



Services of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission



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**ADOPTED MINUTES
SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY FACILITY COMMISSION
Wednesday, October 23, 2024
6:00 P.M.**

- 1. **Land Acknowledgement:** *Commissioner Posey* read the Land Acknowledgement.
- 2. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** *Commissioner Posey* called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and staff called roll.
Present: *Chung, Posey, Mezie, Tran*
Excused: *Fromer*

- 3. **Adoption of Minutes:** July 24, 2024
Moved: *Mezie* **Second:** *Tran*
Ayes: *Chung, Posey, Mezie, Tran*
The minutes for July 24 were adopted.

London N. Breed
Mayor

- 4. **General Public Comment:** None.

Dr. Gina Fromer
Chair

- 5. **Report of the Chair:** (*Fromer*)
Commissioner Posey reported the search for new Commissioners was ongoing and the community was happy with the work being done at the Center. Specifically, he mentioned the Movie Nights, Fall Bazaar, and the Health Fest.

Vacant
Vice-Chair

Public Comment: None.

Karen Chung
Commissioner

- 6. **SFPUC Biosolids Digester Facilities Project Construction Air Quality Monitoring Reports and Cultural Interpretive Panels Update:** (*Stern-Liddle*)

Chika Mezie
Commissioner

Kimberly Stern-Liddle, SFPUC, Environmental Construction Compliance Manager | Infrastructure Division, Environmental Management provided a quarterly construction update for the Biosolids Digesters Facilities Project. She said the air monitors around the construction site are monitoring dust as well as naturally occurring asbestos emissions that are present in the dust. The monitoring is done in real time and the results are compared to the thresholds established by the San Francisco Department of Public Health and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. From July through September there were not exceedances of dust.

Damien Posey
Commissioner

Vacant
Commissioner

Regarding the Cultural Interpretive Panels Ms. Stern-Liddell reported a new contract was being opened with a cultural firm in order to compensate the Ramaytush Tribe for their input. The SF Planning Department is meeting with the Ramaytush Ohlone Association on a monthly basis and the representatives from the Tribe have advised they are very busy right now and are planning to work with us to schedule a kickoff event in the New Year. Ms. Stern-Liddell advised she would meet with Director Pharr to aggressively develop and install the panels so the community can learn more about the cultural resources and heritage of the area.

Emily Pharr
Executive Director

Carla Vaughn
Commission Secretary



Questions and Comments from Commissioners:

Commissioners asked the following questions:

- What percentage of the biosolids construction is completed?
- Will there be an opportunity to visit the site?
- How many monitors are on site?
- What forms of communication are used to update the community?

Commissioners noted they were glad there was an effort to have representation from the Ramaytush Ohlone Association.

Staff responded:

- 55% of the biosolids construction is completed and Summer 2028 is the expected construction completion date.
- Daniela Brandao, Carolyn Chu, or Heidi Anderson can be contacted to set up a site tour.
- There are 2 monitors upwind and downwind as well as 3 separate monitors for the naturally occurring asbestos. They are upwind, downwind, and crosswind.
- Updates to the community are provided by regular newsletters, and attendance at the Bayview Hunters Point interagency meetings hosted by Supervisor Walton.

Public Comment:

Community Member Gloria Berry said more needed to be done regarding outreach to the community. She asked the Commissioners to look into which nonprofit organizations received funds to provide outreach to the community because they were failing to do so.

Community Member Joyce commented regarding the lack of outreach to the Samoan Community, especially families and seniors who have been suffering for decades with bad air quality and the smell.

Commissioner Posey invited the SFPUC team to utilize the Commission staff to help distribute information to the community.

7. Biogas Utilization Project Updates and Future Southeast Treatment Plant Projects

(presentation)(Brandao, Stern-Liddell, Cleere, Anderson, Mau)

Daniela Brandao, SFPUC Biogas utilization Project Manager provided an update on the project. She reported the project was presented to the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and the Commission approved an award for the design builder. An EIR (Environmental Impact Report) Addendum was done for the project and specifics were provided regarding extra equipment that will be installed.

Kimberly Stern-Liddell reported an air analysis was done based on information provided at the time. At that point the emissions factors for the PM2.5 emissions were typical because the analysis was not based on specific equipment. Between April and now specific information has been provided so now boilers will be purchased that will heat the water and treat the biosolids through design to reduce environmental pollution. The boilers have a lower PM2.5 emission. Ms. Stern-Liddell reported the expectation was that the emission would continue to be low and wherever the numbers land the SFPUC will continue to honor the environmental justice commitment.

Rickie Cleere, SFPUC, Community Benefits, Environmental Justice and Land Use Analyst reiterated the information provided by Kimberly Stern-Liddell regarding the commitment made in the 2017 environmental justice analysis for the Biosolids Project. The commitment ensured that future emissions from new facilities will not exceed projected emissions.

