2021 Resolutions
Adopted
By
The SFPUC
Full Citizens’ Advisory Committee
Resolution of the Citizens Advisory Committee of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Supporting the Southern Skyline Boulevard Ridge Trail Extension Project

WHEREAS, On December 18, 2002 the SFPUC Commission adopted a resolution No. 02-0265 to amend the Peninsula Watershed Management Plan to provide supervised public access via the Fifield-Cahill Ridge Trail which aimed to minimize impacts to water quality, local habitat and animal life while simultaneously providing public education and recreation;

WHEREAS, The Fifield-Cahill Ridge Trail has a 18 year history of volunteer docent led tours supplying an opportunity for 16,500 members of the public to experience the 23,000 acre protected watershed and learn how potable water is safely managed and delivered;

WHEREAS, The Fifield-Cahill Ridge Trail is a critical part of San Mateo County regional trail project that needs to be extended to help achieve the goal of the Bay Area Ridge Trail circling the San Francisco Bay with a 550 mile continuous loop when completed;

WHEREAS, The SFPUC Fifield-Cahill Ridge Trail is the “Watershed Center” for the Peninsula Watershed; including a Trail Interpretive Master Plan, which informs new interpretive signage along the entire trail and docent training;

WHEREAS, Extensive public outreach was conducted in advance of the draft Environmental Report submission on June 24, 2020 for the SFPUC Southern Skyline Boulevard Ridge Trail Extension Project which includes adding approximately 6 miles of new trail ridge segment south from Highway 92 to the Golden Gate Recreation Area Phleger Estate, transfers trail easement from the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council through the Skylawn Cemetery north of Highway 92 to the SFPUC; and a Universal access trail and other improvements at Cemetery Gate north of Highway 92;

WHEREAS, Peninsula Watershed organizations including Bay Area Ridge Trail Council, and members of the Peninsula Watershed community overwhelmingly support the project; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Citizens Advisory Committee supports the Southern Skyline Boulevard Ridge Trail Extension Project, as a significant and beneficial project to the communities in and around the Peninsula Watershed, and the development of the Peninsula ‘Watershed Center”;

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Citizens Advisory Committee supports continued docent-led access to increase public education of our regional water system and a thorough investigation into the creation of an annual permit program.

As adopted by the Full Citizens’ Advisory Committee on April 20, 2021.
Resolution from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Citizens’ Advisory Committee supporting SB 612 Electrical Corporations and other Load-Serving Entities: Allocation of Legacy Resources

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors established a Community Choice Aggregator (CCA), a local publicly-owned energy provider to procure renewable energy, in 2004 (Ordinance 86-04) and has implemented CleanPowerSF (CPSF) through the work of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) in consultation with the San Francisco Local Agency Formation Commission (Ordinances 146-07, 147-07, and 232-09); and

WHEREAS, The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) authorizes Pacific Gas & Electric Company’s (PG&E) electric generation rates, and has authorized the Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) fee on CPSF customers, in order to recover the estimated above-market costs of power supply commitments made by PG&E prior to a customer’s switch to CPSF generation service; and

WHEREAS, The PCIA has risen more than 600 percent in the PG&E service area since 2013, and nearly doubled since the CPUC changed its rules in 2018; and

WHEREAS, Market participants have uncovered errors totaling hundreds of millions of dollars over the course of their participation in CPUC cost recovery dockets on behalf of ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, Over the last decade, more than 11 million utility customers across California have transitioned from having Investor Owned Utilities (IOU; i.e., PG&E, San Diego Gas & Electric, and Southern California Edison) procure their energy to having CCAs procure their energy; and

WHEREAS, CCA customers continue to share with IOU customers cost responsibility for power supply commitments entered into by IOUs prior to their departure for CCA service, including expensive long-term renewable energy contracts with third parties and capital-intensive utility-owned generation facilities (e.g. nuclear, natural gas, hydroelectric plants); and

WHEREAS, Legacy resources account for billions of dollars in above-market costs in IOU energy portfolios—IOUs forecast $3.9 billion in combined above-market costs for 2021—and IOUs rely on ratepayers to pay the costs; and

WHEREAS, CCA customers continue to pay for legacy resources through the PCIA fee yet do not have fair and equal access to benefits, such as the renewable and greenhouse gas free attributes, associated with IOU legacy resources nor are those resources actively managed to maximize their value for ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, SB 612 stems from a proposal supported by an IOU and CCAs that was developed in the CPUC’s Working Group 3 phase of the PCIA proceeding; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, This Committee hereby endorses SB 612 which addresses PCIA inequities by ensuring all customers have access to the benefits of the resources they are paying for, and that the costs to all ratepayers are minimized; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, This Committee hereby requests staff to return to the Power Subcommittee with periodic updates on the PCIA; and be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution shall be forwarded to the General Manager, the Clerk of San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, the Office of the Mayor of San Francisco, the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, the Clerk of Local Agency Formation Commission, and San Francisco’s representatives in the state legislature.

As adopted by the Full Citizens’ Advisory Committee on July 20, 2021.
Resolution from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Citizens’ Advisory Committee supporting the transition of CleanPowerSF residential customers to time-of-use rates.

WHEREAS, In 2013, the California legislature enacted AB 327 to reform residential electricity rates; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to AB327, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) directed investor owned utilities to implement time-of-use (TOU) rates for residential customers, following the principals of: designing rates based on marginal cost, encouraging conservation and energy efficiency, reducing peak demand, designing rates that are stable, understandable, and provide customer choice, and transitions to new rates should emphasize customer education and outreach that enhances customer understanding and acceptance of new rates; and

WHEREAS, In accordance with the CPUC directive, Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) implemented TOU rates in October 2020; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission’s Resolution 19-0236 endorsed the transition of CleanPowerSF residential customers to TOU rates while affirming alignment with CleanPowerSF’s complementary objectives of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and providing the City’s energy consumers with renewable electricity supplies and related services at affordable and competitive rates with PG&E’s; and

WHEREAS, Reduction in energy consumption during peak demand hours will decrease GHG emissions, reduce CleanPowerSF’s energy supply costs, and encourage conservation; and

WHEREAS, This Committee recognizes the transition to TOU rates aligns with CleanPowerSF objectives and San Francisco’s Climate Action Plan; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, This Committee hereby endorses the transition of CleanPowerSF’s residential customers to TOU as the default rate starting July 2021 and providing bill protection in the form of a one-time credit after the first year of TOU service; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, This Committee hereby requests staff to return to the Power Subcommittee in 2022 with an update on TOU rate implementation successes and challenges, and its impacts on customers; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution shall be forwarded to the General Manager, the Clerk of San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, the Office of the Mayor of San Francisco, the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, and the Clerk of Local Agency Formation Commission.

As adopted by the Full Citizens’ Advisory Committee on July 20, 2021.
Resilient Water Supply Resolution

Whereas, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) and its wholesale customers have made significant and successful efforts over the past 15 years to reduce demand and diversify water supplies resulting in some of the lowest residential per capita water use in the state;

Whereas, in this critically dry year, communities around the state are experiencing serious water outages, fields are being fallowed, and entire runs of salmon are being lost due to low flows and high temperatures;

Whereas, the most recent report from the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reinforces the recent lived experience of Californians that climate change impacts are present and worsening;

Whereas, the SFPUC is finalizing a Long-term Vulnerability Assessment and Adaption Plan to identify potential impacts of climate change on its water supply;

Whereas, the SFPUC has identified a dry-year shortfall of up to 98 million gallons per day (mgd) in its regional water supplies that would result from the implementation of the Bay-Delta Plan adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board in 2018;

Whereas, conservation remains a vitally important tool for reducing water demand, particularly during drought;

Whereas, the SFPUC’s Alternative Water Supply Program Quarterly Report of June 2021 identifies a potential for 35 mgd of new alternative water supplies to serve the regional water system, including 20mgd associated with increasing the overall size of the SFPUC’s existing Calaveras Reservoir;

Whereas, San Francisco, with an average usage of approximately 65 mgd, currently has plans for producing up to 2 mgd of recycled water under its proposed Westside Enhanced Water Recycling Project; and

Whereas, the SFPUC has committed to initiating environmental review necessary for implementation of projects associated with the Alternative Water Supply Program by July 2023.

