



VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES & SUMMARY

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Consistent with AB 361 and City of San Jose Resolution Nos. 79485, 80237 and 80266, the Small Business Advisory Task Force Meeting was not physically open to the public and Members participated via teleconference from remote locations.

Members of the Public were noticed to submit comments during or before meeting via zoom or email to raania.mohsen@sanjoseca.gov

Call to Order & Order of the Day

PRESENT: Vice Chair Dennis King, Members Allie Lopez, Nga Nguyen, Bettie Owen, Helen Wang

OTHERS PRESENT:

Raania Mohsen	Deputy Chief of Staff, District 1, City of San José
Cara Koepf	San José Clean Energy
Kate Ziemba	San José Clean Energy
Nasrine Lakabi	Council Aide, District 1, City of San José

Public Comment

- There was no comment from the public.

Consent Calendar

ACTION: Motion to approve Consent Calendar, including Minutes for the Virtual Meeting of October 14, 2021, and SBATF 2022 Schedule of Meetings. Motion made by Member Bettie Owen and seconded by Member Allie Lopez. Motion passed unanimously (5:0:4; Absent: Jones, Kelly, Kim, Washington)

New Business

A. Presentation on San José Clean Energy Supplier Diversity Program

- Cara Koepf and Kate Ziemba of San José Clean Energy (SJCE) provided overview.
- SJCE is a Community Choice Community Program
- SJCE and PG&E are partners for providing electricity to residents.
- There are two parts for electricity service.
 - The source: where the energy is coming from.
 - Delivery: How it gets to your home/ business.
- SJCE and the City is sourcing cleaner electricity for residents and businesses. That cleaner energy flows through the PG&E distribution system; the bill still comes from PG&E.
- SJCE became the provider for most residents back in February 2019; customers can choose at any time to receive service from PG&E instead.
- Some of the benefits of cleaner electricity include reducing greenhouse gas emissions and better health for the community.
- SJCE offers three clean power options for customers all at competitive rates, so customers can choose how much they want to pay and how much renewable energy they receive.
- SJCE also provides more local control and is governed by the San José City Council, so they make decisions about rates, power fix, programs offered to the community and oversee these programs at City Council meetings.
- Revenue from SJCE stays within the City of San José.
- Any operational surplus is reinvested back in San José through lower rates and community programs.
- Having only launched in 2019, SJCE has already been able to provide some community programs.
 1. \$14 million investment in San José EV charging infrastructure in public places, such as outside of shopping centers, outside workplaces, etc.
 - This \$14 million investment is doubling the amount of EV charges in San José.
 2. Just launched a solar access program which is a disadvantaged community green tariff, which means that about 700 families that live in disadvantaged communities in San José get a 20% discount on electricity.
- SJCE is currently establishing a Supplier Diversity Program; SJCE, along with other similar agencies, is required to report recruitment and contracting with other businesses.
- SJCE has an online database of their suppliers.

- Objective is to expand the diversity of suppliers and contractors in the energy industry.
- SJCE wants to expand on their procurement opportunities and outreach to local and diverse small businesses.
- Currently, SJCE is working on providing education to contractors and vendors about the supplier diversity program and encouraging them to become certified.
- In 2020, they spent just over \$220,000 with vendors who are certified within the supplier diversity program.
- In 2021 they are projecting that they will spend more than \$65,000 on partnerships with local community-based organizations.
- For example, coming procurement opportunities include more than \$15,000 on translation and interpretation services.
- Under the Diversity Business Enterprise (DBE) program, they consider a diverse business to be one that is either woman-owned, minority-owned, LGBT-owned, disabled or veteran owned.
- Question: Could you explain your relationship with PG&E?
 - *Answer:* we are competitors as well as partners.
 - For the generation portion of the bill, they are the default provider.
 - We are competing for customers with them but also partners because they provide billing services for us.
- Question: What is the total dollar amount of procurement opportunity through SJCE?
 - *Answer:* 97% of our business spend is for electricity procurement and the other 3% (\$6.8 million) is for other contracts.

B. December/Recognition Event – *Request for feedback/interest on virtual or in-person forum.*

- Members provided feedback with interest in meeting for an in-person recognition event in December.

Old Business

A. ADA Compliance Discussion Follow-Up

- Members reviewed issues addressed in the ADA Compliance discussion at the October meeting.

- The best way to help small businesses protect themselves from predatory lawsuits is to be ADA compliant.
- Vice Mayor Jones will be submitting policy recommendations addressing this issue.
- Members provided feedback: promote CASP grant more, be wary of ADA compliance requirements for Al Fresco dining.

B. Review and Approval of Draft Letter Re: Business Displacement as it relates to General Plan 4-Year Review

ACTION: Approve draft letter to City Council. Motion made by Member Allie Lopez and seconded by Member Bettie Owen. Motion passed unanimously (5:0:4; Absent: Jones, Kelly, Kim, Washington)

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm

HON. CHAPPIE JONES, CHAIR

ATTEST:

ADVISORY TASK FORCE SECRETARY

RAANIA MOHSEN, DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF