



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

MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday, August 16, 2022
 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

PARTICIPATE VIA ZOOM VIRTUAL CONFERENCE SOFTWARE

Meeting URL

<https://sfwater.zoom.us/j/83501963234?pwd=bHB0Q3FuL1FMSmhpSnN5NGZVUXRzZz09>

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669.219.2599

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Meeting ID/Passcode

835 0196 3234 / 181244

This meeting is being held by Teleconference Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 and the Sixteenth Supplement to Mayoral Proclamation Declaring the Existence of a Local Emergency Dated February 25,2020

During the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) emergency, the San Francisco Public Utilities Citizens Advisory Committee's (SFPUC CAC) regular meeting room, 525 Golden Gate Ave., 3rd Floor Tuolumne Conference Room, is closed. CAC Members and SFPUC staff will convene CAC meetings remotely by teleconference. Members of the public are encouraged to submit their public comment on agenda items in advance of the teleconference meeting by emailing comments to cac@sfwater.org. Comments submitted no later than 12 PM Tuesday the day of the meeting will be read into the record by SFPUC CAC Staffing Team members during the teleconference meeting and will be treated as a substitute to providing public comment during the meeting. Persons who submit written public comment in advance on an agenda item or items will not be permitted to also provide public comment on the same agenda item(s) during the meeting.

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 ([Admin. Code Article XV, Sections 5.140 - 5.142](#))

Members:

Moisés García, Chair (D9)

- VACANT (D1)
- Suki Kott (D2)
- Steven Kight (D3)
- Douglas Jacuzzi (D4)
- Emily Algire (D5)
- Barklee Sanders (D6)
- Joshua Ochoa (D7)
- Amy Nagengast (D8)

- VACANT (D10)
- Jennifer Clary (D11)
- Maika Pinkston (M-Environmental Org.)
- Nicole Sandkulla (M-Regional Water Customers)
- VACANT (M-Engineering/Financial)
- Eliahu Perszyk (M-Large Water User)
- VACANT (B-Small Business)
- Michelle Pierce (B-Environ. Justice)

London N. Breed
 Mayor

Anson Moran
 President

Newsha Ajami
 Vice President

Sophie Maxwell
 Commissioner

Tim Paulson
 Commissioner

Dennis J. Herrera
 General Manager

OUR MISSION: To provide our customers with high-quality, efficient and reliable water, power and sewer services in a manner that values environmental and community interests and sustains the resources entrusted to our care.



D = District Supervisor appointed, M = Mayor appointed, B = Board President appointed

Staff Liaisons: Mayara Ruski Augusto Sa, Lexus Moncrease and Jotti Aulakh
Staff Email for Public Comment: cac@sfwater.org

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to order and roll call at 5:34 pm

Members present at roll call: (9) García, Kott, Jacuzzi, Algire, Sanders, Ochoa, Nagengast, Clary, and Perszyk

Members Absent: (4) Kight, Pinkston, Sandkulla, and Pierce

Staff Presenters: None

Members of the Public: Alex Lantsberg, Leslie Austin, Batoul Al-Sadi, and two unidentified phone numbers

*Member Pinkston joined at 5:43 pm. Quorum maintained.

**Member Ochoa left at 6:34 pm. Quorum maintained.

2. Approve [July 19, 2022](#) Minutes

Motion was made (Kott) and seconded (Clary) to approve the July 19, 2022 Minutes.

AYES: (9) García, Kott, Jacuzzi, Algire, Sanders, Ochoa, Nagengast, Clary, and Perszyk

NOES: (0)

ABSENT: (4) Kight, Pinkston, Sandkulla, and Pierce

Public Comment: None

3. Report from the Chair

- Welcome members, staff, and the public
- Ohlone Tribal Land Acknowledgement
- [Correspondence Log](#)
- Member Kott provided an update on Camp Ida Smith and confirmed that the SFPUC will be taking over part of the camp.
- Member Clary suggested that the Real Estate Department at the SFPUC should provide the CAC with an update on their policies

Public Comment: None

4. Public Comment: Members of the public may address the Committee on matters that are within the Committee's jurisdiction and are not on today's agenda

Public Comment: None

5. **Discussion and Possible Action:** [Resolution Making Findings to Allow Teleconferenced Meetings Under California Government Code Section 54953\(e\)](#)

Motion was made (Clary) and seconded (Perszyk) to adopt the resolution.

