

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

City and County of San Francisco

RESOLUTION NO. 11-0008

WHEREAS, This Commission requested that the General Manager of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission develop a community benefits program in order to better serve and foster partnership with the community; and

WHEREAS, The SFPUC retained San Francisco consultants Merriwether & Williams and Davis & Associates Communications to interview a diverse group of stakeholders, develop a working definition for and elements of a community benefits program, research other public agencies to identify best practices relating to community benefits, survey and assess SFPUC's existing community benefits initiatives, and produce a final written report with recommendations for a proposed SFPUC community benefits policy; and

WHEREAS, The consultants interviewed more than 30 internal and external stakeholders, facilitated conversations through focus groups, and developed a project website, which included a comprehensive survey, to collect and analyze concerns, suggestions, experiences and ideas related to community benefits programming at the SFPUC; and

WHEREAS, To date the SFPUC has identified over 80 programs and initiatives already in existence at the SFPUC that could be components of a Community Benefits Program; and

WHEREAS, the consultants and SFPUC staff made presentations to the Commission on April 27, 2010, and September 14, 2010, and regularly updated the Commission regarding the ongoing process to develop a comprehensive Community Benefits Program as well as their initial findings and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors' Land Use & Economic Development Committee held a hearing regarding the status of the Community Benefits Program on October 18, 2010; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission adopts the following Community Benefits Policy:

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission affirms and commits to the goal of developing an inclusive and comprehensive community benefits program to better serve and foster partnership with communities in all SFPUC service areas and to ensure that public benefits are shared across all communities.

The SFPUC acknowledges its responsibility to develop a community benefits program that is intentional in its participation and support programs and projects that are designed to benefit the

community, is centrally coordinated within the SFPUC, applies to all of SFPUC's operations and its activities in all SFPUC service areas, and which is sustainable, transparent, measurable, and accessible by stakeholders and SFPUC staff.

The SFPUC defines community benefits as those positive effects on a community that result from the SFPUC's operation and improvement of its water, wastewater and power services. The SFPUC seeks to be a good neighbor to all whose lives or neighborhoods are directly affected by its activities. The SFPUC has adopted a "triple bottom line" to guide its decisions, balancing the SFPUC's economic, environmental and social equity goals, to promote sustainability and community benefits.

The SFPUC will devote sufficient resources and authority to SFPUC staff to achieve outcomes including:

1. Stakeholder and community involvement in the design, implementation and evaluation of SFPUC programs and policies;
2. Workforce development, including coordination of internal and external workforce programs and strategic recruitment, training, placement, and succession planning for current and future SFPUC staff to ensure a skilled and diverse workforce;
3. Environmental programs and policies which preserve and expand clean, renewable water and energy resources, decrease pollution, reduce environmental impacts, and reward proposals for innovative and creative new environmental programs;
4. Economic development resulting from collaborative partnerships which promote contracting with local companies, hiring local workers, and providing efficient, renewable energy at reduced costs;
5. Support for arts and culture related to the SFPUC's mission, goals and activities;
6. Educational programs;
7. Use of land in a way that maximizes health, environmental sustainability and innovative ideas;
8. Diversity and inclusion programs and initiatives;
9. In-kind contributions and volunteerism; and
10. Improvement in community health through SFPUC activities, services and contributions.

In application of this policy to SFPUC's operations, projects and activities, SFPUC staff shall:

- Develop processes to effectively engage stakeholders and communities in all SFPUC service areas.
- Develop and update a budget and staffing plan to implement and sustain the Community Benefits Program.
- Develop an implementation strategy to review, analyze and coordinate community benefits initiatives and integrate these initiatives into an agency-wide Community Benefits Program.
- Implement the Environmental Justice Policy that the SFPUC adopted on October 13, 2009.
- Develop and implement guidelines, metrics, and evaluation methodologies for existing and future community benefits initiatives.
- Develop diverse and culturally competent communication strategies to ensure that stakeholders can participate in decisions and actions that may impact their communities.
- Develop performance measures to evaluate the Community Benefits Program and report the results.
- Develop new and continue to implement existing initiatives to avoid or eliminate disproportionate impacts of SFPUC decisions and activities in all service areas.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission at its meeting of _____ *January 11, 2011*



Secretary, Public Utilities Commission