

**State of Texas
County of Bexar
City of San Antonio**



DRAFT

**Meeting Minutes
City Council Special Meeting**

City Hall Complex
105 Main Plaza
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Thursday, March 8, 2018

1:00 PM

Municipal Plaza Building

The City Council of San Antonio convened for a Special Meeting in the "B" Room of the Municipal Plaza Building. City Clerk Leticia Vacek took the Roll Call noting the following Councilmembers present:

PRESENT: 10 - Nirenberg, Treviño, Shaw, Viagran, Saldaña, Gonzales, Brockhouse, Sandoval, Pelaez, and Courage

ABSENT: 1 - Perry

Mrs. Vacek announced that Councilmember Perry was out on personal leave.

1. Briefing by CPS Energy on proposed strategic investments needed to respond to the evolution of the energy industry; changing expectations of our customers and community; and enabling new and emerging technologies. [Paula Gold-Williams, CPS Energy President & CEO]

Paula Gold-Williams stated that CPS Energy valued community dialogue and Thought Leadership regarding energy solutions and activities. She highlighted the 2nd Annual Future of Energy Symposium and presentations regarding conservation, local legislation, grid improvements, Smart Cities, and cybersecurity. She stated that CPS Energy's current

Diversification Strategy was effective in ensuring reliability and affordability by introducing a large amount of renewable energy balanced with existing traditional power plants. She noted that new technologies and energy storage were anticipated to replace fossil fuel generation in supporting renewable energy but the existing technologies and storage were not currently economical. She stated that CPS would conduct a 2018 Microgrid Study in conjunction with Southwest Research Institute regarding the combination of renewable energy and energy storage.

Mrs. Gold-Williams stated that traditional power plants were still necessary to handle customer load and growth while maintaining consistent generation levels. She noted that future generation paths would be more flexible as technology progressed. She highlighted the Save for Tomorrow Energy Plan (STEP) Program in reducing peak energy demand and preventing the need to build additional fossil fuel plants. She stated that CPS planned to add more renewable energy sources in the future but currently did not because of successful local conservation efforts.

Mrs. Gold-Williams stated that CPS ran a 2040 Flexible Generation Path Plan model under conditions that included earlier closure of the Spruce 1 Coal Plant, extended lifespans for Combined Cycle Plants, addition of renewables and battery storage, and inclusion of Flexible Generation in smaller increments. She noted that natural gas was inexpensive and set the "Price to Beat" qualitatively or quantitatively for the model's conditions. She provided an overview of the current traditional capacity mix and the anticipated 2040 capacity mix under both Traditional and Flexible Plan conditions. She noted that the percentages shown were not inflexible or finalized. She highlighted a 50% share of renewable energy and reduction in coal usage in the 2040 Flexible Plan. She stated that population growth and resulting demand could be met by increasing market purchases of renewable energy while still reducing coal usage over time.

Mrs. Gold-Williams stated that CPS offered 146 Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations across the city and would create a strategy for expansion with City Council input when demand merited it. She noted the presence of unauthorized stations that were charging high rates and created the potential for safety hazards. She added that they were in violation of the law by reselling electricity in areas powered by CPS Energy. She stated that CPS Energy was developing a framework for authorized installation with partner vendors when needed. She noted that CPS launched a second phase of the Roofless Solar Program to be awarded to a vendor in June 2018. She stated that the first phase sold out quickly with positive customer feedback.

Mayor Nirenberg thanked Mrs. Gold-Williams for her presentation. He spoke of the importance of providing stability to consumers and developing practical, forward-thinking strategies.

Councilmember Sandoval asked if the Spruce 2 Plant was currently operating with selective catalytic reduction. Mrs. Gold-Williams replied that it was. She added that based on conversations with Councilmember Sandoval, CPS would be considering the sustainability practices of vendors in their selection process.

Councilmember Courage asked if the agenda for the CPS Energy Board of Trustees had a standard procedure for public postings of their agendas. Mrs. Gold-Williams replied that every instance of a quorum of Board Members was posted in advance and available through the City Website. Councilmember Courage asked if there was a component similar to Citizens to be Heard available at Board Meetings. Mrs. Gold-Williams replied that there was not. Councilmember Courage asked of the Citizens Advisory Panel's (CAP) involvement with the proposed plan. Mrs. Gold-Williams replied that the CAP had not seen the presented plan in full but had reviewed components of the plan. Councilmember Courage asked why other entities had adopted fully renewable energy plans and CPS Energy had not. Mrs. Gold-Williams replied that other cities were fully renewable because they purchased rather than generated power, whereas San Antonio purchased and generated power. Councilmember Courage asked if CPS would install 5G transmitters. Mrs. Gold-Williams replied that they did not have a program planned for such installation. Councilmember Courage asked of changing power lines from above ground to underground. Mrs. Gold-Williams replied that underground installation and especially retrofitted installation was disruptive to streets and neighborhoods, expensive, and difficult to repair.

Sheryl Sculley noted that some other cities enacted ordinances requiring underground lines for future development and City Council could consider policy directing same.

Councilmember Pelaez asked that future presentations include more information on CPS Energy's progress throughout the years and commended them for their forward-thinking plans.

Councilmember Viagran asked how locations were determined for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations. Mrs. Gold-Williams replied that previous determinations were not based on standardized criteria but CPS was ready to develop a targeted installation plan and would bring present it at a later date. Councilmember Viagran expressed her gratitude to CPS for their efforts in Puerto Rico following Hurricane Maria.

Councilmember Gonzales asked how much of the grid's peak demand was influenced by cities other than San Antonio. Mrs. Gold-Williams stated that CPS did not target peak demand to have the ability to sell excess power and only a few other cities were included in peak because they were long-time customers. Councilmember Gonzales asked if burying lines could be incorporated into Bond Projects. Mrs. Sculley replied that the Bond Project

Budgets did not include funds to transition lines from above ground to underground. Councilmember Gonzales asked that future Bond Packages include that component and asked of the fiscal impact of aid efforts in Puerto Rico. Mrs. Gold-Williams replied that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) covered the majority of the relief work.

Councilmember Saldaña asked if CPS was still confident in its decision to close the Deely Coal Plant. Mrs. Gold-Williams replied that though they had made the decision based on factors that changed; the choice to close the plant was still the right one. Councilmember Saldaña spoke of the importance of community vision and thanked citizens for their engagement on energy issues.

Mayor Nirenberg thanked Mrs. Gold-Williams for the presentation.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Mayor Nirenberg adjourned the meeting at 2:38 pm.

APPROVED

RON NIRENBERG
MAYOR

ATTEST:

LETICIA M. VACEK, TRMC/CMC/MMC
CITY CLERK