



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

MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday, May 11, 2021
 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

PARTICIPATE VIA BLUEJEANS VIRTUAL CONFERENCE SOFTWARE

Meeting URL

<https://bluejeans.com/720423698>

Phone Dial-in

408.317.9253

Meeting ID

720 423 698

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@sfgwater.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 Wastewater Subcommittee shall review sewage and stormwater collection, treatment, and disposal system replacement, recycling, and other relevant plans, programs, and policies ([Admin. Code Article XV, Sections 5.140 - 5.142](#)).

Members

Amy Nagengast, Chair (D8) Amy Zock (D6) Michelle Pierce (B-Enviro.
 Marria Evbuoma (D1) Anietie Ekanem (D10) Justice)

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

Staff Liaisons: Mayara Ruski Augusto Sa
 Staff Email for Public Comment: cac@sfgwater.org

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.

London N. Breed
 Mayor

Sophie Maxwell
 President

Anson Moran
 Vice President

Tim Paulson
 Commissioner

Ed Harrington
 Commissioner

Newsha Ajami
 Commissioner

Michael Carlin
 Acting
 General Manager



ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. **Call to order and roll call at 5:31 pm**

Members present at roll call: (3) Nagengast, Ekanem, Pierce

Members Absent: (2) Evbuoma, Zock

Staff present: Sarah Minick; Luiz Barata

2. **Approve [March 9, 2021](#) Minutes**

Motion was made (Ekanem) and seconded (Pierce) to approve the March 9, 2021 Minutes.

AYES: (3) Nagengast, Ekanem, Pierce

NOES: (0)

ABSENT: (2) Evbuoma, Zock

Public Comment: None

3. **Report from the Chair**

- Welcome members, staff, and the public
- Welcome new member, Michelle Pierce
- Brief Introduction of Subcommittee Members

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. **Presentation and Discussion:** [Islais Creek Adaptation Strategy](#), Luiz Barata, Senior Urban Designer, San Francisco Planning Department; Sarah Minick, Utility Planning Division Manager, Wastewater Enterprise

Resources:

- [SF Planning's website for Islais Creek Adaptation Strategy](#)

Presentation:

- Inter-agency Project
- Orientation and Grounding
- San Francisco Integrated Climate Resilience: the Islais Creek project is integrated with other City projects
- Waterfront Resilience Program & City Efforts

- ICSMAS Project Process & Timeline – includes engagement plan
- Islais Creek Community Vision & Goals: five main areas
- Community Feedback: Islais Creek “Asset Mapping” Exercise
- Technical Analysis: map shows flood risk generators
- Key City Assets: seven key City assets vulnerable to flood risk
- SFPUC Existing Major Infrastructure in ICSMAS Project Area
- Existing Major Infrastructure with Combined Flooding, Sea Level Rise, and 100-Year Storm Flood Risk Zone
- Protecting Islais Creek Today & Tomorrow
- Local Topography & Geology: areas susceptible to flooding
- Today’s Built-Environment: map shows original shoreline
- Land Use Today: breakdown areas by use
- City Assets: multiple assets in the area that need to be protected
- Key Assets at Risk, ICSMAS Focus
- Today’s Flood Risk: Coastal + Stormwater (combined temporary flooding). This map includes areas susceptible to 100-year storm event in blue combined with the FEMA maps of coastal areas in risk of flooding
- Today’s Flood-Related Impacts: combined temporary flooding and its different impacts
- 2050: 23” sea level rise + 42” Combined Flood = 65”
- 2080: 52” sea level rise + 42” Combined Flood = 94”
- 2080 sea level rise + Combined Flood Impacts Map
- Shoreline Adaptation Approaches: different strategies to protect the shoreline
- Key Strategies & Community Goals
- How does the Joint Benefits Authority (JBA) Improve Project Delivery & Investment: one combined effort but still unfunded -- CalTrans grant is not complete.
- What Do You Think? Suggestions Related to Flood Protection?
- Next Steps
- ICSMAS Project Process & Timeline

Discussion:

- **Member Ekanem** asked for a time frame explanation for sea level rise.

Staff Minick answered that the project encompasses short, mid, and long-term needs for adaptation and six different scenarios were created. The Technical Analysis slide shows the scenario for 2080 (long-term planning). It includes 52 inches of sea level rise and the combined flooding that create a larger hazard. Team deliverables include maps for 2030 and 2050 and this can be shared with the CAC when available.

Member Ekanem commented that understanding the immediate trend is important. 100-year storm is changing and understanding what that means to the projections is important. To communicate this out, it is important to have the best information available.

Staff Barata explained that the Technical Analysis slide differentiates permanent flooding due to the sea level rise and temporary flooding (100-year storm and other coastal events).

Staff Minick added that the Advanced Precipitation Model has not been complete and is not being used at this point. The LBL study is not finished, but it will be incorporated in the future.

- **Member Ekanem** asked what the relationship between sea level rise and air quality is.

Staff Minick answered that she is taking note of that.

Staff Barata added that the racial equity is being taken into consideration in the final report.

Staff Minick clarified that the question was related to air quality and not equity.

- **Member Pierce** commented that she would like to receive the complete report when available.

Staff Barata explained that the report will include a more detailed version of the key strategies and community goals. The report shows that the strategies have been separated and grouped by geographical areas. Communities should engage in all processes since it is long-term project.

Member Pierce commented that she has shared her sentiments in a previous meeting and wants to get feedback about how much community has been engaged and what mechanism are being used to ensure that community participation is meaningful.

