

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

MEETING MINUTES (DRAFT)

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

525 Golden Gate Ave., 2nd Floor, O'Shaughnessy Conference Room

***NOTE* CHANGE OF LOCATION**

**MEETING WILL BE WEBCASTED FOR THE PUBLIC. FOR WEBCAST INFO, VISIT
www.sfwater.org/RainReadySF**

Members:

Wendy Aragon, Chair (D1)

Suki Kott (D2)

Leslie DeTaillandier (D3)

Amy Zock (D4)

Ted Loewenberg (D5)

Mark Connors (D6)

Kelly Groth (D7)

Shalini Swaroop (D8)

Art Taylor (D9)

Marjorie Goodwin (D10)

Jennifer Clary (D11)

VACANT (M-Env. Group)

Nicole Sandkulla - (M-Reg'l Water Customers)

Rebecca Lee, (M-Eng./Financial)

Tamar Barlev (M-Lg Water User)

Owen O'Donnell (B-Small Business)

VACANT (B-Env Justice)

M = Mayoral appointment, B = Board President Appointment

Staff Liaison: Tracy Zhu and Afrodita Lopez

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 1. Call to order and roll call:** The meeting was called to order at 5:35pm.

Members present at roll call (9): Aragon, Zock, Connors, Taylor, DeTaillandier, Clary, Groth, Barlev, O'Donnell.

Members absent at roll call (6): Goodwin, Sandkulla, Lee, Kott, Loewenberg, Swaroop

Members of the public present at the meeting: James Ausman, Chris Lyles, Misty McKinney, (Angela) Paige Miller, Blane Bachelor, Eli Saddler, Chris Titan, Malcom Davis

Members of the public present via webinar: James Ansbro, Mike, Eric, Zack, Dave

- 2. Report from the Chair - Wendy Aragon, Chair**

- Welcome members, staff, and the public.
- Special Chair report at the Commission meeting on [CAC resolutions](#): Wendy presented the CAC resolutions that were adopted in March at the May 10 Commission meeting. The Commission wanted to understand more about what they could do within their legal constraints and asked the General Manager to invite OEWD to present an update on the Balboa Reservoir process.

Edwin M. Lee
Mayor

Francesca Vietor
President

Anson Moran
Vice President

Ann Moller Caen
Commissioner

Vince Courtney
Commissioner

Ike Kwon
Commissioner

Harlan L. Kelly, Jr.
General Manager



- New member: Wendy announced that Supervisor London Breed has appointed Owen O'Donnell to the small business seat, and thanked Eli for his service to the CAC.
- This the first time a CAC meeting is being webcast. Members of the public are encouraged to type their questions for public comment in the chat box.

Public comment: none.

3. **Approval** of the [April 19, 2016](#) meeting minutes

Motion was made (Clary) and seconded (Connors) to approve [April 19, 2016](#) minutes.

The motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: (9) Aragon, Zock, Connors, Taylor, DeTaillandier, Clary, Groth, Barlev, Owen O'Donnell.

NOES: (0)

ABSENT: (6) Goodwin, Sandkulla, Lee, Kott, Loewenberg, Swaroop

Public comment: none.

4. **Public Comment:** none.

Member Lee arrives at: 5:46 pm. (10 members present, quorum maintained)

Member Loewenberg arrives at 6:01 pm. (11 members present, quorum maintained)

5. **Presentation and Discussion: Flood Resilience Study Findings**, Stefani Harrison, Project Manager

Presentation was an overview of the [executive summary of the Flood Resiliency Study](#). Topics included:

- Flooding Background
- How flooding Can occur
 - Large storm (beyond collection system capacity)
 - High tides
 - Natural topography
 - Historic waterways
 - Drainage basin size and features
 - Land settlement
 - System blockage (e.g. O&M Issue)
- San Francisco's Historic Waterways
 - Example Watershed-Folsom
 - Example Watershed-Sewer main profile along 17th street
- Combined Collection System Background
- History of Our Collection System
- National Context for Flood Protection
- Managing Stormwater
- New Development and Sanitary flows
- What is San Francisco's plan for flood minimization projects?
- Flood Resilience Study Process
- Risk-Based Planning for Flood Resilience
- Flood Resilience Study Components
- Flood Resilience Approach
- Flood Risk Analysis: Design Storms

- Flood Resilience Analysis: Basic Process
- Economic Impact: Issue Areas
- Economic Models: Methods & Inputs
- Flood Protection Policy Options
 - Each option is an assessment of what it would take to address flooding in a design storm.
 - Investments prioritized to eliminate high/very high flood risk
 - Each option is characterized by:
 - A representation of infrastructure needs
 - Cost, benefit, and benefit-cost ratio
 - Ratepayer Impacts
- Representative Infrastructure Project Sets
 - Representative group of projects to manage flooding in select storms
 - Develop at a high level
 - Purpose: to provide comparative information and inform policy discussions
 - Once policy is decided, specified projects need to be identified and developed for implementation.
- Flood protection Policy Options: Representative Infrastructure/Cost
- Benefit-Cost Analysis
- Ratepayer Impact Analysis
- Flood Protection Policy Options
- Next steps
- Opportunities for Public Input on Flooding and Future Policy Discussion

Topics of discussion:

- Member Clary

1: How did you account for climate change in your projections for future storms?

A1: Stefani: Climate change was accounted for in the study related to sea level rise and discharges into Bay and ocean because there is good science and data on that and the City has taken a firm stance on sea level rise. However, beyond that there isn't agreement about how climate change will impact flooding and how to quantitatively represent that in modeling or in the study. The benefits analysis does indicate that there is more benefit of the implementing projects in a five-year storm and then the benefits will level off with larger storms.

