



Staff Report Item 15

TO: East Bay Community Energy Board of Directors
FROM: Deidre Sanders, Director of Government and Community Affairs
SUBJECT: CAC Work Plan
DATE: October 17, 2018

Recommendation

Review the CAC workplan and either approve it or return it to the CAC with its requested revisions.

Background and Discussion

The CAC has proposed an update to its Work Plan as requested by the Board. It has been reviewed by the Executive Committee and is being forwarded to the Board for its approval. The Work Plan is to help shape CAC priorities and set Board expectations of areas of focus for the CAC that will guide its advice to the Board on issues of interest to EBCE's communities.

Fiscal Impact

None.

Attachments

- A. CAC Work Plan



Community Advisory Committee Work Plan

Draft:

Original Draft to Executive Committee dated August 21, 2018
Updated September 10, 2018 to reflect direction by EBCE
Executive Committee to add "regulatory" to Area 3.

*Wording added in Area 3 to reflect appropriate content, otherwise there is no
change to this document from the original August 21st draft approved by the CAC.*

EBCE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

Adopted April 12, 2017

The purpose of the East Bay Community Energy Authority ("EBCE") Community Advisory Committee ("CAC") is to advise the EBCE Board of Directors ("Board") on all subjects related to the operation of the Community Choice Aggregation program pursuant to California Public Utilities Code Section 366.2 ("CCA Program") as provided in Section 4.9 of the EBCE Joint Powers Agreement and set forth in a work plan adopted by the Board of Directors from time to time¹. The Work Plan of the CAC includes but is not limited to the following²:

1. Work on defined objectives as directed by the Board, to produce materials that will assist the Board in decision-making.
2. Review and comment on EBCE budget and rates, policy and programs.
3. Help the Board to identify issues of concern and opportunities to educate community members about the EBCE.
4. Draft reports, in coordination with EBCE staff, to the Board with its findings and recommendations.
5. Serve as an information-channel back to their colleagues and communities.
6. Represent the views of their constituencies in their comments and recommendations.

¹ JPA language specific to the CAC included as Attachment 1.

² On April 12, 2017, the EBCE Board of Directors considered a CAC workplan created by EBCE staff. The video recording of their discussion and community input to the work plan is here: [Video of April 12, 2017 Board meeting](#) with the relevant CAC workplan discussion from 1:23 - 1:57 on the video.

Subsequent to the discussion and in Resolution EBCE R-2017-5, the EBCE Board of Directors approved the Community Advisory Committee Workplan above.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CAC WORKPLAN

The CAC proposes to add to the existing workplan and specify three broad areas of focus for CAC actions: 1) Beneficial Pillars: Social, Economic, and Environmental, 2) Local Opportunities, and 3) Legislation and Public Policy. These areas of focus do not limit the existing workplan or the advice provided by the CAC, including those areas proactively identified by the CAC to bring to the Board's attention. This amendment to the work plan enables EBCE staff to understand when the CAC should be brought in early to discussions, acts as a guide to assist the CAC chair and members to focus CAC meetings, and informs the Board on some of the specific areas in which they may receive advice from the CAC.

The CAC will view efforts through the lens of the three beneficial pillars--social, economic, and environmental--described in the Local Development Business Plan (LDBP) to ensure that the Board receive community input in the areas that drive EBCE. Specifically, the CAC will provide advice that touches on maintaining positive economic, environmental, and social benefits for EBCE customers and our communities, calling out areas of potential threats and bringing forward areas where these benefits could be increased.

The CAC will seek to be timely in providing advice to the Board on issues being brought to the Board by staff and proactively bring issues forward as they arise in the community.

AREA 1: BENEFICIAL PILLARS

The CAC will provide advice on policy, programs, and projects touching on the three beneficial pillars in the LDBP (i.e., social, economic, and environmental benefits). The CAC expects to provide advice on the budgets, timing, and content of projects and programs, for example, net energy metering, that impact these beneficial pillars and to monitor their outcomes based on agreed metrics.

Social

EBCE seeks to promote social benefits and equity within the county. The CAC will advise on EBCE choices that affect lives within the community, especially regarding:

- **Jobs and job development, workforce training, Just Transition**
- **Community resiliency**
- **Social equity issues**

The CAC understands that improving the local workforce can have significant and long-lasting benefit for the communities within Alameda County. Further, EBCE committed to ensuring it will minimize adverse impacts to workers in existing jobs supporting our energy infrastructure to ensure a Just Transition to a clean energy economy.³ The CAC expects to pay close attention to the impacts of projects and programs on community resilience and social equity, particularly in low-income communities and communities of color. The CAC will delve into areas that touch on the bulleted points to provide the Board with advice directly from the community.

