CANNABIS CONTROL APPEALS PANEL

August 20, 2026
PANEL MEETING

Staff Copy

CANNABIS CONTROL APPEALS PANEL

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CANNABIS CONTROL APPEALS PANEL

GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM

BUSINESS AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY
Secretary Rohit Chopra

MEMBERS OF THE PANEL

Dr. Diandra Bremond – Chairperson, Los Angeles County
Cathryn Rivera – Member, Sacramento County
Jim Wood – Member, Sonoma County
Toni Atkins – Member, San Diego County

MEETING DATE AND TIME

Thursday, August 20, 2026
10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
(Or conclusion of business)

MEETING LOCATION

Cannabis Control Appeals Panel
400 R Street, Suite 330
Sacramento, CA 95811
(Open to the public)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

If you wish to participate in person, you may attend the above public location. Or members of the public may take part remotely. You can watch the meeting through Zoom using the link below. You can also listen by phone using the call-in information.

Join Zoom Video Meeting
Meeting ID: 864 4199 0700
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86441990700?pwd=2oT7aTdS4Lx2yoz9zn5Q3umxbpglLX.1
Passcode: 511546

Call-In Information:
Phone Number: 1-669-444-9171
Meeting ID: 864 4199 0700
Passcode: 511546

MEETING AGENDA

Item 1	**Call to Order and Establishment of Quorum** *Dr. Diandra Bremond, Chairperson*	**Action Item**
Item 2	**Approval of the Minutes** *Dr. Diandra Bremond, Chairperson*	**Action Item**
Item 3	**Executive Management Report** *Anne Hawley, Executive Director*	**Information Item**
Item 4	**Legal Update** *Christopher Phillips, Chief Counsel*	**Information Item**

Item 5	**Presentation – Writs: Procedures for Appeal from Administrative Decisions** *Sarah Smith, Senior Staff Attorney*	**Information Item**
Item 6	**Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda** The Panel may not discuss or act on any matter raised during this public comment section, except to decide whether to place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting. [Government Code Sections 11125, 11125.7 (a)]	**Information Item**
Item 7	**Future Agenda Items** *Dr. Diandra Bremond, Chairperson*	**Procedural Item**
Item 8	**Adjournment** *Dr. Diandra Bremond, Chairperson*	**Procedural Item**

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

MEETING ACCESSIBILITY: A person who needs a disability-related accommodation to participate in the meeting may make a request by contacting Christopher Phillips at Christopher.Phillips@ccap.ca.gov, (916) 322-6870, or in writing to: Cannabis Control Appeals Panel, 400 R Street, Suite 320, Sacramento, CA 95811. Providing your request at least one week before the meeting will help to ensure availability of the requested accommodation.

IMPORTANT NOTICES: All times and the order of agenda items are subject to change at the discretion of the Chair. Action may be taken on any item listed on the agenda. We will take public comments on items of discussion for each item. If comments are not requested by the Chair, the public should feel free to request an opportunity to speak. Public comments will be limited to three minutes, or the Chair may limit the time allotted at their discretion. The meeting may be cancelled or delayed without notice.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR REQUESTS: Interested parties may access the meeting agenda and materials at http://www.ccap.ca.gov. All other inquiries (such as translation services) should be directed to Christopher Phillips at least one week prior to the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 1

No Meeting Materials

AGENDA ITEM 2

Approval of the Minutes

Open Session Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 23, 2026
10:02 am – 10:48 am

Cannabis Control Appeals Panel
400 R Street
Sacramento, CA 95811

Members present:

- Dr. Diandra Bremond, Chairperson (in Sacramento County – In Person)
- Cathryn Rivera, J.D. (in Sacramento County – In Person)
- Jim Wood (in Sacramento County – In Person)
- Toni Atkins (in Sacramento County – In Person)

Staff present:

- Anne Hawley, Executive Director, Cannabis Control Appeals Panel
- Christopher Phillips, Chief Counsel, Cannabis Control Appeals Panel
- Sarah M. Smith, Senior Staff Attorney, Cannabis Control Appeals Panel
- Brian Hwang, Senior Staff Attorney, Cannabis Control Appeals Panel
- Melita Deci, Administrative & Business Services Coordinator, Cannabis Control Appeals Panel
- Ruben Garza, Office Technician, Cannabis Control Appeals Panel

Summary:

1. **Call to Order and Establishment of Quorum.**

Chairperson Diandra Bremond called the teleconference meeting to order at 10:02 am. Melita Deci took the roll call vote. Panel Members Diandra Bremond, Cathryn Rivera, Jim Wood, and Toni Atkins were present. A quorum was established.

