

C/CAG

CITY/COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS OF SAN MATEO COUNTY

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Meeting Minutes

Resource Management and Climate Protection Committee (RMCP)

Date: Wednesday, October 21, 2020

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Location: Remote meeting via Zoom link below

Attendance:

Maryann Moise Derwin*
Doug Silverstein, Thrive Alliance*
Tom Francis, BAWSCA*
Donna Colson, Burlingame Councilmember*
Ortensia Lopez, El Concilio*
Christine Kohl-Zaugg, Sustainable San Mateo County*
Diane Papan, San Mateo Councilmember*
Rick DeGolia, Atherton Mayor*
Janet Borgens, Redwood City Councilmember*
Bill Chiang, PG&E*

Sandy Wong, Executive Director C/CAG
Jeff Aalfs, Portola Valley Mayor
Kim Springer, County Office of Sustainability
Susan Wright, County Office of Sustainability
Denise Lin, County Office of Sustainability
John Allan, County Office of Sustainability
Alexandria Gallizioli, County Office of Sustainability
Molly Hoyt, PG&E
Rebecca Fisher, BAAQMD
Michael Barber, Supervisor Pine's Office
Misti Bruceri

Not in Attendance:

Don Horsley, County Supervisor*
Drew Combs, Menlo Park Councilmember*

Agenda Items

1. Roll Call - Introductions
2. Public Comment
No public comment
3. ACTION: Approval of Minutes from August 19, 2020 RMCP Committee meeting
 - Revisited after Item 4 due to lack of quorum at the start of the meeting
 - Motion to approve: member Lopez, second: member DeGolia
 - All approved, member Zaugg abstained
4. INFORMATION: Presentation on breadth of current BayREN programs offered in San Mateo County (Denise Lin, Susan Wright – County, OOS)

Denise Lin and Susan Wright provided an overview of local efforts and regional collaboration occurring through the Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BAYREN). Their programs promote energy efficiency in the commercial, residential and multi-family sectors. The program is run by local government agencies and partners with local jurisdictions, utility providers, contractors, and non-profits. Programs include incentives for heat pump water heaters, outreach to local communities, financing for small business energy efficiency upgrades and energy advising for homeowners and renters.

One upcoming effort is a series of workshops to “map the system” around home electrification. The systems map will study the barriers to electrification, needs of homeowners and identify connections and opportunities. The systems map will be followed by a series of 10 home electrification case studies to better quantify cost of electrifying.

Single family and multifamily property owners have access to rebates for many appliances including heat pump water heaters and furnaces, induction cooktops, clothes dryers and more.

On the policy side, the Codes and Standards group offers trainings and forums for municipal staff to learn more about reach codes and energy codes. The team also offers support for capital improvement projects related to energy efficiency and decarbonization.

Commercial offerings include technical assistance, microloans and performance-based incentives. This program focuses on small and medium businesses (<50k square feet). Project types include interior and exterior lighting, refrigeration and HVAC improvements.

BayREN is also launching an on-bill financing program for water savings. There is no upfront payment required and the measure is paid back through your bill. This program will be launching in a few months.

The Bay Area Energy Atlas is a new interactive website that aggregates energy data and demographics that can be used to target customer segments for more custom energy efficiency programs.

Discussion:

- Silverstein – How specific is the data? Can we see the top 10 energy users in Burlingame?
 - Wright – No, the data must be anonymized per CPUC requirements.
 - Kim Springer– We’ll probably follow up on this at another meeting to discuss privacy challenges related to energy data.
- Francis – Is there an opportunity for BAWSCA to support conversations with its member agencies?

- Wright – Absolutely
- Derwin – How is outreach conducted for city staff and communities
 - Denise Lin – RICAPS and our connections with Cities
 - Derwin – What about the microloan program?
 - Wright – We’re still putting together all of the details

5. INFORMATION: Presentation on PG&E-proposed community microgrid program to the California Public Utilities Commission (Molly Hoyt, PG&E)

Molly Hoyt provided an overview of microgrids and PG&E’s pending Community Microgrid Enable Program (CMEP). The presentation included a technical description of how a microgrid functions and how they can benefit communities from a resiliency perspective. The CMEP is currently pending approval the CPUC but it is anticipated that the program will roll out in 2021.

The objective of CMEP is to partner with communities in their resilience efforts by supporting community-drive resilience for critical facilities and vulnerable communities. Program elements include enhanced microgrid tools and information, enhanced utility technical support, community microgrid enablement tariff and cost offsets.

Eligibility for CMEP is based on location (relation to fire threat, PSPS events and prone to outages), critical facilities served, project size and community interest. Priority is given to disadvantaged or vulnerable communities and urgent public health and safety projects.

The proposed program will offset 100% of the costs for upgrading the distribution network up to \$3M per project. This would include grid isolation equipment, microgrid operation equipment and safety devices. The program does not cover storage and generation costs.

