



City of San José

Climate Advisory Commission

Mani Bekele
Bill DeVincenzi
Glen Garfunkel
Ryan Lodico
Lucia Marquez
Ruth Merino

Karen Nelson
Victor Niemeyer
Phillip Remaker
Anthony Strawa
Tracy Wang

MEETING MINUTES

September 19, 2024

7:00 PM

I. Welcome & Introductions

II. Call to Order & Orders of the Day

Call to Order

Chair Nelson convened the Climate Advisory Commission at 7:09 p.m. Commissioner Nelson asked for introductions from Commissioners and introduced & welcomed Commissioner Lodico.

Motion to move New Business order; Update from Planning, Building, & Code Enforcement on requested policies/programs, Transportation semi-annual update, Ad Hoc committee report on SJCE financial status and implications for reserves policies, and Ad Hoc Committee Rules.

Roll Call

PRESENT: Mani Bekele, Bill DeVincenzi, Glen Garfunkel, Ryan Lodico, Lucia Marquez, Ruth Merino, Karen Nelson, Victor Niemeyer, Philip Remaker, Anthony Strawa, and Tracy Wang

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Staff present: Acting Director of ED Zachary Struyk, ED Deputy Director for Account Services & Marketing Communication Lina Williams, Senior Deputy City Attorney William Charley, PBCE Principal Planner Ruth Cueto, PBCE Deputy Director Lisa Joiner, DOT Senior Transportation Specialist Wilson Tam, DOT Assoc Transportation Specialist Andrea Arjona Amador, Mrs. Bekele, Mr. Bekele, and Commissioner Mani Bekele's sister. Zoom attendees: ESD Deputy Director Julie Benabente, Jasmin Jain, Jordan, Lilian Koenig, and C.

III. Public Record

None on file.

IV. Public Comment

No public comment.

V. Consent Calendar

Regular Meeting minutes of July 18, 2024 were approved unanimously. No public comment.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Garfunkel and seconded by Commissioner Wang, to

accept the July 18, 2024, San Jose Climate Commission minutes and were approved (9-0). No public comment.

VI. Reports and Information Only

Clarification for Ad Hoc cool roof committee recommendation and reporting to define a due date, will report back in January meeting.

VII. Old Business

- a. Recommendation to City Council for Set Time for Climate Smart Items
(Discussion and potential action)

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Bekele and seconded by Commissioner Remaker. To have committee send letter to transportation and environment committee. Motion was approved (9-0). No public comment.

- b. Commission Bylaws
(Discussion and potential action)

Action: Commissioner Strawa moved, with a second by Commissioner Bekele, to approve the Bylaws with a specified edit: to clarify that the Chair and Vice-Chair terms will commence immediately following a vote at the November meeting, rather than at a set time. The motion was approved unanimously (9-0). No public comment.

VIII. New Business

- A. Update from Planning, Building, & Code Enforcement on requested policies/programs
(Discussion and potential action)

Action: Commissioner Garfunkel and seconded by Commissioner Strawa motion to formally request approval to host a meeting to November or December. The motion was approved unanimously (9-0). No public comment.

- B. Transportation semi-annual update
(Discussion and potential action)

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Niemeyer and seconded by Commissioner Wang, to accept staff recommendations of the report and to forward the update to Council (see recommendation on page 4). The motion was approved unanimously (9-0). No public comment.

- C. Ad Hoc committee report on SJCE financial status of implications for reserves policies
(Discussion and potential action)

Discussion: The commission discussed the purpose and context of SJCE's financial reserves to ensure public understanding. In this context, reserves refer to funds set aside by SJCE to cover periods when revenue may fall below costs, helping to stabilize rates and support ongoing operational costs without immediate recourse to rate increases. The reserves are thus a buffer that enables SJCE to manage financial fluctuations and maintain fiscal stability.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Niemeyer and seconded by Commissioner Garfunkel, the commission approved a request for SJCE to conduct a session on reserves

policies at the November meeting, specifically addressing the purpose, calculation, and management of reserves in SJCE's financial framework. The motion was approved unanimously (9-0). No public comment.

D. Ad Hoc committee rules
(Discussion only)

Action: None. Bill Charley, Senior Deputy City Attorney, provided guidance on establishing and operating ad hoc committees within commission parameters. No public comment.

E. Meeting schedule and agenda items
(Discussion only)

Commissioners discussed potential agenda items for the November meeting.

*The next regular meeting will be November 21, 2024, at 7pm in San José City Hall,
Tower Room 1753*

IX. Adjournment

Chair Nelson adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:32 p.m.

KAREN NELSON, CHAIR

ATTEST:
CLIMATE ADVISORY COMMISSION SECRETARY

Leticia Vargas, COMMISSION SECRETARY

CAC Recommendation

- A. Item VII.C. Receive briefing and give comment on Transportation Semi-Annual Update
(Potential action)

During the meeting on September 19, 2024, the Climate Advisory Commission agreed with staff recommendations on the Fall 2024 Transportation Semi-Annual Update. The commission agreed with staff recommendations pertaining to the update to Council.