2. **Welcome – Panel Member Toni Atkins.**

Chairperson Bremond took a moment to introduce the newest Panel Member—Toni Atkins. Atkins was recently appointed to the Panel by Senate President pro tempore Monique Limon of the Senate Rules Committee.

After Bremond's introductory remarks, Atkins made a brief statement. Atkins thanked Chairperson Bremond for the welcome, then thanked the Panel and Panel staff with helping her with the onboarding process. Atkins closed by stating she is looking forward to getting started.

3. **Approval of the Minutes.**

Chairperson Bremond asked the Panel if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the June 25, 2026, meeting. There were no additions or corrections. No public comments.

Motion (Wood): Approve the minutes of the June 25, 2026, meeting as submitted. Seconded (Rivera). Melita Deci took a roll call vote on the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with Atkins abstaining.

4. **Executive Management Report.**

Chairperson Bremond introduced Executive Director Anne Hawley to present her report.

First, Hawley discussed CCAP's Budget Change Proposal (BCP). The Governor recently signed a three-year limited term funding for the Panel. There were no major changes to the Panel's staffing or budget levels. The Panel will be funded through Fiscal Year (FY) 2028-29 and will have to submit another BCP around August 2028.

Second, Hawley updated the Panel on CCAP's budget as of June 30, 2026. CCAP's budget consists of two major categories: Personal Services (PS) and Operating Expenditures & Equipment (OE&E). For PS, the Panel has a budget of $2,579,000 with a total expenditure of $2,309,196. For OE&E, the Panel has a budget of $794,000 with a total expenditure of $616,860. Altogether, the Panel's entire budget adds up to $3,373,000 with a total expenditure of $2,926,056—leaving a surplus of $446,944.

Third, Hawley provided a summary and update of the strategic planning process. On May 21, 2026, the Panel had a brainstorming session. On June 25, the Panel reviewed its strategic plan goal areas, made a few adjustments, and voted to approve the 2026-29 strategic plan. On July 20, Panel staff met with the Department of Consumer Affairs' SOLID Unit to work on action plans for each of the strategic plan objectives. These ideas will be presented to the Panel at its September meeting for further feedback and review.

Lastly, Hawley handed the floor to Chief Counsel Chris Phillips for two legal updates. First, Phillips informed the Panel that the Lucky 13 appeal is now closed. After issuing the preliminary decision, neither party requested a hearing prior to the deadline. Staff will now convert the preliminary decision into a final decision and notify the parties. Second, the agenda for the August meeting is unlikely to have any appeals. Therefore, staff will probably present a formal legal training for the Panel's benefit.

Hawley finished her presentation. No comments from the Panel. No comments from the public.

5. **Legislative Update – AB-1826.**

Chairperson Bremond introduced Senior Staff Attorney Brian Hwang to present this agenda item on Assembly Bill 1826. Before handing the floor, Bremond noted that this agenda item is an informational item only. Hwang began his presentation by noting that no action from the Panel is required. The Panel may simply take this presentation under advisement.

Following an administrative hearing, the Department of Cannabis Control may issue a final condemnation order requiring the destruction of a licensee's adulterated or misbranded cannabis and cannabis product. Currently, nothing in the Department's statutes or rules lays out a path to appeal these orders. Additionally, the Panel's own statutes do not include condemnation orders among the list of cases that may be appealed to the Panel.

AB 1826 would fill this void in the appeals process by expanding the Panel's jurisdiction. Specifically, the bill proposes inserting a new provision into the Department's existing statutes which would expressly authorize licensees to appeal condemnation orders to the Panel. Hwang completed his presentation then opened the floor for any questions.