- **Member Ekanem** asked how much of the bond funding for coastal resiliency is allocated to this project.

Staff Minick responded that none yet. The next steps are to do costing and scoping.

- **Member Ekanem** asked how many people participated in the engagement process.

Staff Minick answered that she can get those numbers from the team.

- **Member Pierce** asked about the existence of tsunami threat zone.

Staff Minick commented that is an interesting point. Although she has not heard of tsunami risk being all the way over to the east side, she will look into it.

Member Pierce commented that tsunami waves bypass the oceanfront and sweep into the bay and usually land around the Berkeley marina. The retreat and bounce back are modeled to hit the embarcadero to Heron's Head. However, data usually gets incorporated into "major storm" and earthquake preparedness analysis.

- **Staff Barata** shared the link to the SF Climate Resilience story maps: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/f1328e2f0fd347feae2763f0ad1ec604>

Staff Minick commented that the Islais Creek study is not over. More resources and work are needed.

Public Comment: None

6. **Presentation and Discussion: Green Infrastructure Update**, Sarah Minick, Utility Planning Division Manager, Wastewater Enterprise; Amy Nagengast, Wastewater CAC Chair

Resources:

- [SFPUC's Citywide Green Infrastructure Strategy presentation to Full CAC from January 2020](#)

Presentation:

- Impervious Surface Map of San Francisco: what goes into the system
- Green Infrastructure Citywide Strategy: finding and engaging partners that care about the work
- Regulation: SMO -- great projects have been achieved and impact on building development (including open spaces)
- Incentives: Watershed Stewardship Grant Program. People have been applying and financial impact is 14 million dollars. Staff Minick asked the members to help getting people to apply and for input on how to incentivize people to apply.
- SFPUC's Green Infrastructure Grant Program: large impervious grounds
- Capital Projects: Early Implementation Projects (EIPs). Many projects have been concluded.
- Technical Assistance: materials have been produced and advertised to ensure that people are aware and using the resources available
- Strategic Partnerships: capital planning is not static. Scanning the landscape for opportunities.
- Green Infrastructure Long Term Goal: modeling work based on tools and projects implementation. Goal is to remove 1 billion gallons of stormwater per year by 2050

Discussion:

- **Chair Nagengast** asked what is next and commented that would be great to see a chart that included grey and green infrastructure with dollar amounts.

Staff Minick answered that the 2050 estimate is conservative, and it might be possible to reach the 2050 goal before then depending on policy.

- **Chair Nagengast** commented that green infrastructure seems to not get enough funding.

Staff Minick answered that 92 million will be allocated for green infrastructure in the next capital plan.

- **Member Pierce** commented that District 10 needs more green infrastructure. She also commented that she is concerned about the age of the existing grey infrastructure. The permeable pavement caused problems in her district. A main burst and raw sewage backed up into her street. It was expensive to homeowners. The Islais Creek maps show that her neighborhood is susceptible to flood and the crumbling infrastructure is a problem.

Staff Minick answered that green infrastructure is more of a governance problem and not a technology problem.

Member Pierce commented that dealing with multiple agencies might impact the ability to identify who is responsive.

- **Chair Nagengast** commented that the CAC supports more green infrastructure and they want to be advocates for that and to influence the allocation of more funding to green infrastructure.

Staff Minick commented that the most important thing is to ask the right question, such as how to increase resilience and deliver more benefits to ratepayers. Supporting a watershed planning that ask the right questions is the best way to incentivize green infrastructure and change the outcome. Valuing the planning and engagement process is also important.

Member Pierce agreed with Minick's remarks and added that who is the recipient of the questions matter as well.

Public Comment: None.

7. Staff report

Nothing to report.

8. Future Agenda Items and Resolutions

- Biosolids Program Update – July
- Next Generation Green Infrastructure
- Job Creation at the Plant – City Works and Apprenticeship Program
- Wastewater – Train and Training
- 1550 Evans Update
- Racial Equity Plan – Funding to Support the Plan
- Environmental Justice Analysis briefing
- Wastewater CAC staff
- Asset Management Integration – Wastewater policy and capital projects
- Green Infrastructure Program and Resolution Update
- Wastewater Communications Update
- Watershed Stewardship Grants
- Stormwater Management Ordinance and the Southeast Treatment Plant
- Environmental Justice in Capital Projects
- Upcoming Construction
- Workforce Programs and Qualifications
- Treasure Island Field Trip

Adopted Resolutions for Follow Up

- Resolution in Support of SFPUC Class A Biosolids Local Distribution Program [adopted August 21, 2018](#)
- Resolution in Support of Cityworks Interns Recommendations [adopted in November 21, 2017](#)
- Resolution in Support of Equitable Green Infrastructure Implementation throughout the Southeast Sector of San Francisco and throughout the City [adopted June 20, 2017](#)
- Resolution Urging SFPUC Commission to Initiate Planning and Environmental Review for Building a New Community Center at Third and Evans and to Direct Staff to Develop an Interim Greenhouse Environmental and Workforce Development Program [adopted on October 18, 2016](#)
- Resolution Supporting the SFPUC to Conduct Robust Community Engagement to Determine the Community's Preference for Remodeling Southeast Community Facility at 1800 Oakdale or Building

a New Community Center at 1550 Evans [adopted on January 19, 2016](#)

9. Announcements/Comments The next scheduled meeting of the Wastewater Subcommittee will take place on July 13, 2021. Visit www.sfwater.org/cac for final confirmation of the next meeting date.

10. Adjournment

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

Meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm