

# CALABASAS ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION 2024 - 2025 PRIORITIES



*CITY of CALABASAS*  
Public Works Department

Environmental Commission Meeting  
August 6, 2024



# Agenda

Environmental Commission Mission  
3

---

City Council Priorities  
4

---

Commissioner Feedback Process  
5

---

Discussion  
13

---

# City of Calabasas Environmental Commission Mission

“The mission of the Environmental Commission of the City of Calabasas is to advise the City Council regarding the stewardship of our environment as it affects the character of the Community and quality of life of our residents. We strive to balance those elements that influence the degree to which our community sustains its social, economic and physical environment while maintaining and enhancing our natural and cultural resources”.



# Calabasas City Council Environmental Priorities

- The City Council consists of an Environmental Task Force, (Councilmember Ed Albrecht, Councilmember David Shapiro, and EC Chair David Cohan) which sets goals or focus items for the City. The current goals set forth by this group include 2 main focuses:
- (1) Cool Streets Pilot Program and research and (2) Restarting/ Re-establishing the Green Business Certification.



# Commissioner Feedback Process

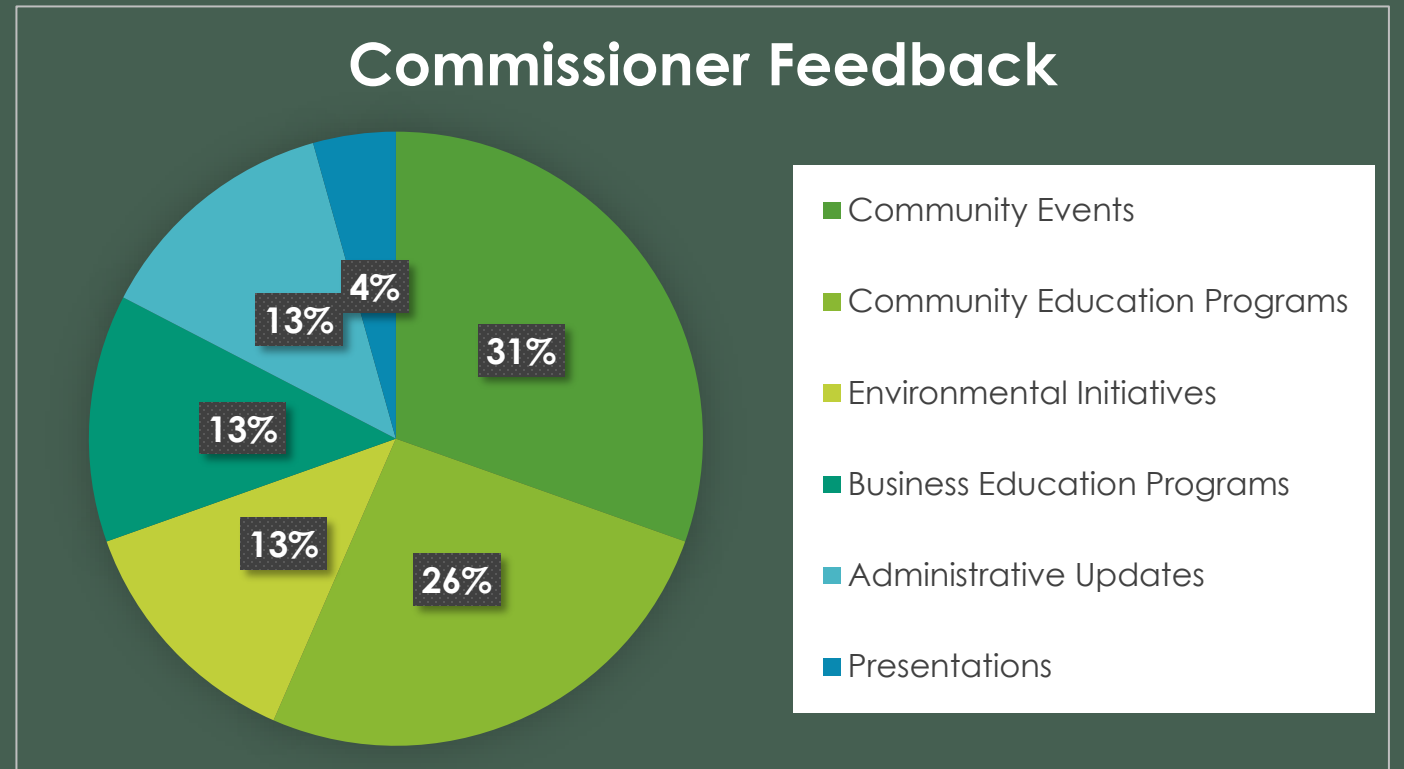
Emails shared with Commissioners requesting their feedback/ ideas for the upcoming year.