Panel Member Rivera asked about the fiscal impact of the bill. Hawley stated there is no expectation that AB 1826 would lead to a significant increase in Panel workload. Based on public data, Panel staff estimates that the bill would result in one additional appeal per year. Hawley said that such an increase in Panel workload would be absorbable.

Panel Member Wood spoke about the potential length of the appeals process, and how some of these cannabis products have a certain shelf life. He expressed that if there is another appeal from a condemnation order and the Panel has jurisdiction to hear such an appeal, he hopes that the Panel would be expeditious and timely in adjudicating the matter. No other comments from the Panel. No comments from the public.

6. **Preliminary Decision Process.**

Chairperson Bremond introduced Chief Counsel Phillips to present this agenda item. He will discuss the specific procedures surrounding Panel rule 6007, subsection (a), which governs the Panel's preliminary decision process. This is an action item requiring action on two questions. After discussion and public comment, the Panel will vote on which procedures to implement.

Phillips noted that the language of rule 6007 gives the Panel significant discretion in terms of deciding on the specific manner of handling the preliminary decision process. This action item requires the Panel to decide on two questions: (1) which preliminary decision process does the Panel prefer? and (2) should the preliminary decision be issued to the parties in the appeal?

The first question concerns how the Panel reaches a preliminary decision in an appeal once the recommendation memo and the administrative record have been disseminated to each Panel member. The Panel may choose between two scenarios. In Scenario #1 (Individual Feedback), each Panel member provides individual feedback on the preliminary decision directly to the

Chief Counsel. In Scenario #2 (Group Deliberation), Panel members meet in closed session at the next Panel meeting to deliberate on the preliminary decision as a group.

After summarizing each scenario, along with their benefits and costs, Phillips opened the floor for questions and comments. Panel Member Atkins asked how much longer an appeal would be under Scenario #2 versus Scenario #1. Phillips answered that the difference would be a matter of weeks. No other comments from the Panel. No comments from the public.

Motion (Wood): Adopt Scenario #2 (Group Deliberation) as the Panel's approach to the preliminary decision process under rule 6007 moving forward. Seconded (Rivera). Melita Deci took a roll call vote on the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

The second question concerns what to do once a preliminary decision has been reached. The Panel may choose between two scenarios. In Scenario #1 (Disclosure), the full preliminary decision is shared with the parties. In Scenario #2 (No Disclosure), the parties are simply informed that the Panel has reached a preliminary decision.

After summarizing each scenario, along with their benefits and costs, Phillips opened the floor for questions and comments. Wood expressed support for disclosing due to transparency reasons. Rivera agreed since it will better inform the parties as to what decision they should make. Bremond expressed agreement with both Wood and Rivera. No other comments from the Panel. No comments from the public.

Motion (Atkins): Adopt Scenario #1 (Disclosure) as the Panel's approach moving forward and allow both parties to see the analysis and conclusions in advance. Seconded (Wood). Melita Deci took a roll call vote on the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

7. **Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda.**

Chairperson Bremond warned any comment should not involve pending or future appeals, complaints, applications, or any disciplinary actions that may come before the Panel.

No comments from the public.

8. **Future Agenda Items.**

No comments from the Panel. No comments from the public.

9. **Adjournment.**

Motion (Wood). Adjourn the meeting. Seconded (Rivera). Meeting adjourned at 10:48 am.

AGENDA ITEM 3

Executive
Management Report

Agenda Item 3.0

CANNABIS CONTROL APPEALS PANEL

STAFF REPORT

PANEL MEETING

August 20, 2026

SUBJECT: CCAP 2026 – 2029 Action Plan

BACKGROUND:

May 21, 2026: The Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) SOLID Planning Unit facilitated a strategic-planning brainstorming session with Panel Members. During this session, participants reviewed and refined the objectives within CCAP's four strategic goal areas, drawing on insights from internal and external environmental scans to guide updates to the plan.

June 25, 2026: Panel members reviewed the four goal areas and objectives and voted to approve the CCAP 2026 – 2029 Strategic Plan.

July 20, 2026: Staff developed a draft action plan for the Panel's review.

ACTION ITEM
Panel Members are asked to review the draft action plan and be prepared to discuss and provide any additional edits, as needed. A vote to finalize the action plan will be taken at the September 24, 2026, panel meeting.

REPORTING SCHEDULE
The Executive Director will provide quarterly updates on the action plan's progress.

ATTACHMENTS:
3.1: *CCAP 2026 – 2029 Draft Action Plan*
3.2: *CCAP 2026 – 2029 Strategic Plan,* Adopted, June 25, 2026

STAFF CONTACT:
Anne Hawley, Executive Director
Cannabis Control Appeals Panel
916-322-6870

Agenda Item 3.0
Attachment 3.1

CANNABIS CONTROL APPEALS PANEL

Cannabis Control Appeals Panel

Draft Action Plan

2026 - 2029

Prepared by:

SOLID Planning Solutions

Department of Consumer Affairs

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Goal 1: Decision Making

Objective 1.1

Develop and implement an internal communication plan to improve the decision-making process.

Success Measure: Panel has selected the preliminary decision-making process and steps to implementation have been completed.

Due Date: Q4 2027

Task #	Task Description	Responsible Party	Due Date
1.1.1	Designate a point of contact and communicate to panel members to reach out to, in case of inquiries.	Chief Counsel	Q3 2026 and ongoing
1.1.2	Refine preliminary decision-making process.	Chief Counsel	Q4 2027

Objective 1.2

Establish an onboarding process for new panel members.

Success Measure: Training forms and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) sheets have been reviewed and refined.

Due Date: Q2 2027

Task #	Task Description	Responsible Party	Due Date
1.2.1	Review training materials as needed (both internal and external materials).	Chief Counsel	Q3 2026 and ongoing
1.2.2	Review the HR forms and benefits package.	Analyst II	Q3 2026 and annually
1.2.3	Create an onboarding list on SharePoint and Planner for administration.	Executive Director	Q3 2026
1.2.4	Review onboarding documents when there's a change in administration.	Analyst II	Q1 2027
1.2.5	Review and refine the FAQs sheets.	Executive Director	Q2 2027

Objective 1.3

Evaluate and enhance the decision-making process to improve timeliness.

Success Measure: Meeting schedule has been established.

Due Date: Q1 2027

Task #	Task Description	Responsible Party	Due Date
1.3.1	Schedule monthly hearing dates.	Executive Director	Q1 2027

Objective 1.4

Provide context for the Panel's decisions to improve clarity and promote transparency.

Success Measure: Report created and reviewed annually.

Due Date: Q4 2026 and annually

Task #	Task Description	Responsible Party	Due Date
1.4.1	Generate data/report from case management system for analysis, as needed.	Chief Counsel	Q4 2026 and annually
1.4.2	Provide robust opinions that adequately describe the legal analysis.	Chief Counsel	Q4 2026 and annually

Goal 2: Outreach and Education

Objective 2.1

Create and implement an outreach plan to improve stakeholders' understanding of the appeals process and the Panel's role.

Success Measure: Videos uploaded to website and YouTube channel.

Due Date: Q2 2027

Task #	Task Description	Responsible Party	Due Date
2.1.1	Review and update stakeholder list.	Office Technician	Q4 2026 and annually
2.1.2	Identify conferences and other opportunities where legal staff could present.	Executive Director	Q4 2026 and ongoing
2.1.3	Coordinate with legal to create educational materials for stakeholders (legal associations, etc.)	Executive Director	Ongoing
2.1.4	Update videos and upload them to website and YouTube channel.	Executive Director	Q2 2027

Objective 2.2

Create a public database listing the Panel's deliberations and decisions.

Success Measure: Searchable database is created.

Due Date: Q4 2028

Task #	Task Description	Responsible Party	Due Date
2.2.1	Look into publications of decisions on West Law.	Chief Counsel	Q4 2026
2.2.2	Investigate options to make decisions more searchable on the website.	Executive Director	Q4 2028

Goal 3: Organizational Effectiveness

Objective 3.1

Document internal procedures to ensure consistent and effective operations.

Success Measure: Manuals reviewed and updated.

