



City of San José Climate Advisory Commission

Mani Bekele
Bill DeVincenzi
Glen Garfunkel
Macwin Savio Dsouza
Lucia Marquez
Eric Michaud

Karen Nelson
Victor Niemeyer
Phillip Remaker
Christine Nguyen Vaeth
Ryo Wakabayashi

MEETING MINUTES January 15, 2026

6:00 PM

I. Call to Order & Orders of the Day

Call to Order

Chair Remaker convened the Climate Advisory Commission at 6:01 p.m. Chair Phillip Remaker welcomed guests in the room and on Zoom.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Macwin Savio Dsouza and seconded by Commissioner Christine Nguyen Vaeth, to accept orders of the day, approved (8,0). No public comment.

Roll Call

PRESENT: Mani Bekele, Glen Garfunkel, Macwin Savio Dsouza, Eric Michaud, Victor Niemeyer, Phillip Remaker, Christine Nguyen Vaeth, and Ryo Wakabayashi.

STAFF: Assistant Director of ED Zachary Struyk, ED Programs Manager Kate Ziemba, ED Climate Smart Supervising Environmental Services Specialist Anne Balis, ED Financial Planning and Analysis Manager Ross Dasilva, ESD Environment Program Manager Michael J Gonzales, PBCE Principal Planner Ruth Cueto, and ED Staff Specialist Leticia Vargas.

Zoom attendees: PRNS Lilian Koenig, Abhay Manchala, Ruth Merino, and Russ Michand.

Public: Lisa Charponiter and Jordan Moldave.

II. Public Record

None on file.

III. Public Comment

No public comment.

IV. Consent Calendar

Action: Minutes for November 06, 2025, were approved. No public comment was received.

V. Reports and Information Only

- a. Climate Smart Six-month Look Ahead (*Attachment A*)
- b. San José Clean Energy Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) Update (*Attachment B*)

VI. Old Business

There was no old business.

VII. New Business

- a. Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan (*Attachments C and D*)

Action: Chair Phillip Remaker moved, and Commissioner Glen Garfunkel seconded, to accept the staff's presentation of the Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan and recommend approval to the City Council. All in favor, motion passes unanimously.

Public comment: Lisa Charponiter thanked staff for their important work and emphasized its value. She asked how priorities will be set in the next phase, how those priorities will be coordinated with available funding, and encouraged continued public engagement and information-sharing through the website. Jordan Moldave, District 3, thanked staff for preparing the report and expressed support for its implementation. He emphasized that the plan's success depends on effective implementation and adequate funding, and encouraged the City to aggressively pursue grant opportunities, City Council funding, and potential revenue from other services. He noted limited expectations for federal funding, but encouraged applying for state grants, including Proposition 4 funds, and requested updates on funding efforts and implementation progress.

- b. San José Clean Energy Programs and Policies (*Attachment E*)

Action: Vice Chair Ryo Wakabayashi moved, and Chair Phillip Remaker seconded, to accept draft recommendation language with revisions. All in favor, motion passes unanimously.

Language approved as follows:

"The Climate Advisory Commission accepts staff's update on San José Clean Energy programs and supports its recommendations for fiscal year 2026-2027 and its Programs Roadmap covering 2026-2031.

The Commission further recommends that SJCE increase 2026 - 27 program spending by \$2,000,000 above its current proposal, increasing SJCE support of the City's Climate Smart goals. Finally, the Commission recommends that SJCE collaborate with the CAC to include annual spending and emissions reduction targets in the five-year programs Road map update for 2026 to 2031 through a possible CAC ad hoc Committee.”

Public comment by Jordan Moldave, he expressed disappointment that the e-bike program was deferred to the long term despite its high score in the evaluation. They contrasted e-bike incentives with car rebates, noting concerns about car dependency, land use impacts, and the affordability of vehicle ownership compared to e-bikes. He referenced a previously proposed state e-bike voucher program that was highly popular but ultimately redirected by CARB toward car rebates and encouraged the City to consider providing local support for e-bike incentives.

- c. Ad Hoc Rates and Reserves Committee Report Approaches for Funding Programs (Attachment F)

Action: Chair Phillip Remaker moved, and Commissioner Victor Niemeyer seconded, to support Ad Hoc report. All in favor, motion passes unanimously.

- d. 2026 Power Mix ad Rates, and Potentially Vote on Power Mix and Rates (Attachment G)

Language approved as follows:

“Staff presented preliminary rates information to the Climate Advisory Commission (Commission) at the Commission meeting on January 15, 2026. The Commission agreed with the staff recommendation to set GreenSource rates as low as possible while ensuring that revenues cover costs. Finally, the Commission noted that current and projected reserve balances were above the target and encouraged staff to continue to work on pricing competitively, improving power content, and increasing program funding while maintaining adequate reserve levels. The Commission also recommended that staff propose a trajectory for increasing renewable content (percentage by year) through 2030.”

Action: Vice Chair Ryo Wakabayashi moved, and Commissioner Macwin Savio Dsouza seconded, to accept draft recommendation language with revisions. All in favor, motion passes unanimously. No public comment.

- e. Discussion on the creation of an Ad Hoc Committee for Legislative Priorities and Advocacy

Action: Chair Phillip Remaker moved, and Vice Chair Ryo Wakabayashi seconded, move to defer discussion to next meeting. All in favor, motion passes

unanimously. No public comment.

- f. Discussion on the creation of an Ad Hoc Committee for San Jose Clean Energy Programs

Action: Commissioner Victor Niemeyer moved, and Commissioner Mani Bekele seconded, to create Ad Hoc Committee to conduct research and report back at the March meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioners Victor Niemeyer, Mani Bekele, and Macwin Savio Dsouza were appointed to the Ad Hoc Committee. The committee will begin meeting in the interim and report findings at the March meeting.

Following the unanimous formation of the Ad Hoc Committee at the January 15, 2026, meeting, Commissioner Bill DeVincenzi expressed interest in joining via email. Commissioner Bill DeVincenzi was added to the Ad Hoc Committee.

- g. Meeting schedule and potential agenda items for the next meeting (discussion only)

The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2026, at 6pm in San José City Hall, Tower Room 1753

VIII. Adjournment

Chair Phillip Remaker adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:31 p.m.

PHILLIP REMAKER, 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.

All public records relating to an open session item on this agenda, which are not exempt from disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, that are distributed to a majority of the legislative body will be available for public inspection at the Environmental Services Department, 200 East Santa Clara Street, San José, California 95113, at the same time that the public records are distributed or made available to the legislative body. Any draft resolutions or other items posted on the Internet site or distributed in advance of the commission meeting may not be the final documents approved by the commission. Contact the Office of the City Clerk for the final document.

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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