Feedback solicited via email:

- June 10, 2024
- June 28, 2024
- July 11, 2024
- July 12, 2024

Common Theme:

"Good for People and the Environment"



# Community Events and Programs

- **America Recycles Day: November 15, 2024**
  - Display Recycling Calendar Contest art at the Library or Tennis and Swim (Other open walls)
- **Increased frequency of Volunteer Days**
  - Scheduling more Clean-up Events (Trail, State Park, water system, and trash cleanups)
  - Scheduling more Active Transportation Events: Bike to School Day, Creek Tours, Trail Tours, etc.
  - Provide Community Service hours for volunteers (students)
- **Waste Reduction:**
  - Utilize digital kiosks at City facilities for event promotion/outreach rather than physical handouts.

## **Student-Focused Programs:**

- Creation of an Informal Student Advisory Committee
- Help to expand the Roots & Shoots Club at Calabasas High School and promote others to create their own clubs
- High school student competition (similar to calendar) -recycled items into art, various projects. (-Creating an art contest for the City of Calabasas exclusively for high school students (Gavin has reached out to the Calabasas High art teacher)
- Encourage Agoura Hills HS students (Calabasas Residents) to encourage attendance at watershed meetings and EC meetings (HS newspaper ad?)

# Community Educational Programs:

- **Education**: Sharing knowledge and ideas and making people aware of how to help their environment and community.
  - Creation of a community garden in Calabasas
  - Composting location with potential school visits to learn techniques.
- Waste Management (WM) Tabling at events
- Creation of native seed banks city-wide
- Informational Updates, such as workshops
  - “Living with Local Calabasas Wildlife”
- **Projects with the local Schools and children**:
  - Interactive Elementary School Educational Assemblies (Living Sustainably, P22 Bridge, Annual Forum, Pumpkin Festival, Earth Day, etc)
  - Battery Boxes supplied to LVUSD schools
    - Suggestion: “student commissioners drop them off and explain to each classroom why the box is important” Public Speaking Opportunity + sharing about the EC + encourage students of any age to participate in our city events/ programs.

# Initiatives:

- **Update Business Requirements:**

- Installing/Making Programmable Thermostats Standard across all commercial Calabasas buildings
  - (rebate provided by SoCal Edison +Ecobee)
- Installing LED Lighting Fixtures at all commercial Calabasas Buildings
  - (rebates available from CleaResult)

- **EC and Parks and Rec Commission Collaboration**

- Milkweed Planting
- Hydration Stations at City Facilities
- Trails + pet waste bag stations

- **Native Plants**

- Connect with LV Municipal Water District for rebate reports. Promote rebates + Share statistics



# Educational Programs (for Businesses):

- **Organizing Sustainable Restaurant Workshops**
  - Potential collaboration with Crossroads.
- **Supporting businesses through education, encouraging BMPs**
  - Closing lids on trash cans
  - Properly recycling items / NexTrex bench program for large businesses
  - Sharing/ Promoting rebates, etc.
  - Focusing on plastic recycling and Commercial-related items (HVAC, Prevent Usage of Rodenticides, etc.)

# Internal/ Administrative Updates:

- Commissioner handbook discussing responsibilities, requirements, expectations, sub-committees
- **Municipal Code Updates**
  - Update Resolution 2013-1379 (opposing the sale, purchase, and use of anticoagulant rodenticides in the City of Calabasas) to reflect the new legislations passed (AB 1788 and AB 1322) and address the continued use of toxic rodenticides in Calabasas.
  - In the interim, all businesses, building owners, and homeowners' associations (HOAs) should be sent a letter strongly urging them to discontinue the use of rodenticides and the letter should include several toxic-free alternative solutions.
  - Initiate a Resolution to Ban the Sale, Purchase, and Use of Glue Traps in Calabasas to safeguard hundreds of species of wildlife, including protected ones, which inflict unimaginable suffering on countless animals every year. (West Hollywood and Ojai have already banned glue traps)

# Presentations at EC Meetings:

*Staff and Commissioners can suggest a presentation / request a speaker or subcommittee updates at anytime.*