Due Date: Q4 2026 and ongoing

Task #	Task Description	Responsible Party	Due Date
3.1.1	Review the CCAP style manual and update as needed.	Chief Counsel	Q3 2026 and ongoing
3.1.2	Review Audio-Video (AV) manual and update as needed.	Executive Director	Q4 2026 and ongoing

Objective 3.2

Identify and explore opportunities to enhance the self-sufficiency of the Panel's internal administrative functions.

Success Measure: Opportunities explored.

Due Date: Q4 2029

Task #	Task Description	Responsible Party	Due Date
3.2.1	Explore opportunities where the Panel could be self-sufficient.	Panel Staff	Q4 2029

Goal 4: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility

Objective 4.1

Identify and implement methods to improve accessibility of public Panel meetings.

Success Measure: Meetings published on YouTube channel.

Due Date: Q4 2026

Task #	Task Description	Responsible Party	Due Date
4.1.1	Edit panel chair's scripts to include inviting public comment on accessibility.	Senior Staff Attorney	Q3 2026
4.1.2	Add language access policy to the website.	Executive Director	Q4 2026
4.1.3	Publish meetings to YouTube account and embed YouTube channel link on the meeting resources page.	Executive Director and Office Technician	Q4 2026

Objective 4.2

Evaluate Panel materials and the website to ensure they offer clear information and accessible resources for all communities.

Success Measure: Website updated.

Due Date: Q4 2028

Task #	Task Description	Responsible Party	Due Date
4.2.1	Add language access policy to the website.	Executive Director	Q4 2026
4.2.2	Review and update Panel forms and documents to ensure gender-neutral language is used.	Chief Counsel	Q4 2027
4.2.3	Review the website for opportunities for plain language.	Executive Director and Chief Counsel	Q4 2028

Objective 4.3

Review and update Panel forms and documents to ensure gender-neutral language is used.

Success Measure: Refer to 4.2

Due Date: Q4 2027

Task #	Task Description	Responsible Party	Due Date
4.3.1	Refer to 4.2	Chief Counsel	Q4 2027

Appendix: Acronyms

AV – Audio Video

CCAP – Cannabis Control Appeals Panel

FAQ – Frequently Asked Questions

Cannabis Control Appeals Panel

400 R Street, Suite 320
Sacramento, CA 95811
(916) 322-6870
https://www.ccap.ca.gov/

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Prepared by:
SOLID Planning Solutions

Agenda Item 3.0
Attachment 2

CANNABIS CONTROL APPEALS PANEL

Cannabis Control Appeals Panel

2026-2029 Strategic Plan

Adopted: June 25, 2026

Prepared by:
SOLID Planning Solutions
Department of Consumer Affairs

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Panel Members

Diandra Bremond, EdD, Panel Chair
Governor Appointee, Los Angeles County

Josh Newman
Senate Committee on Rules Appointee, Orange County

Jim Wood
Speaker of the Assembly Appointee, Sonoma County

Cathryn Rivera
Governor Appointee, Sacramento County

Gavin Newsom, Governor

Tomiquia Moss, Secretary, Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency

Anne Hawley, Executive Director, Cannabis Control Appeals Panel

About the Panel

The Cannabis Control Appeals Panel (CCAP/Panel) was established by Proposition 64, which legalized adult-use cannabis in California in 2016, and was subsequently aligned under a unified regulatory framework through Senate Bill 94 in 2017.

CCAP serves as the independent administrative body responsible for reviewing final licensing decisions issued by the Department of Cannabis Control (DCC/Department). The Panel's jurisdiction extends to appeals filed by applicants or holders of annual licenses who have been denied a license or renewal, or who have been subject to disciplinary actions such as fines, penalties, conditions, probation, suspension, or revocation. The Panel does not hear appeals from provisional license holders.

The Panel's review is limited and focuses on whether the Department acted within its legal authority, followed required procedures, issued findings that support its decision, and based those findings on substantial evidence. Through this process, the Panel ensures fairness, due process, and accountability in the State's cannabis licensing system.

The Panel consists of five full-time members: one appointed by the Senate, one by the Assembly, and three by the Governor, with the Governor's appointees subject to Senate confirmation.

To find resources on how to file an appeal, please go to the Panel's website at www.ccap.ca.gov.