Discussion:

- Lopez – What is the definition you’ll be using for DAC?
 - Hoyt – One customer must be considered DAC by 50% Care Program (by zip), Rural zip codes, Cal-Enviro Screen or Tribal lands. Exclusive funds will be carved out for DAC communities.
- Francis – Coastside County water districts may be a good opportunity for this program
- Derwin – Will this program be for the entire PG&E territory? Do you expect the program to be popular?
 - Hoyt – Yes, the program covers the entire territory and we anticipate that it will be very popular.

6. INFORMATION: Update on electric vehicle ownership and charging infrastructure growth in the Bay Area and San Mateo County (Rebecca Fisher, BAAQMD)

Rebecca began by providing background on the function of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District before jumping into an overview of trends and goals related to EVs in the Bay Area. In 2019, 3.5% of current cars were electric (including plug-in hybrids) and we’re aiming for 90% by 2050. In the Bay Area, we currently have less than half of the public chargers needed, and that gap is only getting larger. The majority (83%) are Level 2 with 16% DC Fast chargers. San Mateo County has a high level of EVs per capita compared to other counties in the Bay Area. San Mateo County is also doing better on average in terms of the number of publicly available chargers.

Outreach and strategy work conducted by BAAQMD includes the Bay Area EV Coordinating Council which includes local governments, EV companies, PG&E, CCAs, SBOs and transit authorities and serves as a venue to discuss merging trends and share best practices. Their EV Market Research Study looked at how to move the market for EVs beyond early adopters. The research included anecdotes and data that is being converted to outreach messages. Key influences were vehicle discounts, tax credits

and EVSE discounts.

The Air District manages several EV-related grant programs. Clean Cars for All is a cash for clunkers-type program for low-income customers that can award up to \$9,000 and application numbers have doubled since Shelter-in-Place., CHARGE is a public EV charger installation program and will likely open at the end of 2020 and covers 80% of the costs of purchasing and installing public chargers. The High Mileage Fleet incentive is in early stages but will be directed at incentivizing EVs for ride-hail drivers.

Discussion:

- Silverstein – What is the % of government fleet vehicles that are EV?
 - Fisher – There is still plenty of opportunity, but the penetration rate is likely higher than the private market. The next few years will provide additional opportunities for medium and heavy-duty vehicles.
- Chiang - PG&E has an online tool for calculating fleet costs and available incentives
- Borgens – We tried to do this recently in Redwood City, but we couldn't find the right solution. We're looking forward to seeing how the technology develops.
- Chiang – Does the state executive order ban all internal combustion engines?
 - Fisher – The executive order does not include ICEs such as generators or off-road equipment.
- Francis – I work in a large office building with many tenants but the property owner has no interest in installing EV chargers. How can I get them on board?
 - Fisher – Tyr to get them to meet with EVSE and have the economic case presented
- Silverstein – Are there grants for cities?
 - Fisher – Our grants and incentives available for local government are just for charging infrastructure, not for fleet.

7. INFORMATION: Presentation on results of PCE survey on perceptions of PCE and EV ownership (KJ Janowski – PCE)

KJ Janowski presented the results of a Market Research Study evaluating awareness and perception of the PCE brand and benefits, attitudes and interest in EVs. The study took place in April 2020, included a random sample of households in San Mateo county and came in the form of a letter invitation from the San Mateo County Office of Sustainability. The 19-minute survey was administered online in multiple languages and had a response rate of 8.3%.

Questions related to the PCE brand showed a generally favorable perception of PCE and a desire for lower rates and a prioritization of GHG emission reductions. There was a large portion (45%) of respondents who thought that PCE is a branch or division of PG&E.

For EV questions on the survey, only licensed drivers and non-EV owners were able to answer. Generally, residents are strongly aware of EVs and view them favorably. There are still opportunities around education, operating costs and charging. The survey showed approximately 1 in 4 residents were considering buying a vehicle in the next year so there's an opportunity to influence buyers towards EVs. Motivators to purchase an EV include vehicle price, miles per charge and current rebates/incentives. Barriers include range anxiety, lack of convenient charging stations and the price of vehicles.

Discussion:

- Borgens – Question about range of 200 miles, is this reliable?
 - KJ – Personal experience, yes

- Francis – What do the auto dealers think about this? Are they concerned about losing market?
 - KJ – Our incentives are often offered through the dealers and with more EV types available, they're likely to support.
 - Fisher – For EVs, used dealers have a huge barrier due to new technology and high salesperson turnover which makes the sell difficult.

8. Committee Member Updates

- Francis – The previous water year was very dry, but reservoir storage is starting this water year off very high. Long-term forecasts indicate that this may be a drought year. If that's the case, there's a 50% chance of little rain through April. Calls for conservation would emerge during Summer 2021. BAWSCA is holding online landscaping classes through the end of November. Kim will share links.
- Derwin – CPUC granted Portola Valley's request to participate in an AMI smart water program. This has been an effort in the work for 6 years.

9. Next Scheduled Meeting Date: November 18, 2020