Therefore, be it Resolved, that the SFPUC Citizens’ Advisory Committee (CAC) urges the SFPUC to include in its 2023 Alternative Water Supply Program specific projects to meet the full amount of identified supply shortfall for the San Francisco Regional Water System, and provide those plans, with options, costs and timelines, to the public in a timely manner in accordance with the SFPUC’s July 2023 schedule;

Resolved that the SFPUC CAC urges the Commission, as part of that plan, to consider reuse of the 65 mgd of effluent that is currently discharged from the City’s two wastewater treatment plants considering the results of the San Francisco Purified Water Opportunities Study;

Resolved that the SFPUC CAC urges the SFPUC to identify and mitigate impacts on vulnerable communities; and

Resolved that the SFPUC CAC also advises the SFPUC to invest in partnership with the CAC in an education and awareness campaign among its retail customers to emphasize the increasing
impact of climate change on the City’s water supply and the need to diversify its water supply portfolio to reliably meet the needs of its customers amid growing climate uncertainty.

As adopted by the Full Citizens’ Advisory Committee on August 17, 2021.
Resolution for Continued Support and Budget for SFPUC Racial Equity Plan and Community Benefits

WHEREAS, The Mayor of the city and county of San Francisco has urged “Each city department to develop a Racial Equity Action Plan in alignment with ORE Citywide Racial Equity Framework Per Ordinance No 188-19; and

WHEREAS, the SFPUC has done extensive work on their racial equity plan over the past 12 months to highlight needed changes and disparities, and develop solutions to combat them which includes hiring and investment in infrastructure to support the racial equity work; and

WHEREAS, A 2018 report by the Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program concluded that the national water and wastewater workforce is 85 percent white and two-thirds male, indicating a severe lack of gender and racial diversity within the industry; and

WHEREAS, The SFPUC’s senior management team is in flux, a number of BiPoc employees and women are leaving the field, management, and upper management, and the SFPUC leadership has only one person of color; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the SFPUC Citizens’ Advisory Committee reiterates its strong support for the SFPUC’s Racial Equity Plan; and, be it

RESOLVED, the CAC requests that the SFPUC Commission pledges to fully fund the needed changes, support the creation of positions to support the equity work, to quickly post the positions, and to fully staff them as soon as possible; and, be it

RESOLVED, the CAC requests the SFPUC Commission instructs the GM to fully comply, implement, and to report back monthly to both the Commission and the CAC on equity goals related to this resolution; and, be it

RESOLVED, the CAC requests that the Commission implements fully the Community Benefits, Environmental Justice and Condemning Systemic Racism policies approved by the SFPUC Commission; and, be it

RESOLVED, the CAC requests that the Commission continues to improve the SFPUC’s practices as a good neighbor to communities negatively impacted by the agency’s operations, particularly low-income communities and communities of color; and, be it

RESOLVED, the CAC requests that the Commission follows through, with all of the necessary resources, on promises made to the Bayview Hunter’s Point community through the Mitigation Agreement and beyond; and, be it

RESOLVED, the CAC requests that the Commission deepens the SFPUC’s pledge in inviting its partners/contractors, through the Social Impact Partnership program, to contribute in positive ways to local communities impacted by the agency’s projects and that the Commission support expanding the budget for the Social Impact Partnership program to address growing community needs; and, be it

RESOLVED, the CAC requests that the Commission follows through on the agency’s commitment to addressing racial inequities and disparities both inside and outside the agency, for workers and the community; and, be it
RESOLVED, the CAC requests that the Commission ensures that agency leadership is diverse and representative of the agency’s values as stated in the Racial Equity Action Plan, and also has a proven track record of doing work in/for the community; and, be it

RESOLVED, the CAC requests that the Commission implements measures for transparency and accountability across the agency to rebuild trust from the public; and, be it

RESOLVED, the CAC requests that the Commission ensures that all SFPUC employees are treated with respect and dignity especially by senior leadership.

As adopted by the Full Citizens’ Advisory Committee on September 21, 2021.