Economic

EBCE must be economically sound and make prudent choices to be a good steward of their ratepayer funds. The CAC will weigh in on areas to provide EBCE staff and the Board with information to ensure the long-term health of EBCE while being mindful of any adverse community impacts.

³ Reference Joint Powers Agreement, section 6 (j).

The areas where the CAC expects to spend a significant level of effort include:

- **Rates**
- **Budgets**

Rates for low income households will be of special interest to the CAC because of the impacts that energy rates can have on those already struggling to live in Alameda County. Budgets are generally set once per year; the CAC will work with staff to create a draft budget incorporating community input. In its analysis of the budget, the CAC shall focus on investment in local clean energy projects, as described further in the Environmental section below, and the resulting economic, social, and environmental benefits.

Environmental

EBCE strives to improve environmental and public health and address environmental and health justice impacts in the community. The CAC will advise on EBCE choices touching on the air, land, and water impacts and environmental resiliency.

The CAC believes that many of the environmental benefits discussed in the LDBP will derive from projects located within Alameda county. As described in the LDBP, these projects will include:

- **Distributed generation projects**
- **Energy Efficiency programs**
- **Demand Response programs**
- **Building Electrification projects / programs**
- **Electric Vehicle efforts**

As stated, the CAC expects to provide advice on the budgets, timing, and content of projects and programs, including those outlined in the LDBP, such as those described above (e.g., Social, Economic, and Environmental) and to monitor their outcomes based on agreed metrics.

AREA 2: LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES

The CAC has a broad and deep set of constituents who are involved in many different areas and are aware of opportunities for local development and positive local impacts related to EBCE as well as possible threats to these areas. This area is different from Area 1 because here, the CAC is focused **outward and forward looking**.

For example, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District may have an opportunity for new funding for clean air projects or a local organization may be receiving state or federal funds and seeking partners to provide workforce training. On the other side of the coin, the CAC or their constituents may hear of a local clean energy business development that provides substandard jobs or employs no local community members.

As part of the CAC efforts, we will continuously scan for opportunities and threats related to EBCE and bring them to the Board for consideration.

AREA 3: LEGISLATIVE / PUBLIC POLICY / REGULATORY

The CAC expects to advise the Board around legislative, public policy, and regulatory issues that affect CCAs.

Community members may be aware of legislation, other public policy, or regulatory issues that could affect the EBCE (positively or negatively) in areas not fully considered by staff. As such, the CAC is a positive and useful avenue to bring these types of issues to the attention of the Board for consideration. Additionally, the CAC is ready to support EBCE Directors and staff as needed as they interact with the state and federal legislators and legislative staff.

ATTACHMENT 1: EXCERPTS FROM JPA

The JPA in its entirety is located here: <https://ebce.org/resources/>

Below are the two excerpts relating directly to the CAC.

4.2.2 The Board shall also include one non-voting ex officio member as defined in Section 1.1.13 ("Ex Officio Board Member"). The Chair of the Community Advisory Committee, as described in Section 4.9 below, shall serve as the Ex Officio Board Member. The Vice Chair of the Community Advisory Committee shall serve as an alternate Ex Officio Board Member when the regular Ex Officio Board Member is absent from a Board meeting.

4.9 Community Advisory Committee. The Board shall establish a Community Advisory Committee consisting of nine members, none of whom may be voting members of the Board. The function of the Community Advisory Committee shall be to advise the Board of Directors on all subjects related to the operation of the CCA Program as set forth in a work plan adopted by the Board of Directors from time to time, with the exception of personnel and to litigation decisions. The Community Advisory Committee is advisory only, and shall not have decision-making authority, or receive any delegation of authority from the Board of Directors. The Board shall publicize the opportunity to serve on the Community Advisory Committee, and shall appoint members of the Community Advisory Committee from those individuals expressing interest in serving, and who represent a diverse cross-section of interests, skill sets and geographic regions. Members of the Community Advisory Committee shall serve staggered four-year terms (the first term of three of the members shall be two years, four years thereafter), which may be renewed. A member of the Community Advisory Committee may be removed by the Board of Directors by majority vote. The Board of Directors shall determine whether the Community Advisory Committee members will receive a stipend and/or be entitled to reimbursement for expense.