Richard Mau, SFPUC Senior Project Manager for New Operations, Engineering, and Maintenance Buildings reported on the building within the Southeast Plant located at the corner of Jerrold and Phelps Streets. The building is currently under design and development and will be used for engineering staff and operations staff working out of the Southeast Plant. The start date for the project is Summer 2025 and completion Summer 2027. The environmental review is underway and should be available sometime in December. Future updates will be provided through regular email blasts, online feature, and community newsletters. Mr. Mau encouraged community member to sign up to receive the QR codes that will be provided.

Questions and Comments from Commissioners:

Commissioner Posey encouraged the team to continue to do their best to inform the community of the upcoming projects. He suggested using alternative modes of communication like billboards.

Commissioner Mezie said one of the biggest issues in the Bayview Community is the digital divide. She said creative ways are needed to connect with the community. She suggested hiring local organizations or a consulting firm that could assist in outreach.

- Is the 55% completion mentioned for the overall Biosolids Project?
- Regarding the new biogas utilization system and the improvements its projected to provide what is the new ratio projected to look like, and how smelly will it be?
- Is there a steering committee for this project?

Staff Response:

- Yes.
- What the new process will do is remove the CO₂ which will purify the methane and provide renewable natural gas which doesn't smell. There is also still an opportunity for us to do something for the children like create a Stem Program.
- Staff responded a lot is being done at the project level regarding outreach. The SFPUC Citizen Advisory Committee and the Wastewater Enterprise Citizen Advisory Committee meet on a regular basis where presentations are provided, and they have technical questions as well as questions regarding the environmental justice commitments.

Commissioner Tran requested multilingual banners so people walking by would know what is going on. She mentioned receiving calls from community members regarding the smell and she hoped the improvements would take away the smell. She suggested hiring consultants to work on providing the banners.

Executive Director Pharr had questions regarding the contract, what is the value, and what kind of social impact commitments were made, and what is the process to measure the smell?

- Staff responded the contractor is PCL Construction and the value of the contract is \$121 million. Also, they elected to participate in the social impact partnership program. Regarding the ability to measure smell there is technology that is capable of doing that.

Commissioners had questions regarding the biosolids process and what it would look like, and staff invited them to experience a tour which would allow them to see the process in real time.

Public Comment:

Community members expressed concern over the safety of the project. They noted there were many deaths in the community because of the toxins that were released.

Community members had questions regarding where the social impact money was going, and they requested more information on how to access the website where they were directed to find the information. They also disagreed with the idea that there would be no smell.

Commissioner Posey thanked the community for their comments and noted conversations should continue so answers could be provided.

8. SECFC Executive Director's Report (discussion only) (Pharr)

Executive Director Pharr announced it was the two-year anniversary of the building and she introduced the new Deputy Executive Director, Rashida Washington who is a native of San Francisco. As the new Deputy Executive Director Ms. Washington said she's happy to work with everyone and is looking forward to being back in the City regularly.

Executive Director Pharr provided updates on the Interim Use Project which will break ground in February. She noted the Resident Partner Organizations have received approval on their lease agreements and the Access Program continues to serve the community Monday – Friday. Reservations and events have served more than 90,000 visitors in the two-year time period with over 2,400 events.

The Director reported interviews have been completed for the 1822 position and recruitment will take place for an 1820 position as well. She noted there are openings for event monitors and the positions can be accessed through the SFPUC website or the City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Services website.

In closing Executive Director Pharr thanked the Southeast Community Facility Commission staff for their execution of the Health Fest which was a great success.

Questions and Comments from Commissioners:

Commissioner Mezie said the creation of a QR code or flyer to announce the positions that are available at the Center would be helpful.

Commissioner Posey encouraged everyone to participate in the Career Fair at the Center. It will be hosted by the A. Philip Randolph Institute.

Public Comment:

Community members suggested using text alerts in the outreach process. They also requested paid internships for the community.

9. Future Agenda Items Initiated by Commissioners (discussion only)

None.

Questions and Comments from Commissioners:

None.

Public Comment: None.

10. Announcements

Commissioner Posey announced he hosted the Caregivers Pathways Program, an initiative he created. It's sponsored by the Meta Fund in partnership with the Southeast Community Center. Twenty-two youth from the community participated and were introduced to the In-Home Care field through 2 days of training. They were able to receive certificates for In-Home Care and certificates in CPR training. Another training will be offered in December and there will be a Turkey giveaway in November.

Commissioner Mezie announced a Winter Job Fair would be hosted by the A. Philip Randolph Institute. She requested to meet with the Human Resources team from the SFPUC who might be able to table at the event and connect people with job opportunities. She added the need to provide Stem opportunities to students should start when they are at a younger age and not wait until they are in high school.

Public Comment: None.

11. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

The next meeting of the Southeast Community Facility Commission will be Wednesday, November 27, 2024.

Carla Vaughn, Commission Secretary