The motion PASSED with the following votes:

AYES: (10) García, Kott, Jacuzzi, Algire, Sanders, Ochoa, Nagengast, Clary, Pinkston, and Perszyk

NOES: (0)

ABSENT: (3) Kight, Sandkulla, and Pierce

Public Comment: None

6. **Presentation, Discussion and Possible Action:** [Resolution in Support Of Deepening Public Power Evaluation](#), Emily Algire, Power CAC Chair

Presentation

Member Algire commented that this resolution was intended to request that the SFPUC provide the CAC with more information about what a potential purchase of PG&E's assets would look like. In 2019, Chair Garcia proposed a resolution acknowledging the CAC's support of a public takeover of PG&E's assets by the City. This new resolution is seeking more information. The resolution asked the SFPUC to follow up on a 2019 report and the last three Resolved clauses were added by the SFPUC to address the possible disruption due to potential litigation and CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) constraints.

Discussion

- **Member Clary** commented that the third to last Resolved clause, which discusses privileged information and confidentiality, seems more like a Whereas clause than a Resolved clause because it is restating the legal framework. She then asked whether this was something the SFPUC wanted to add.

Member Algire responded affirmatively.

Member Clary responded that she did not see an actionable item and suggested changing it into a Whereas clause.

- The third to last Resolved clause was removed and listed as the seventh Whereas clause in the Whereas section. The term "Resolved that" was replaced with "Whereas" and the term "be it" was removed from the end of the clause.
- **Member Perszyk** suggested editing the third Resolved to replace green energy with something more specific such as carbon neutrality.
- **Member Nagengast** recommended stating carbon free instead of carbon neutral because it is not necessarily renewable.

- In the second bullet point of the third Resolved clause, the term “greener” was removed.
- In the fourth bullet point of the third Resolved clause, the term “green” was replaced with “carbon free.”
- **Member Sanders** asked who would hold the SFPUC and the City accountable for reliability when the SFPUC takes over the utilities from PG&E. Sanders asked whether that would fall under the California Public Utilities Commission.
- **Member Algire** responded that it would fall under the governance of the SFPUC, which means the ultimate decision would lie with the Commissioners.
- **Member Sanders** commented that he would like to see more accountability by people outside of the City if the City is going to run the utilities. Sanders noted that it was important to him that the City was meeting the same standards as the rest of the utilities throughout the Bay Area and the rest of the State.
- **Member Kott** asked if the CAC uses the term “Further Resolved” in their resolutions.
- **Chair García** responded that they do use that term after the first Resolved.
- All the Resolved clauses after the first Resolved clause were changed to Further Resolved.

Motion was made (Clary) and seconded (Perszyk) to adopt the resolution as amended.

The motion PASSED with the following votes:

AYES: (10) García, Kott, Jacuzzi, Algire, Sanders, Ochoa, Nagengast, Clary, Pinkston, and Perszyk

NOES: (0)

ABSENT: (3) Kight, Sandkulla, and Pierce

Public Comment: None

7. **Presentation and Discussion and Possible Action:** [Resolution in Support of Transparency, Environmental Accountability, and Labor Standards for California Community Power](#), Alex Lantsberg, Director of Research & Advocacy San Francisco Electrical Construction Industry; Moisés García, Power CAC Chair

Discussion

- **Chair García** commented that an edit from the SFPUC’s Racial Equity Team was suggested for the resolution.

- A Whereas Clause stating “Whereas, Environmental justice organizations have broadly supported and have been closely involved with CCAs to help ensure access to cleaner energy, promote greater local control over energy sources, and build a more equitable and democratic energy system; and” was added as the ninth Whereas clause.
- **Member Nagengast** asked how Appendix A worked and whether it was an example appendix that the CAC would give their credence to as well.

Presenter Lantsberg responded that he hopes the SFPUC adopts Appendix A to move forward through California Community Power (CCP). He noted that it provides more detail for the policy that he is trying to establish and reflects the interim policy currently governing projects. Presenter Lantsberg added that it was developed in concert with labor and community groups who were involved with environmental justice.

- **Member Nagengast** asked what type of projects these were and whether they were big construction projects or \$50,000 studies.

Presenter Lantsberg responded that they are specifically talking about energy procurement whether that be storage or new generation. He commented that three projects so far have gone through CCP and have adopted the labor standards. Presenter Lantsberg noted that the three projects are in Escondido, Kern County, and Reno, and they were all versions of long duration storage construction projects.