- Student Presentations and Updates



# DISCUSSION

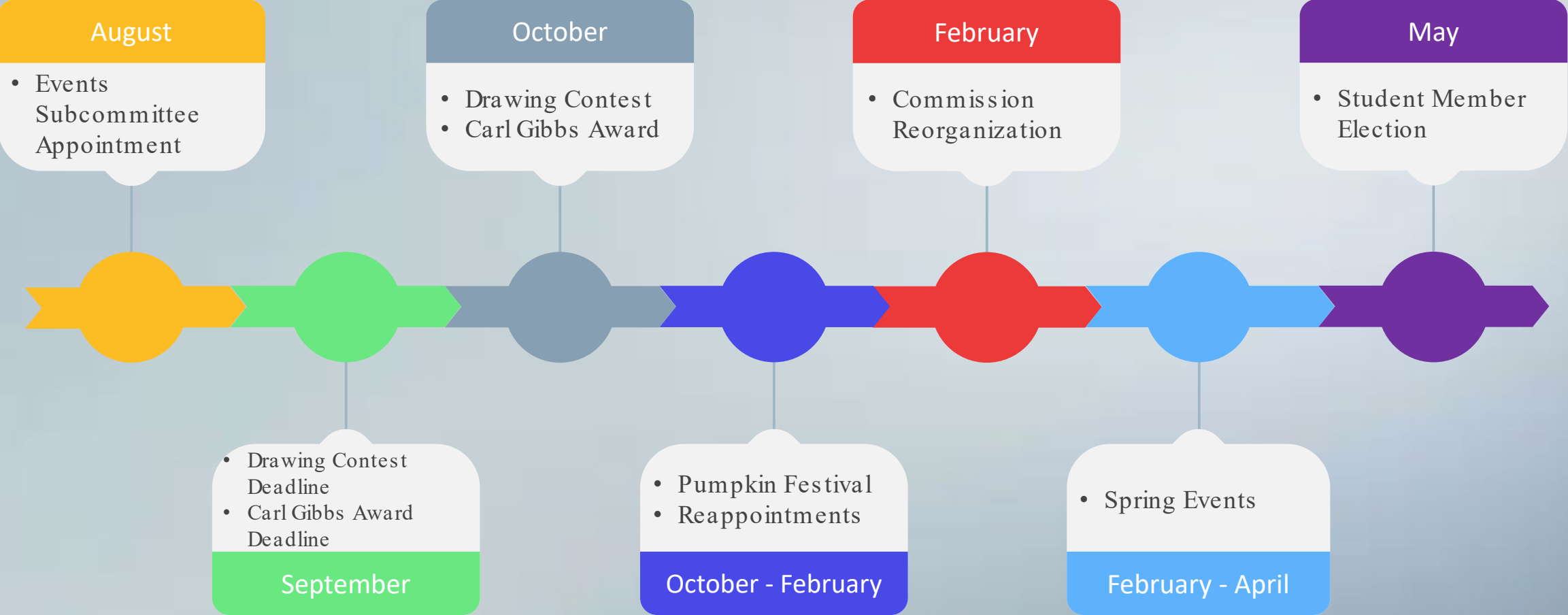
Melanis Stepanian, Environmental Management Analyst

(818) 224 -1680

[mstepanian@cityofcalabasas.com](mailto:mstepanian@cityofcalabasas.com)