Q2: Why doesn't the study look at flooding at the shoreline?

A2: Stefani: Our model is set up based on collections system because that is the focus of the study, so it would tell us that water would back up if the water levels were high. It isn't set up to look at coastal topping or inundation.

C1: Jennifer mentioned the SSIP project will install baffles on the overflow sites which means water will either have to be pumped or will go back into the system.

R1: Dave Wood: The model assumes the inundation will be prevented through other means. There is an assumption in the model that Bay water won't come on the land surface and a one way valve will let it out and that was accounted for in the model. The study is a coordinated effort but is focused on investments on the infrastructure side of things. The study is looking at pumping projects as part of the solution.

Q2: It seems like you are not including green projects in your study or proposed projects- why is that?

A1. The SSIP Collection System does include green infrastructure projects, so that is accounted for in this study and the modeling.

- Member Owen O'Donnell:

Q1: Does the plan assume runoff from impermeable structures like roofs or parking lots? Because if you had permeable concrete or other green infrastructure on private

property, you could change the rate of how much water flows into the system. Also homeowners can buy a rainwater system for existing homes.

A1: Stefani: The modeling accounts for stormwater ordinance, which means new development has to manage stormwater onsite, but the modeling accounts for the future implementation of that ordinance. There are no specific projects related to it included in the study. We do have and promote our rain barrel program, but we still don't know the impacts of the rain barrel program, and in a five-year storm we believe it makes a small impact. However, we don't have the data on that and without those numbers we need to be conservative.

R1: Dave: For example, the Rain Barrel program is on private property, and the performance is still unknown.

- Member Barlev:

Q1: Have you considered permeable pavement for the City streets in order to reduce water going into the system? This could also be considered for larger properties.

A1: Stefani: The challenge is that our streets have a concrete base layer for seismic safety. To move to permeable pavement for our streets, we would have to change the way our streets were constructed and that would present some challenges.

- Member Clary:

C1: - She expressed her frustration that the SFPUC team says they still don't understand green infrastructure and its impacts and that it is not being incorporated into projects. It is important to estimate what is needed and then figure out how we can do that in our combined system.

R1: Dave: In big storms, the green infrastructure projects don't help much related to minimizing flooding impacts. We need large projects that provide some flood protection projects, so that is what the study examined.

- Member Loewenberg:

Q1: Ted: I am troubled by the assumption that to prepare the City for a disaster or flood that it falls to the ratepayers and that the funding does not come from the City's General Fund. It seems to me that this will need to go for a vote to the ratepayers.

A1: Tracy: The stormwater rates are coming forward in 2017 and the proposal was presented to Wastewater CAC a few months ago, and we could schedule that presentation in front of the full CAC as well. There is also a Rate Fairness Board as well who reviews the rate packages.

- Member Lee:

Q1: Can you further clarify the cost categories? The economic impacts are general on the slide, but I would like to see them categorized more specifically.

A1: Stefani: Ratepayer impacts are based on the costs of building the projects in the collection system. We cannot separate that out further.

Public Comments:

- James Ausman: He wanted to get clarification on the cost benefit analysis slide. He commented and asked if the secondary benefits like job creation and other short-term benefits were considered in the analysis.
- Blane Bachelor: Mission Terrace Neighborhood, District 8: We are not talking about flooding. We are talking about illegal dumping of unsanitary, sewer water in homes and it has happened twice in her neighborhood. It is a nightmare for residents. She and her neighbors are asking the SFPUC to build a system that doesn't flood. It is a long time coming and way past due. The public health risk is high and she questioned the presentation and slide that indicates the public health risk is low.

- Malcolm Davis – conceded his time to Blane so she continued: SFPUC in violation of EPA, state and federal permits and she has documentation. The programs such as Adopt a Drain and RainReadySF are meant to just divert people’s attention from the real issues. She and her neighbors cannot sleep when it rains. The presentation mentioned the 5-year storm and greater, but the City cannot even handle a 2-year storm.
- Chris Tilton: Mission Terrace Neighborhood, District 8: There have been multiple storms that don’t meet 5 year storm level but cars were floating down the street and much damage was caused. The human interest part of this story needs representation, and that is why he is here today. He is representing over 100 residents and families today.

6. Staff Report

- 8 out of 13 members who are appointed by Supervisors have been reappointed by their appointing officers. Please submit your applications to your supervisor if you would like to be reappointed to your seat. Mayor appointed seats do not have to be reappointed.
- CAC Leadership Retreat will be held on Sunday, July 10.
- Please sign the card for Marjorie to congratulate her on her newly adopted baby.

Public comment: none.

7. Future Agenda Items and Resolutions

- Environmental Justice Update (*June*)
- Water Supply/Drought Update (*tentative July*)
- Mountain Tunnel (*tentative September*)

Topics of discussion:

- Stormwater rates update – Member Clary
- Agency’s response to resident concerns about flooding in their homes – Member Lee

Public comment: none.

8. Announcements/Comments – The next regularly scheduled meeting for the Full CAC will take place at our regularly scheduled time on Tuesday, June 21, 2016.

- Member DeTaillandier announced that there will be protest against AT&T’s move to cut landlines from their service.
- Member Loewenberg highlighted that the sign up for CleanPowerSF sign up is not as friendly as it could be.
- Staff invited CAC members to attend the CleanPowerSF launch party that will be on Wednesday, June 1 from 5-6:30pm at Acre Café.

Public comment: none.

9. Adjournment

Motion was made (Taylor) and seconded (Lee) to adjourn meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01pm.

**** RainReadySF Open House was held from 7-8pm after the CAC meeting.****