

**San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
Citizens' Advisory Committee**

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, November 15, 2016**  
**5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**  
**525 Golden Gate Ave., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Tuolumne Conference Room**

**Mission:** The purpose of the SFPUC CAC is to provide recommendations to the SFPUC General Manager, the SFPUC Commission, and the Board of Supervisors regarding the agency's long-term strategic, financial, and capital improvement plans.

**Members:**

**Wendy Aragon, Chair (D1)**

Suki Kott (D2)  
Leslie DeTaillandier (D3)  
Amy Zock (D4)  
Ted Loewenberg (D5)  
Mark Connors (D6)

Kelly Groth (D7)  
VACANT (D8)  
Ernesto Martinez (D9)  
Anietie Ekanem (D10)  
Jennifer Clary (D11)  
VACANT (M-Env.Group)

Nicole Sandkulla - (M-Reg'l Water Customers)  
Rebecca Lee, (M-Eng./Financial)  
Tamar Barlev (M-Lg Water User)  
Owen O'Donnell (B-Small Business)  
Misty McKinney (B-Env Justice)

M = Mayoral appointment, B = Board President Appointment

Staff Liaison: Tracy Zhu, LaVonna White

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- 1. Call to order and roll call:** The meeting was call to order at: 5:35 pm.

Members present at roll call: (9) Aragon, Kott, DeTaillandier, Zock, Loewenberg, Ekanem, Lee, O'Donnell, McKinney

Members absent at roll call: (6) Connors, Groth, Martinez, Clary, Sandkulla, Barlev,

Members of the public present at the meeting: Amy Nagengast

- 2. Approval** of the [October 18, 2016](#) meeting minutes

Member Loewenberg thinks it is important that the answers to questions by CAC members be added to minutes. Chair Aragon agrees. The CAC tabled approving [October 18, 2016](#) meeting minutes until January meeting so they can be updated to include the answers to questions asked by committee members.

Public Comment: None

- 3. Public Comment:** None

**Edwin M. Lee**  
Mayor

**Anson Moran**  
President

**Ike Kwon**  
Vice President

**Ann Moller Caen**  
Commissioner

**Francesca Vietor**  
Commissioner

**Vince Courtney**  
Commissioner

**Harlan L. Kelly, Jr.**  
General Manager



4. **Report from the Chair** - Wendy Aragon,

- Chair Aragon extended a welcome to newest member of committee Anietie Ekanem. Member Ekanem is a 7 year resident of district 10, His is owner of a marketing/consulting firm and wants to increase community awareness of what the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) does.
- The Wastewater subcommittee took an urban watershed walking tour to learn about the agency's green infrastructure program in its October meeting. Chair Aragon would like to do more tours like it in the future.
- Chair Aragon: Do we know when another one might be in the works? Staff Member Zhu: They are currently developing a series of walking tours and encourage feedback from CAC members. Wastewater Subcommittee will debrief the walking tour at the December 6 meeting and can talk about next steps in how the urban watershed management program can partner with the wastewater CAC subcommittee moving forward.
- The SFPUC Commission passed a resolution similar the one passed by the CAC supporting the community recommendations on the Southeast Community Facility and Greenhouses.
- **Update On the Balboa Reservoir CAC (BRCAC)**
  - i. Member Lee – The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) has been issued.
  - ii. Resident Alvin Ja asked if any amount of below market housing could justify the privatization of this public land. The Mayor's office target was for 50 – 100% of the housing to be below market rate but the opinion was not unanimously supported by the Balboa Reservoir CAC.

Public Comment: None

5. **Presentation and Discussion:** **Mountain Tunnel Update**, Steve Ritchie, Assistant General Manager, Water Enterprise

Presentation Topics:

- Mountain Tunnel Background
- Mountain Tunnel Update Summary
- Mountain Tunnel Adits and Access Improvements
- Mountain Tunnel Inspection and Repairs
- 2017 Mountain Tunnel Interim Repair (HH-986)
- Tunnel Inspection Tasks (Day 2 thru Day 15 of Shutdown)
- Other Work
- Moccasin Fish Hatchery
- Shutdown and Inspection Management (Draft)
- Mountain Tunnel Emergency Response
- Decision on Long-Term Improvements
- Mountain Tunnel Long-Term Improvements Schedule
- November 2018 Shutdown
- Conclusions

Topics of Discussion:

- Member O'Donnell: Is the Mountain Tunnell leadking? Is there an estimate of current water loss in the tunnel due to leaking?  
AGM Richie: We are leaking a little bit of water as opposed to actually losing any.
- Member Kott: Is any of the funding for this project or any other of the water projects depend on federal funding?

AGM Richie: No federal money is being used. WSIP is paid for by ratepayer funds and some state grants.

- Member Loewenberg: Why was the condition of the tunnel not already addressed since we have known there were problems since 1989?

AGM Richie: In 1989 we knew there were problems with the lining in the tunnel. At the same time, the risk of seismic failure of other water facilities has far exceeded the risk associated with Mountain Tunnel. It was a matter of priorities to decide to prioritize seismic retrofit in WSIP first before addressing Mountain Tunnel.

- Member Loewenberg: This tunnel carries 85% of water from Hetch Hetchy, which if failed would be catastrophic.

AGM Richie: Irvington tunnel carries 95% of water, so that came to the top of the priority list first. This Mountain Tunnel is a problem, but it was not as high of a priority as the seismic retrofits for Bay Division Pipelines 1 and 2. Now that we have dealt with these other serious risks, we are now addressing Mountain Tunnel.

- Member Loewenberg: What is the estimate of time to shore up the Mountain Tunnel project?

AGM Richie: The plan is to do initial repairs while tunnel is closed this time around and then doing additional repairs in late 2018. Improving the adits and access is key to allowing us to fix any future problems quickly. It will probably take 5 years to go through the complete design and review process.

Public Comments:

- Amy Nagengast: How big is the conduit? How big is the tunnel?

AGM Richie: The tunnel is 14 foot diameter.

- Nagengast: Do we use robots to do the inspections?

AGM Richie: No, this tunnel we have to dewater completely so we can assess and scrutinize the state of the rock to get detailed information about the state of the tunnel.

- Nagengast: Are we considering using Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) to help inspect tunnel?

AGM Richie: We used ROV to inspect the bay tunnel. However, all the experts agree that direct human inspection is necessary and far superior for the Mountain Tunnel inspection.

6. **Discussion: Community Building Activities**, Wendy Aragon, CAC Chair, and Tracy Zhu, CAC Manager

Member Lee Leaves at 6:18pm (8 members present. Quorum is not met.)

7. **Adjournment:** Meeting is adjourned at 6:18pm.