

# C/CAG

## CITY/COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS OF SAN MATEO COUNTY

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## Meeting Minutes of the

Resource Management and Climate Protection Committee (RMCP)  
155 Bovet Rd. - Ground Floor Conference Room  
San Mateo CA, 94402  
Date: Wednesday, October 18, 2023 Time: 3:00 p.m.

### **Committee Members in Attendance:**

Tom Francis – BAWSCA (Vice Chair)  
Mary Hufty – Town of Portola Valley  
Gina Papan – Millbrae  
Kaia Aiken – City of Redwood City  
Jeff Smith – Ceres Regis Group - online  
Bill Chiang - PG&E  
Sue Beckmeyer – Pacifica

### **Committee Members not in Attendance**

Donna Colson – Burlingame (Chair)  
Dave Pine – County of San Mateo  
Rick DeGolia - Atherton  
Ortensia Lopez – El Concilio - online  
Alex Fernandez – Filoli

### **Additional Attendees**

Sean Charpentier – C/CAG  
Susan Wright – County OOS  
Laura Wong – County OOS  
Avana Andrade – County OOS  
Ryan Gardner – Rincon  
Blake Herrschaft – PCE  
Forest Abbott-Lum - Rincon  
Carol Steinfeld – Sierra Club  
Peter Dreckmeier – Tuolumne River Trust  
Michael Barber – Supervisor Pine's Office  
Nicole Sandkula – BAWSCA  
Carl Schwab – Pacifica public

Note: All presentations for this meeting have been posted on the C/CAG RMCP Committee website:  
<https://ccag.ca.gov/committees/resource-management-and-climate-protection-committee/>

Meeting was called to order at 3:04 P.M.

**1. Roll Call and Introductions, including welcoming members recently appointed by the C/CAG Board to the RMCP Committee.**

Committee staff completed Roll Call and a quorum of seven members was eventually achieved.

**2. Public Comments on items not on the agenda.**

There were no public comments.

**3. Approval of minutes of the September 20, 2023 RMCP Committee meeting.**

This item was delayed until such time in the meeting as there was a quorum. A motion was made by Member Aiken to approve the minutes of September 20, 2023, seconded by Member Hufty. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed (7,0,0).

**4. Update on Committee roster and recruitment.**

Kim Springer, Committee staff, provided an update on the recruitment effort to fill the vacant Environmental seat on the Committee.

**5. Update from the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency on present water supply conditions in San Mateo County and a summary of a recent Bay Area Clean Water Agency effort to promote water reuse within the region.**

Tom Francis, Water Resources Manager and Vice Chair of the RMCP Committee, provided an update on the current water supply conditions and the final water year outcomes in 2023. The region experienced significant precipitation with 31 atmospheric rivers, resulting in significant snowpack in the sierras.

Francis also provided a short presentation on a recent workshop held by The Bay Area Clean Water Agencies on advancing water reuse. BAWSCA and multiple water agencies in San Mateo County attended. The workshop was focused on collaboration opportunities and challenges regionally, and at different scales.

Committee members discussed terms used to describe conservation, countries most involved in water reuse, energy intensity of pumping water, development of scaling plants to serve large water users, and effect on rates.

**6. Presentation on development of income-based fix charges on electricity bills as a result of Assembly Bill 205.**

Bill Chiang, Local Government Representative at PG&E and RMCP Committee member provided a verbal presentation on 2022 legislation, Assembly Bill 205, which tasks the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) with establishing an income-based approach to establishing electric customer charges for grid maintenance and upgrades. Chiang indicated that most electricity customers in California would see a decrease in the charges, but that higher income tier customers, especially those with solar and, therefore, low electricity bills, with incomes over \$180,000, were likely to see a significant increase in those charges.

Committee members discussed clarifications of how this came about, why it might have, and possible outcomes.

**7. Presentation on a proposed Electrification First Policy and leveraging Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) program for implementation.**

Rincon Consulting staff, including Ryan Gardner, PCE staff Blake Herrschaft, and staff from County Office of Sustainability, Avana Andrade and Susan Wright all work together with C/CAG

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through the Regionally Integrated Climate Action Planning Solutions (RICAPS) program. Gardner and Herrschaft provided a presentation on work with and for cities to research and establish new electrification policy. The policy proposed is call an Electrification First Policy, which, if adopted by cities, would direct city staff to evaluate all electric options for replacement of gas equipment prior to simply replacing like-for-like. To support the effort, the RICAPS program is also providing inventories of existing (remaining) gas equipment (called the Methane Gas Catalogue) for all the cities in San Mateo County. To reach carbon neutrality target dates, cities must begin replacing retired gas equipment in next few years, at the end of their useful life, when there is an opportunity to leverage the marginal cost of electrifying the equipment.

Through various funding sources, there is significant support for both design and incentives for electrification.

Committee members had the following comments and conversations: the challenge of utility service upgrades and PG&E's awareness of the complaints, the current effort to spread the word at PCE, how up to date the current data is, what a typical project would be, how public schools fit into the program, details on some new and existing electrification programs at cities.

Overall, Committee members support the policy concept and documents.

#### **8. Update on C/CAG Equity Assessment and Framework Development Project and draft final report.**

Committee staff, Kim Springer, provided a brief presentation on the Equity project draft final report, and requested that Committee members review and provide and final comments. The final document is expected to be adopted at the C/CAG Board at its November meeting. Staff will send a link to the draft report.

#### **9. Committee member updates**

Committee member Colson invited Committee members to attend PCE's November 16<sup>th</sup> Board of Director's retreat.

Member Papan gave a short update on some legislative matters, housing and water.

#### **10. Next Scheduled Meeting Date: November 15, 2023**

**Meeting adjourned at 5:11 P.M.**

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