- **Member Nagengast** asked if this resolution would impact an RFP (Request for Proposal) to evaluate various alternatives by the CCAs.

Presenter Lantsberg responded no because evaluation studies do not concern construction and that this was specifically regarding procurements and contracts that trigger construction of a renewable energy generation storage facility. He added that when CCAs enter into contracts for energy, they are buying energy services. Presenter Lantsberg noted that it ends up being a loophole that can enable the agencies to do the projects without any labor standards because they are not actually paying for the construction. He noted that the SFPUC was already willing to do this in its course of business.

- **Member Kott** asked why the CAC decided to advance this resolution is the SFPUC was already on board.

Presenter Lantsberg responded that they are trying to establish a precedent not just in San Francisco but with the broader Joint Powers Authority. He commented that it is important to have grassroots affirmations from advisory committees and other folks letting the governing board of all these agencies know that there is broad support for extending the standards not just for their own operations but making sure to use the power as members of the JPA to push for the standards at a broader level.

- **Member Kott** asked if it was Presenter Lantsberg’s organization that drafted the resolution and brought it to the CAC.

Presenter Lantsberg responded that his coalition did it and that Leslie Austin and Batoul Al-Sadi from Let's Green California have provided great leadership on the central coast for the resolution.

Chair García commented that other CCAs who are part of the Joint Powers Authority have been trying to reduce the oversight of Citizens' Advisory Committees (CACs), so this resolution bolsters the voices of CACs as well.

- **Presenter Lantsberg** commented that it is important to demonstrate that there is grassroots support for the resolution so that people recognize the value and importance of linking workforce environmental justice and renewable energy development.

Member Algire responded that the resolution is to demonstrate the CAC's support.

- **Presenter Lantsberg** commented that Assistant General Manager Hale asked for support as she engages with counterparts on the California Community Board.
- **Member Nagengast** asked whether Presenter Lantsberg was looking for the CCP to put this as part of their own project requirements. She also asked whether Attachment A was the most useful mechanism for the CCPs to use.

Presenter Lantsberg responded that the resolution was the framework for a policy that they are asking them to adopt. He added that this was not the specific language of the policy but were the points that they are asking CC Power to adopt. Presenter Lantsberg also noted that much of this had been reflected in some of the interim guidelines, and they are asking CC Power to adopt permanent policies for procurement and contracting that will require the standards for its own expenditures.

- **Member Nagengast** asked if they could add the term "Framework" after policy under workforce and environmental justice policy framework for an energy procurement.

Presenter Lantsberg responded affirmatively.

- In the heading of Appendix A, the term "Framework" was added in the last line after "Policy."

Motion was made (Algire) and seconded (Perszyk) to adopt the resolution as amended.

The motion PASSED with the following votes:

AYES: (10) García, Kott, Jacuzzi, Algire, Sanders, Ochoa, Nagengast, Clary, Pinkston, and Perszyk

NOES: (0)

ABSENT: (3) Kight, Sandkulla, and Pierce

Public Comment:

- **Leslie Green** commented that she is a climate action organizer with the Romero Institute Let's Green California. They are a part of a growing alliance of unionized workers and climate and environmental justice advocates that are working hard to ensure a strong workforce and environmental justice standards at Community Choice Energy (CCE) programs throughout the state of California. Green commented that she wanted to encourage the CAC to adopt the policy resolution and work proactively to ensure that the SFPUC works quickly to adopt and implement the policy to ensure protections for working families and communities. Green believes that the CAC's leadership would have a positive and lasting impact by helping to establish industry standards and best practices for other CCAs in California. She noted that Community Choice programs must include a broad set of social, economic, and environmental goals that include a worker focused approach that ensures high road careers and advance environmental justice standards to support the communities that host the renewable energy projects that are built. Green added that the City works hard to create a culture of equity and inclusion to ensure diverse and engaged workforces and to build a sustainable and equitable future for all.
- **Batoul Al-Sadi** commented that she was the Environmental Justice Organizer at Let's Green California and works to establish workforce and environmental justice standards at CCEs across the state. Al-Sadi commented that she wanted to encourage the adoption of the resolution because she believes that a commitment to strong workforce and environmental justice standards by the CAC and the larger SFPUC would lead other California CCEs to do the same. She noted that CCEs, as community energy agencies, are obligated to ensure that workers and communities, particularly those from historically disadvantaged backgrounds are protected and supported through the energy transition. Al-Sadi added that at their core, Community Choice Programs are about creating ground up solutions to the climate crisis through community owned energy utilities. She continued that fundamental to these programs is centering community stakeholder voices and perspectives throughout the energy procurement process, and that this resolution would seek to ensure diverse and meaningful community engagement. Al-Sadi commented that in doing so, the resolution sought to remedy a long history of California CCEs failing to consider the disproportionate environmental burdens experienced by low-income communities of color by acknowledging and including those impacted by the legacy of environmental injustice into the decision-making process. She noted that strengthening workforce and environmental justice standards will better communities, energy, economy, and the future. Al-Sadi commented that establishing these standards would mean taking a proactive step and contributing to a future that favors renewable energy while protecting the most burdened communities. She added that moving the resolution forward would be incredibly vital and has the power to influence CCEs across California. Al-Sadi encouraged the CAC to work to codify the values and approve the resolution.

