

CITY COUNCIL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING
Remote Participation – Digital Zoom Meeting
October 15, 2020
4:30 p.m. – 5:47 p.m.
MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Chair Mendall.

ROLL CALL:

Members:

- Al Mendall, City Council Member/CSC Chair
- Elisa Márquez, City Council Member
- Francisco Zermeño, City Council Member

Staff:

- Alex Ameri, Director of Public Works
- Elli Lo, Management Analyst
- Erik Pearson, Environmental Services Manager
- Linda Ko, Senior Secretary (Recorder)
- Maria Hurtado, Assistant City Manager
- Nick Tabari, Audio Visual Specialist
- Nicole Grucky, Sustainability Specialist
- Taylor Richard, HASPA Fellow
- Tim Lohnes, GIS Technician
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PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made. Chair Al Mendall stated that written comments received from members of the public regarding the Noise Ordinance have been and will be reviewed by Council members and that these documents were also available to everyone online.

1. Approval of Minutes of the Council Sustainability Committee (CSC) Meeting held on September 14, 2020

The item was moved by Council Member Zermeño, seconded by Council Member Márquez, and approved unanimously.

2. Default Electricity Product Choices from East Bay Community Energy

Erik Pearson, Environmental Services Manager, presented a report on the default electricity product choices from East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) and asked the CSC for comments and to provide a recommendation to Council. Alex DiGiorgio, EBCE Public Engagement Manager, also provided additional details and information on the potential Citywide default energy service options.

A public comment was made by Jessica Guadalupe Tovar, Coordinator of East Bay Clean Power Alliance, who suggested looking into options that would keep the City's power nuclear-free. She also advocated subsidizing the Brilliant 100 product as an alternative.

Council Member Márquez inquired if the City would have a choice on the default product if a product with nuclear energy was potentially offered. Erik Pearson clarified that each city would have the choice to select their default energy product from the various options that would be available. Council Member Márquez's ranking of preferred products for the default product for the Hayward community was as follows from most preferred to least preferred: Choice D – Brilliant 100 with subsidy, Choice E – Bright Choice, Choice C – Brilliant 100 with rate increase, Choice B – Renewable 100, and Choice A – 100% carbon free with nuclear energy. She also stated that she was in support of Hayward's municipal accounts being switched to Renewable 100.

Council Member Zermeño ranked the product options as follows from most preferred to least preferred: Choice D – Brilliant 100 with subsidy, Choice E – Bright Choice, Choice C – Brilliant 100 with rate increase, Choice B – Renewable 100, and Choice A – 100% carbon free with nuclear energy.

Council Member Mendall expressed his opposition to choosing Bright Choice as the default energy product as this would undermine the City's ongoing greenhouse gas reduction efforts. He ranked the product options as follows from most preferred to least preferred: Choice D – Brilliant 100 with subsidy, Choice A – 100% carbon free with nuclear energy, Choice C – Brilliant 100 with rate increase, Choice B – Renewable 100, and Choice E – Bright Choice. Council Member Mendall stated that he was okay with a nuclear-mix product for a few years in order to achieve long-term sustainable solutions.

Alex DiGiorgio commented that accepting the nuclear allocation would not change the amount of nuclear energy generated and that EBCE customers are already paying for the nuclear power through the PCIA.

Council Member Márquez commented that she would be more open to accepting a nuclear-mix energy product if there was a very narrow timeline of use, possibly with a cap of two years.

3. Review and Comment on the Proposed 2020 Agenda Planning Calendar

Council Member Zermeño stated his support of future agenda items and expressed a desire for the City to establish a goal of having an all-electric fleet by a certain year.

COMMITTEE MEMBER/STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REFERRALS:

Council Member Zermeño thanked Director Alex Ameri and Erik Pearson for helpful staff recommendation emails before StopWaste Board meetings.

ADJOURNMENT: 5:47 p.m.

Attendance	MEETINGS			
	Present 10/15/20 Meeting	Present to Date This Fiscal Year	Excused to Date This Fiscal Year	Absent to Date This Fiscal Year
Elisa Márquez	✓	3	0	0
Al Mendall	✓	3	0	0
Francisco Zermeño	✓	3	0	0