



ALAMEDA COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Supervisors' Transportation and Planning Committee

FROM: Chris Bazar, Director, Community Development Agency

DATE: December 8, 2014

SUBJECT: Community Choice Aggregation (CCA): Update and Progress Report

BACKGROUND

On June 3, 2014, the Board of Supervisors authorized County staff to pursue actions that could result in formation of a new Joint Powers Agency (JPA) agency to implement a Community Choice Aggregation program for Alameda County, including outreach to jurisdictions, steering committee formation, load data procurement, hiring and retention of consultant(s) to help prepare the Feasibility Study, Feasibility Study preparation, peer review of the Feasibility Study, public outreach by staff and consultants, bid solicitation, and development of implementation plans. The Board also authorized the expenditure of up to \$1,325,000 for the tasks described above. The following updates the process so far, with suggested next steps.

DISCUSSION

I – Administrative Consultant chosen to help with start-up activities:

The consultant chosen by CDA Staff is the Sequoia Foundation, acting as an umbrella for individuals from three Bay Area organizations – Mr. Tom Kelly of KyotoUSA, Ms. Shawn Marshall of Lean Energy US, and Mr. Seth Baruch of Carbonomics.

Each has been an advocate for CCA programs in the past; however, their roles in this effort will be to work under the direction of CDA Staff to assist in the daily administrative activities required to begin the public outreach and information process, request appropriate load data from PG&E, and function as an extension of staff as directed by CDA. We have finalized the contract, and the consultants are assisting staff with these tasks; this small contract should not be confused with the much larger contract for a technical consultant that will be addressed shortly via an RFQ/RFP process.

II – Load Data Requests:

We have received positive responses from all of the City Managers in the County, which will allow our County Administrator to request a complete set of load data from PG&E when the time is appropriate. Staff expects that this request will probably be about the time the technical consultant comes on board in the Spring of 2015.

III – Technical Consultant:

Staff is currently developing a Request for Qualifications & Proposal to send out to prospective technical consultants that will assist the County's efforts with a Technical Feasibility study. This

will be a large contract and will require full vetting of many possible applicants. We are working to develop a detailed summary of that consultant's mission in order to expedite the Technical Feasibility Study, with a goal of having a draft completed by Fall of 2015.

IV – Website:

Staff is developing a website that we expect will take us from the early stages of the process through the formation of a CCA program. Staff will also set up a standardized communications network for this effort, through which notices of meetings and hearings can be given, and which will provide an easy and convenient way to communicate on CCA matters.

V – Camp Parks Proposal:

The U.S. Army Office of Renewable Energy Initiatives has approached the County about a potential renewable energy project at Camp Parks, in Dublin, that could become an early partner of the proposed CCA. As of this writing, the Army proposes a renewable solar energy project in the approximate 12 megawatt range, still in the scoping phase. A significant renewable energy project located in Alameda County would be exactly the kind of project a Countywide CCA would seek to enhance its renewable energy portfolio, and it appears that the timing for both the CCA start-up and the Camp Parks project start-up may be optimal. Last week, CDA staff and District 1 representatives met with U.S. Army civilian officials, who provided a good summary of the potential for this project.

VI - Public Outreach and Community Oversight:

County staff has formulated some options for public outreach and committee oversight. Some of the options include:

- A. A bicameral structure in which we have (A) a Technical/Steering Committee, where issues such as energy policy, governance and City-specific interests are discussed; and (B) a broader Citizen's Working Group or Committee, in which topics such as environmental concerns, labor concerns and social equity/justice issues would be crafted into draft policy. There would certainly be some overlap between the two groups, and we would try to ensure a constructive dialogue between the two.
- B. A structure in which one Committee (most likely the Steering Committee) would function as the entity that reports to its respective government oversight bodies (Board of Supervisors and City Councils), and the other Committee(s) or working group(s) would convey policy recommendations to the Steering Committee for its consideration. The lower Committee(s) could be separate, such as a Technical Committee and a Citizens' Working Group, or could be a subcommittee(s) to the upper Committee. This structure has the benefit of helping to keep all members of both Committees on the same page with respect to discussions.
- C. A structure in which there is a single Committee, comprised of City and County appointees, representatives of labor, environmental and social justice groups, all participating on an equal basis. Specific topic areas could be addressed by the entire body, or they could be considered by subcommittees appointed by the whole body for recommendations conveyed back to the full Committee. This structure has the benefit of allowing all interested parties to hear all issues at the same time without need for communication between bodies. It would need to be carefully constructed to provide fair representation, and could potentially end up as such a large group that it could be difficult to administer.

In the event that policy statements by the Committee(s) must be brought to the Board or City Councils for consideration, and there are significantly divergent majority and minority opinions, all opinions would be brought to the Board or Councils for consideration.

Possible Committee structures fall into three basic categories:

- A. Appointed representatives who can discuss rather technical topics such as governance, energy policy and other technical details;
- B. Interested community members who can help shape CCA policy with regard to environmental, social and labor issues; and
- C. A combination of both types of representative members.

Input from your Committee would be appreciated on the merits of the various committee structures described above.

NEXT STEPS

- Prepare and circulate Request for Qualifications/Proposals for technical consultant to write Technical Feasibility Study and assist with technical knowledge on energy matters in California;
- Work with Administrative consultants and County Administrator to prepare load data request for PG&E
- Organize and coordinate a technical/steering committee composed of municipal staff members and representatives from labor, energy, environmental and community organizations.
- Engage the Committee to help construct an appropriate Scope of Work for the Technical Consultant, so that all important issues related to the CCA can be appropriately framed and examined.

Based on the information contained in this memo and its attachments, Staff seeks further direction from the Transportation and Planning Committee at this time, especially with respect to the structure and composition of the Committee or Committees.

cc: Each member, Board of Supervisors
Susan Muranishi, CAO
County Counsel