8. Discussion: Full CAC FY 2022-2023 Priorities, Moisés García, Full CAC Chair

Discussion

- **Member Clary** suggested adding the SFPUC's real estate policy to the list.

The topic "SFPUC's Leasing of its Properties" was added to the priority list.

- All the topics from Fiscal Year 2021-2022 were kept as priorities for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.
- **Member Nagengast** commented that she will reach out to the Assistant General Manager of the Wastewater Enterprise to see how their priorities and the Wastewater Subcommittee's priorities align.
- **Member Sanders** commented that an update on Treasure Island and the resolution that passed might fall under Racial Equity.

Staff Sa responded that it falls under Follow up on CAC Adopted Resolutions.

- **Member Perszyk** asked how the green infrastructure program integrated with sustainable groundwater management in San Francisco.

Chair García responded that the Wastewater Subcommittee just received an update on a project on Alemany.

- **Member Nagengast** commented that she wanted to follow up on HR (Human Resources) and hiring processes.

Member Kott echoed her support of following up on hiring processes, particularly how the civil service hiring system creates a barrier for hiring new people and retaining people who are on their way out while training new people.

"HR Hiring Practices: Civil Service Hiring Method" was added to the list of priorities.

Member Kott clarified that she was more concerned about a lack of transfer of information when she brought up hiring processes.

- **Member Pinkston** commented that she was aware of a contract that stated that the Bayview community was supposed to have equal opportunity with Wastewater management.

Chair García responded that this was an issue that the CAC was trying to unearth and address.

- **Member Kott** commented that the SFPUC should present to the CAC what barriers the civil service hiring rules present to allow CAC members to discuss the issue of the impending mass exodus of people retiring with their appointing officers.

Staff Sa explained that the SFPUC's Human Resources is bound to the Department of Human Resource's rules, which means the SFPUC cannot change the process set out by the Department of Human Resources.

- **Member Clary** clarified that regarding the issue with the Wastewater management plant in Bayview, the SFPUC was in the process of upgrading the plant.

The following topics were included in the CAC's list of priorities for Fiscal Year 2022-2023:

- SFPUC Policy on Leasing of its Properties
- Advancing Racial Equity
- Supporting Affordability Programs and Policies
- Increase Workforce Equity
- Track Infrastructure Investments through the 10 Year Capital Plans
- Understand and Conduct Outreach for SFPUC Grants, Rebates, and Incentives
- Promote CAC Priorities in the Agency's Budget
- Follow up on CAC Adopted Resolutions
- HR Hiring Practices: Civil Service Hiring Method

Public Comment: None

9. Staff Report

- The CAC's Annual Report will be submitted to the Commission by October and Chair García will have an opportunity to present to the Commission and highlight the priorities discussed in this meeting.
- The CAC will continue to meet remotely until further notice from the Mayor's office

Public Comment: None

10. Future Agenda Items and Resolutions

- [CAC Advance Calendar](#)

Public Comment: None

11. Announcements/Comments

Please visit www.sfpuc.org/cac for confirmation of the next scheduled meeting, agenda, and materials.

- **Member Algire** commented that the SFPUC asked the CAC to give them six months to update their maps to include Treasure Island. Algire asked CAC members to go to their representatives on the Board of Supervisors to bring awareness about this issue to the rest of the City.
- **Member Clary** thanked the SFPUC for supporting SB 222, which is the statewide water affordability program.

Public Comment: None

12. Adjournment

Motion was made (Algire) and seconded (Nagengast) to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:09 pm.