



City of San José Climate Advisory Commission

Mani Bekele
Bill DeVincenzi
Glen Garfunkel
Macwin Savio Dsouza
Lucia Marquez
Ruth Merino

Karen Nelson
Victor Niemeyer
Phillip Remaker
Tracy Wang
Ryo Wakabayashi

MEETING MINUTES

6:00 PM

September 18, 2025

I. Call to Order & Orders of the Day

Call to Order

Chair Nelson convened the Climate Advisory Commission at 6:03 p.m. Commissioner Nelson welcomed guests in the room and on Zoom.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Victor Niemeyer and seconded by Commissioner Bill DeVincenzi, to accept orders of the day, approved (10,0). No public comment.

Roll Call

PRESENT: Mani Bekele, Bill DeVincenzi, Glen Garfunkel, Macwin Savio Dsouza, Lucia Marquez, Karen Nelson, Victor Niemeyer, Phillip Remaker, Tracy Wang, and Ryo Wakabayashi.

STAFF: Staff present: Assistant Director of ED Zachary Struyk, Hannah Greenberg Climate Smart/ED Analyst II, ED Climate Smart Supervising Environmental Services Specialist Anne Balis, and ED Staff Specialist Leticia Vargas.

Zoom attendees: ED Deputy Director for Regulatory Compliance & Policy Heather Dauler, PBCE Planner IV Aparna Ankola, and AI.

Public: Mila Bekele & Lisa Charponiter.

II. Public Record

None on file.

III. Public Comment

No public comment.

IV. Consent Calendar

Action: Minutes for July 17, 2025, were approved. No public comment was received.

V. Reports and Information Only

No reports and information only.

VI. Old Business

There was no old business.

VII. New Business

- a. Follow-Up on PBCE Setback and Noise Ordinance Changes (*Attachment B*)
Action: None (discussion only)
- b. Climate Smart San José Semi-Annual Status Report and updated Plan (*Attachment C*)

Action: Commissioner Glen Garfunkel moved, and Commissioner Phillip Remaker seconded, to accept draft recommendation language with revisions. All in favor, motion passes unanimously. No public comment.

Language approved as follows:

The Climate Advisory Commission accepts staff's presentation on the Climate Smart San Jose semi-annual status report and updated plan and recommends adoption of the Climate Smart San José 2025 Update by City Council.

However, we are alarmed at the slow progress against the 2030 goals and urge the council to invest in more urgent actions.

*We specifically recommend the inclusion, early in the **report** update document on pages 13 or 14, a section of at least one paragraph with the high-level heading and a graphic or bolding that reads "**URGENCY REQUIRED TO MARKEDLY ACCELERATE HIGH IMPACT ACTIONS TO MEET CLIMATE GOALS**" to highlight attention with clear language on how much we are off track from our climate goals and an acknowledgement that current efforts need to be scaled dramatically to meet these goals.*

- c. Public outreach for AC to Heat Pump conversion (*Attachment D*)

Action: Commissioner Mani Bekele moved, and Commissioner Ryo Wakabayashi seconded, to amend the motion accept the letter as written to include HVAC & AC Failure, target the solar installers. All in favor, motion passes unanimously.

Public comment by Lisa. She agrees with the urgency, she is concerned with Data

Centers. As a member of the public, start discussion of Data Centers before they happen. If there is a language they need to follow with AI.

d. Meeting schedule and potential agenda items for the next meeting

Action: Commissioner Phillip Remaker moved, and Commissioner Macwin Savio Dsouza seconded, motion to have special meeting on October 7, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. All in favor, motion passes unanimously. No public comment.

Action: Commissioner Karen Nelson moved, and Commissioner Mani Bekele seconded, motion to move normal meeting moved to special meeting to November 6, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for November 6, 2025, at 6pm in San José City Hall, Tower Room 1753

VIII. Adjournment

Chair Nelson adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:15 p.m.

Karen Nelson

KAREN NELSON, CHAIR

ATTEST:
CLIMATE ADVISORY COMMISSION SECRETARY



Leticia Vargas, COMMISSION SECRETARY

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You may speak to the Commission about any discussion item that is on the agenda, and you may also speak during Public Comments on items that are not on the agenda and are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. Speakers using a translator will be given twice the time allotted to ensure non-English speakers receive the same opportunity to directly address the Committee, Board or Commission. Please be advised that, by law, the Commission is unable to discuss or take action on issues presented during Public Comments. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2, no matter shall be acted upon by the Commission unless listed on the agenda, which has been posted not less than 72 hours prior to meeting.

Agendas, Staff Reports and some associated documents for the Commission items may be viewed on the Internet at <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/energy/climate-smart-san-jose/climate-advisory-commission-cac>.

Correspondence to the Climate Advisory Commission are public record and will become part of the City's electronic records, which are accessible through the City's website. Before posting online, the following may be redacted: addresses, email addresses, social security numbers, phone numbers, and signatures. However, please note: e-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required, but if included in any communication to the Climate Advisory Commission, will become part of the public record. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication.

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On occasion the Commission may consider agenda items out of order.

The Climate Advisory Commission meets the third Thursday every other month at 7pm, with special meetings as necessary. If you have any questions, please direct them to the Commission staff. Thank you for taking the time to attend today's meeting. We look forward to seeing you at future meetings.

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Please direct correspondence and questions to:

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