



4. **Public Comment:** None
5. **Presentation and Discussion:** [Education and Skill Building Center at 1550 Evans Ave.](#), Ronnie Versher & Lisa Beem, Workforce Development Manager, Community Benefits Division, External Affairs Bureau

**Presentation Topics:**

- Utilities Sector Workforce Landscape
- The Opportunity
- 1550 Evans Education Center Timeline
- America's Water Infrastructure Act 2018
- Working Group Process
- Next Steps and Engagement

**Discussion Topics:**

- *Chair Ekanem* asked if Five Keys have a space in educational center or in the community center.  
*Staff Versher* answered the services Five Keys offers best align with the education center
- *Member McKinney* clarified that Five Keys would occupy 3,500 sq. ft of the 45,000 sq. ft education center.  
*Staff Versher* replied that the tentative agreement is 3,000 sq. ft
- *Chair Ekanem* sought a clearer understanding of what the timeline looks like.  
*Staff Versher* responded that his team have just wrapped up some working group meetings. The SFPUC is going to be sifting through and refining a large matrix of 60+ training needs for their organization and linking them with community expectations. In the next 4-6 weeks, there should be a report for review
- *Chair Ekanem* asked if money has been allocated for this building.  
*Staff Versher* replied no, not yet.
- *Member McKinney* asked if there was a good example of anywhere in the country where there is a clear success story of educating a workforce that has a pipeline into the utility agency.  
*Staff Versher* answered that Harlan Kelly, Juliet Ellis, and Abby Snade from Jewish Vocational Services (JVS) went to Washington DC to review their pipeline program. *Staff Beem* added it was a multi-city department effort and she would be happy to provide further details.
- *Chair Ekanem* inquired if *Staff Versher* has talked to City College of San Francisco (CCSF) or San Francisco State University (SFSU) about their workforce training programs.  
*Staff Versher* responded that he had not gone back to CCSF, SFSU, and San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) regarding a response to SFPUC's Request For Information. Once this initial SFPUC evaluation is refined, the SFPUC will reach out to local education institutions to have a dialogue about complementary workforce services that could be held at this education center.
- *Chair Ekanem* suggested the SFPUC understand why the existing community center didn't work as part of their process for programming the new education center
- *Member McKinney* inquired about community members who haven't graduated from high school and don't have the availability to go into a University program. What's the pipeline opportunity for them without that diploma?  
*Staff Versher* replied that he thinks this will be a perfect opportunity for leveraging the education center as well as the community center. The community facility being an entity where you can leverage community-

based organizations and their wrap around support services to help get someone who doesn't have a diploma complete their degree or GED.

Public Comment:

- Torrance Bynum expressed his appreciation for the work *Staff Versher's* team has been doing but informed him that a lot of the work the SFPUC is doing has already been done. He suggested if he go back and speak with David Gray, and pull up some of the data they submitted and some of the work they've done, they'll find they can take some shortcuts. As the project progresses, he believes that if the PUC is interested in this body of folks, they should be included at the table. They're experts and can lend some good recommendations.
- Les Wong commented that when they piloted two-year programs, two years ago in the school of engineering, most students were then hired by United Airlines and San Francisco International Airport. The private sector is also hiring students right out these pilot programs and that's going to be the SFPUC's competition. If the SFPUC can get more refined timing, they can anticipate job needs and get those programs ready before the new education center opens its doors. SFSU stands ready to help.
- David Gray circled back regarding the logic of placing 5 Keys Charter School within the footprint of the education and skill building center. He explained that the institution began out of the sheriff's office to help incarcerated and formerly incarcerated men and women complete their GED and transition into higher education. They continue to provide their services very well out of 1800 Oakdale. Rather than saying you must go to this building while all the other college students go to this building, they want to be intentional about the pathway into those college programs.
- Elizabeth Toups commented that she believes the SFPUC is asking the right questions. Her team ask and answer the types of questions every day, such as
  - Where are the physical location of these jobs?
  - What kind of minimum requirements exist?
  - Where are the people that want the jobs and what are their needs?

6. **Presentation, Discussion and Possible Action: Resolution in Support of SFPUC's Efforts to Foster a Skilled and Diverse Workforce**, Anietie Ekanem, Wastewater CAC Chair

**Discussion Topics:**

- *Member Nagengast* suggested it may make more sense to split the skilled portion and the diverse portion into two resolutions because it seems that what the SFPUC is really asking for is internal metrics and the diversity and inclusion across the portfolio of SFPUC programs. *Member McKinney* added that she sees these two items together.
- *Chair Ekanem* believes skills and diversity are connected specifically because in institutions the assumption is if you are not moving up, there's something lacking in you and that's not the case most of the time. It's really because of the ecosystem and the culture of the organization. Trying to separate skills versus metrics doesn't really serve anything.
- *Staff Beem* believes they need diversity data badly. All their data systems are split and most of their data is on paper still so they're not able to do analysis of whether people who have the same amount of experience encounter differences attributed to race. In all their workforce development upscaling programs, there is an explicit value and need to center around increasing diversity in those programs.

Motion was made (Ekanem) and seconded (Zock) to adopt the resolution in order to bring it to the full CAC.

The motion **PASSED** by the following vote:

AYES: (4) Ekanem, Zock, McKinney, Nagengast

NOES: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

Public Comment: None

**7. Staff report**

- Southeast Community Facility (SECF) Commission's Community Mixer for the New SECF Executive Director: Wednesday, February 27, 4-6pm at 1800 Oakdale Ave.

**8. Future Agenda Items and Resolutions**

- Northpoint Wet Weather Facility and Oceanside Treatment Plant overview – tentatively April
- SSIP Phase II
- Working Group for 1550 Evans Education and Training Center Process
- Watershed Stewardship Grants
- Stormwater Management Ordinance and the Southeast Treatment Plant
- Environmental Justice in Capital Projects
- Communications Updates
- Upcoming Construction
- Biosolids Green Infrastructure Resolution Update
- Workforce Programs and Qualifications

9. **Announcements/Comments** – The next scheduled meeting of the Wastewater Subcommittee will take place on April 2, 2019. Visit [www.sfwater.org/cac](http://www.sfwater.org/cac) for confirmed information about the next meeting.

**10. Adjournment**

Motion was made (Ekanem) and seconded (Zock) to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:07pm.