Message from the Panel Chair

On behalf of the Cannabis Control Appeals Panel, I am pleased to present the Panel's Strategic Plan for 2026–2029. This plan reflects the dedicated work and collaboration of our Panel Members and staff, supported by the Department of Consumer Affairs' SOLID Planning Unit.

Strategic planning allows us to look ahead, assess our environment, set clear goals, and determine the most effective path to fulfill our mission. This plan is the product of thoughtful discussion and careful analysis, and it establishes our priorities for the years ahead.

The strategic plan will serve as a roadmap for the Panel and staff, guiding our efforts as we work to advance our mission and uphold our core values. Its development was a team effort and represents a shared vision for the future of the Panel.

We believe this plan builds on our accomplishments and sets meaningful goals that will support our mission to provide fair, accessible, and timely quasi-judicial resolution of appeals.

As Chairperson, I am honored to present this plan and grateful to everyone who contributed to its development.

Sincerely,

Dr. Diandra Bremond

Chairperson, Cannabis Control Appeals Panel

Panel Mission, Vision, and Values

Mission

To provide fair, accessible, and timely quasi-judicial resolution of appeals from the Department of Cannabis Control's licensing decisions.

Vision

A fair forum for licensed cannabis appeals within California.

Values

- Efficiency
- Fairness
- Professionalism
- Respect
- Transparency

Goal 1: Decision Making

Ensuring appeals from decisions of the Department of Cannabis Control are resolved in a fair and timely manner.

1.1 Develop and implement an internal communication plan to improve the decision-making process.

1.2 Establish an onboarding process for new panel members.

1.3 Evaluate and enhance the decision-making process to improve timeliness.

1.4 Provide context for the Panel's decisions to improve clarity and promote transparency.

Goal 2: Outreach and Education

To provide education on the appeals process for cannabis stakeholders.

2.1 Create and implement an outreach plan to improve stakeholders' understanding of the appeals process and the Panel's role.

2.2 Create a public database listing the Panel's deliberations and decisions.

Goal 3: Organizational Effectiveness

Maintain an effective and collaborative work environment while maximizing resources.

3.1 Document internal procedures to ensure consistent and effective operations.

3.2 Identify and explore opportunities to enhance the self-sufficiency of the Panel's internal administrative functions.

Goal 4: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility

Ensure equitable practices exist in operations, programs, and policies.

4.1 Identify and implement methods to improve accessibility of public Panel meetings.

4.2 Evaluate Panel materials and the website to ensure they offer clear information and accessible resources for all communities.

4.3 Review and update Panel forms and documents to ensure gender-neutral language is used.

Strategic Planning Process

To understand the environment in which the Panel operates as well as identify factors that could impact the Panel's success in carrying out its regulatory duties, the Department of Consumer Affairs' SOLID Planning Unit (SOLID) conducted an environmental scan of the Panel's internal and external environments. Information for the scan was collected through interviews and online surveys distributed to the listed stakeholder groups during December 2025 and January 2026:

- Internal staff[1]: interviews and online survey.
- Panel members: interviews and online survey.

The most significant themes and trends identified from the environmental scan were discussed by panel members, panel leadership and staff, and members of the public during a strategic planning session facilitated by SOLID on May 21, 2026. This information guided the Panel in the development of its strategic objectives outlined in this 2026–2029 strategic plan.

[1] Executive leadership, managers, and staff

Cannabis Control Appeals Panel

400 R Street, Suite 320
Sacramento, CA, 95811
Phone: (916) 322-6870
https://www.ccap.ca.gov/

Adopted June 25, 2026

Subsequent amendments may have been made after the adoption of this plan.



Prepared by:
SOLID Planning Solutions
1747 N. Market Blvd., Ste. 270
Sacramento, CA 95834

AGENDA ITEM 4

Legal Update

(No Meeting Materials)

AGENDA ITEM 5

Presentation - Writs: Procedures for Appeal from Administrative Decision

(No Meeting Materials)

AGENDA ITEM 6

Public Comments on
Items Not on the Agenda

(No Meeting Materials)

AGENDA ITEM 7

Future Agenda Items

(No Meeting Materials)

AGENDA ITEM 8

Adjournment
(No Meeting Materials)