



**City of Davis
Utilities Commission Minutes
Remote Meeting
Wednesday, February 16, 2022
5:30 P.M.**

Commissioners Present: Gerry Braun, Andrew Cullen, Linda Deos (Chair) - *left meeting after Item 6B*, Steve Gellen, Lorenzo Kristov, Elaine Roberts-Musser, Johannes Troost

Commissioner(s) Absent: Emma O'Rourke-Powell (Alternate)

Council Liaison(s) Present: None

Staff Present: Adrienne Heinig, Assistant to the Director
John Alexander, Wastewater Division Manager
Matt Deussenberry, Water Division Manager
Chelsea Becker, Administrative Aide

Also in Attendance:

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairperson Deos called meeting to order at 5:31pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

G Braun moved to approve the agenda, seconded by L Deos. Approved by the following votes:

Ayes: Braun, Cullen, Deos, Gellen, Kristov, Roberts-Musser, Troost

Noes:

Absent:

3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commission Members, and City Council Members

- E Roberts-Musser provided one article for Commission review:
 - Flash Joule heating extracts rare earth elements from fly ash, bauxite residue, electronic waste - Phys.Org
- A Heinig updated the Commission on the Council action to pass an urgency ordinance to enact state water waste prohibitions for the duration of the drought.

4. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

5. Consent Calendar

A. Principles of Civility for City Council, City Commissions, and Other Legislative Bodies Authorized and Governed by the City Council

G Braun moved, L Deos seconded, to move the Consent Calendar. Approved by following votes:

Ayes: Braun, Cullen, Deos, Gellen, Kristov, Roberts-Musser, Troost

Noes:

Absent:

6. Regular Items

A. Top Five Priorities for City Utilities.

The item was introduced by A Heinig, who provided the background to the discussion on priority project focuses for the City's Water, Wastewater and Stormwater utilities, and a presentation on the top five priorities for each of those utilities.

Discussion included the following:

- Clarification on the reasoning for the wastewater treatment plant analysis, and why the wastewater treatment plant might need improvements sooner than anticipated in the original construction of the plant. Staff indicated that the data samples taken in the development of the plant had not been taken when students were in residence at UC Davis, which would likely account for the higher loads than anticipated.
- Clarification that new developments pay connection fees into the utility funds to cover costs related to utility expansion or impacts on the infrastructure directly related to the new development.
- Relocation of stormwater pump station no. 6, next to the Richards Blvd. undercrossing, and the likelihood that the station will be moved from its current location but remain in the same area.
- The stormwater basin development for the Bretton Woods development in West Davis.
- In response to a question about maintenance, and the City having deferred maintenance related to COVID-19 impacts, staff indicated that while the activities of the utility divisions can be more reactive than proactive at times, current maintenance operations are proceeding as necessary, and the division managers are comfortable with the current maintenance levels. CIP's that had been delayed because of COVID will take time to start up again.

- Opportunities for combining efforts in major projects to address maintenance needs for multiple utilities.
- Other planning efforts associated with the water utility, including the aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) feasibility study, and update to the City's 2013 Integrated Water Resources Study.
- How the information related to the priority efforts of the utilities align with the City's efforts with the CAAP. Staff indicated that the incorporation of the climate impacts to the utilities are integrated into everyday operations, and that Public Works Utilities and Operations staff and CAAP staff are in regular discussions on projects.
- The request for a GIS map of the conduit currently installed within the City, to understand where the conduit is, and where there are gaps that could be addressed.

No public comment was received on this item, and no formal action was taken.

B. Community Resilience Subcommittee Next Steps.

The item was introduced by L Kristov, who discussed the charge of the Community Resilience Subcommittee, and went over the proposed outline for the presentation to City Council on the resilience hub concept.

The proposed outline would include:

1. Definition of resilience
2. Discussion of energy resilience
3. Description of the resilience hub concept
4. Resilience hub implementation
5. Examples of existing resilience hubs
6. Timing of such a project to take advantage of state and federal funding opportunities
7. Request of the City Council to direct staff to initiate development of a shovel-ready plan for a resilience hub in Davis

Discussion included the following:

- The importance of understanding the need for the resilience hub and focusing the messaging related to that need.
- The need to indicate what could happen if the City does not take action, rather than focus on the time and resource investment in the effort.
- Indication that the Council might wait to discuss resilience hubs until the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) process is completed. The CAAP process has been extended, as Council has asked for additional analysis of GHG impacts for the priority list of actions. Finalization of the

efforts could take time, yet the City needs to act on a resilience hub to take advantage of what's available from the State for funding.

- Looking at where the City could look to partner with local faith organizations, and the larger emergency response system in the County to see what efforts could tie together.
- The State Public Utilities Commission (PUC) is looking to create areas for energy storage where solar installations exist, and there could be opportunities in that effort.
- The question of whether churches or schools could qualify for grants for resilience hubs.

Motion: Authorize the Utilities Commission Community Resilience Subcommittee to make the presentation on resilience hubs to City Council.

Moved by E Roberts-Musser, seconded by G Braun. The motion passed by the following votes:

Ayes: Braun, Cullen, Deos, Gellen, Kristov, Roberts-Musser, Troost

Noes:

Absent:

No public comment was received on this item.

L Deos left the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

7. Commission and Staff Communication

A. Long Range Calendar

The item was introduced by A Heinig, who outlined the next few months for the Long Range calendar, which would include a workplan review. There was no Commission discussion on this item.

No public comment was received on this item, and no formal action was taken.

8. Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn the Utilities Commission meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Moved by A Cullen, seconded by G Braun. The motion passed by the following votes:

Ayes: Braun, Cullen, Gellen, Kristov, Roberts-Musser, Troost

Noes:

Absent: Deos