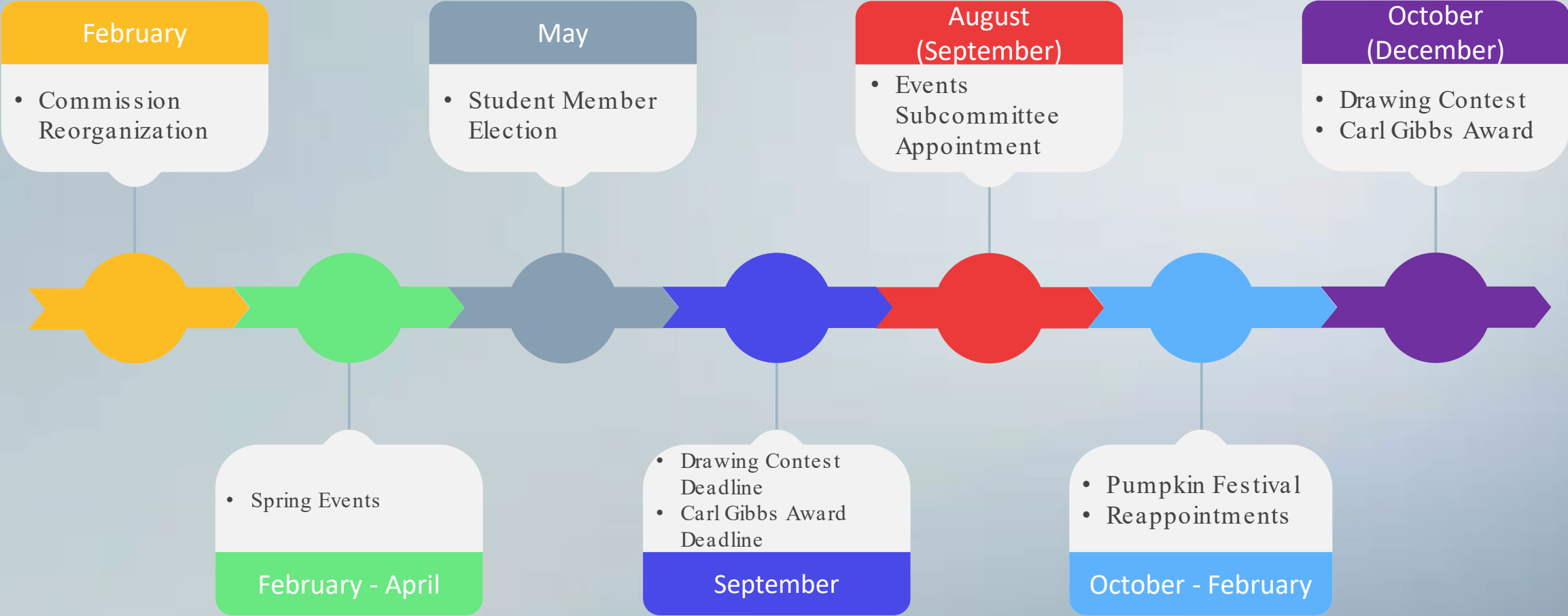
# Staff-Proposed Meeting Schedule



May 7, 2024 Meeting



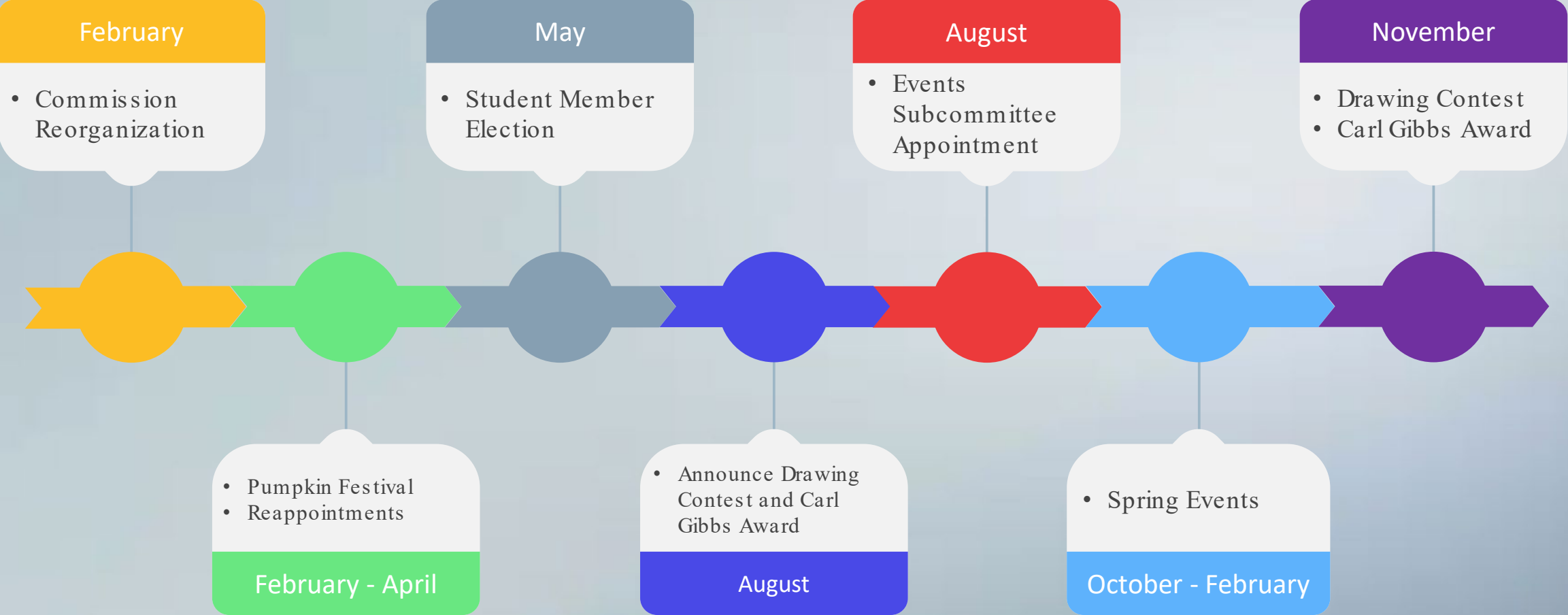
# Current Meeting Schedule (Presented on May 7, 2024)



August 6, 2024 Meeting



# Staff-Proposed Meeting Schedule



August 6, 2024 Meeting



# Environmental Commission Meetings

