29201. The Honorable Aditi Bussells, Chair called the meeting order at 1:01 p.m. and the following members were present:

<b>Attendee Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Status</b>
Aditi Bussells	Chair	Present
Edward H. McDowell	Member	Present
Tyler D. Bailey	Member	Present

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Approval of April 22, 2025 Health, Social, and Environmental Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Bailey, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the April 22, 2025 Health, Social, and Environmental Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes.

**PRESENTATIONS**

2. Climate Protection Action Committee Update - Mr. Bob Petriulus, Chair, Climate Protection Action Committee – *Received as information.*

Mr. Bob Petrulis, Chair/ Climate Protection Action Committee (CPAC) reported that all CPAC seats are now filled, with Secretary Gretchen Lambert's term ending this year. CPAC continues to support the City's 2036 clean energy goal by tracking projects like the Canal Hydro Plant renovation, a proposed solar farm, city building energy audits, and methane capture. The committee hosted a Climate Action Fair with 300–500 attendees and is developing a public dashboard. CPAC also awarded 17 Bloomberg Youth Climate Leadership grants and advocated for updating the City's climate plan.

There was discussion about prioritizing benchmarks, LEED certification renewal, the smart growth plan, and Bee Cities.



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**COMMITTEE DISCUSSION**

3. Impact of Delivery Robots - Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services – *Received as information.*

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services gave an overview of autonomous delivery devices, which typically operate on sidewalks rather than roadways. She noted one active operator, Starship Technologies via GrubHub at USC and reviewed regulatory considerations, including weight, speed, automation level, right-of-way usage, and local control.

Ms. Kelly Smith, Business License Administrator stated that the only current requirement is a business license and the robots are restricted to campus delivery.

Mr. Clete Myers, USC Dining Services explained that the robots are maintained and charged on campus, with human staff managing orders. The devices are programmed to avoid pedestrians, navigate peak times like class changes, and they contribute to campus job creation.

There was discussion about broader regulatory needs, insurance requirements, concerns about competitive fairness, delivery radius, programming with GPS, whether each unit needs a decal, the recording capabilities of onboard cameras, weight of robots, damages to robots, a map of the service areas, and scheduling an in-person demo.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Erika D. Moore Hammond, CMC, CPM  
City Clerk