



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

7:00 PM - Monday, December 12, 2022

Telephone/Video Conference only

Please Note: Per California Executive Order N-29-20, the City of Los Altos Environmental Commission will meet via teleconference only. Members of the Public may call (669) 444-9171 to participate in the conference call (Meeting ID: 885 3241 0111, Passcode: 615655), or

<https://losaltosca.gov.zoom.us/j/88532410111?pwd=Y3NSWHdhbmVRSVZPNGtjNDJJay9KUT09>

Members of the Public may only comment during times allotted for public comments.

Public testimony will be taken at the direction of the Chair and members of the public may only comment during times allotted for public comments. Members of the public are also encouraged to submit written testimony prior to the meeting to ECpubliccomment@losaltosca.gov. Emails received prior to the beginning of the meeting will be included in the public record.

ESTABLISH QUORUM

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Members of the audience may bring to the Commission's attention any item that is not on the agenda. Please complete a "Request to Speak" form and submit it to the Staff Liaison. Speakers are generally given two or three minutes, at the discretion of the Chair. Please be advised that, by law, the Commission is unable to discuss or take action on issues presented during the Public Comment Period. According to State Law (also known as "the Brown Act") items must first be noticed on the agenda before any discussion or action.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION

1. Environmental Commission Minutes

Approve minutes of the regular meeting of November 14, 2022.

2. Designate Chair Pro Tem

Designate another commissioner as Chair Pro Tem for the January 9, 2023, Environmental Commission Regular Meeting.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

3. Presentation on SB1383 Food Recovery Program

Presentation by Ciara Low from Joint Venture on Santa Clara County and the City of Los Altos' Food Recovery Program.

4. CPUC Net Energy Metering Solar Tariff

Announcement of the California Public Utilities Commission update from the Net-Energy Metering Tariff (NEM 2.0) to the proposed Net Billing Tariff (NEM 3.0).

5. Environmental Commission Work Plan

a. Reach Codes

Status update by staff.

b. Tree Protection Ordinance

Status update by staff.

c. MWENDO

Status update by staff.

d. Other Work Plan Items

Subcommittees to provide updates.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

6. Environmental Commission Work Plan (Continued)

e. Electrification Information on EC Website

Staff to provide status update followed by a discussion.

f. EV Fair

The Planning Committee will give an update on the status of the EV Fair followed by a discussion.

CITY STAFF UPDATES

7. City Staff Updates

Receive information and announcements from City staff.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

SPECIAL NOTICES TO PUBLIC

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Altos will make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at (650) 947-2720.

Agendas, Staff Reports, and some associated documents for the Environmental Commission items may be viewed on the interment at https://www.losaltosca.gov/meetings?field_microsite_tid_1=2261.

If you wish to provide written materials, please provide the Commission Staff Liaison with **10 copies** of any document that you would like to submit to the Commissioners in order for it to become part of the public record.

For further questions regarding the meeting proceedings, please contact the City Clerk at (650) 947-2720.

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS, HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2022, AT 7:00
P.M. TELECONFERENCE**

ESTABLISH QUORUM

PRESENT: Chair Delagneau, Commissioner Teksler, Commissioner van Reis, Commissioner Humayun, Commissioner Weiden

ABSENT: Vice Chair Hecht, Commissioner Lu

ATTENDEES: Council Member (Council Liaison) Neysa Fligor, Director (Environmental Services and Utilities) Aida Fairman, (Sustainability Coordinator) Tania Katbi, (Sustainability Coordinator) Casey Leedom,

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION

1. Environmental Commission Minutes

Approved minutes of special meeting of October 24, 2022.

Action: Upon a motion by Chair Delagneau, seconded by Commissioner van Reis, the Environmental Commission approved the minutes of the meeting of October 24, 2022, as amended.

The motion was approved (5-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Delagneau, Humayun, Teksler, van Reis, Weiden

NOES: None

ABSENT: Hecht, Lu

ABSTAIN: None

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

2. Presentation on Heat Pumps (GreenTown and SJSU)

San Jose State University students, Nickon Ghodoosian and Roger Bumgarner, in collaboration with GreenTown Los Altos, presented on heat pumps. This was followed by questions and comments from Commissioners.

Public Comment

Robert Henely, Jill Woodford, Ed, Katherine Cushing, Diane, and Hans Zeller provided public comment.

3. Solid Waste (SB 1383) Outreach and Public Education

Casey Leedom provided a status update, followed by questions and comments from Commissioners.

4. Environmental Commission Work Plan

a. **Tree Protection Ordinance**

Casey Leedom provided a status update, followed by questions and comments from Commissioners.

Public Comment

Jill Woodford provided public comment.

b. **EV Fair**

Casey Leedom provided a status update, followed by questions and comments from Commissioners.

Public Comment

Jill Woodford provided public comment.

c. **Other Work Plan Items**

Chair Delagneau and EC Subcommittees provided updates on various items from the workplan, followed by questions and comments from Commissioners.

CITY STAFF UPDATES

5. **City Staff Updates**

Casey Leedom provided updates on the City Council decision to fund additional Compost Giveaway events in FY 22-23, AB1276 outreach, and discussed commissioners' availability for the December and January meetings.

Council Member Neysa Fligor informed commissioners of Lehigh Southwest Cement Company's November 14th press release.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Chair Delagneau provided updates on the Complete Streets Master Plan. There were no other comments by commissioners.

POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. EV Fair
2. Presentation from Community Climate Solutions

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Delagneau adjourned the meeting at 8:39 P.M.



MEETING DATE: December 12, 2022

SUBJECT: Presentation on SB 1383 Food Recovery Programs (Joint Venture)

PREPARED BY: Tania Katbi, Sustainability Coordinator

REVIEWED BY: Aida Fairman, Director of Environmental Services and Utilities

BACKGROUND

Joint Venture is a nonprofit organization that convenes leaders in business, government, academia, labor and the nonprofit sector to find collaborative solutions to regional challenges. Regarding SB 1383, their Food Recovery Initiative manages implementation of the law's edible food recovery requirements on behalf of the County of Santa Clara and all 15 cities in the county, through the Santa Clara County Food Recovery Program. They also convene the Santa Clara County Food Recovery Steering Committee –composed of city and county officials, zero-waste professionals, nonprofits, corporate partners, and citizens, which oversaw the creation of the Food Recovery Program and is now focused on coordinating efforts and overseeing progress related to the recommendations in the Initiative's [*Making the Most of Surplus Food*](#) report.

STATUS UPDATE

Ciara Low from Joint Venture will provide more information regarding these efforts and the City of Los Altos' Food Recovery Program.



Santa Clara County Food Recovery Program

Overview, Annual Reporting
Results, Work to Date, &
Next Steps



Joint Venture
SILICON VALLEY

SILICON VALLEY FOOD RECOVERY



SANTA CLARA COUNTY
**FOOD RECOVERY
PROGRAM**

SB 1383 Goals

- By 2020, reduce **organic material** in landfills by **50%**
- By 2025, reduce **organic material** in landfills by **75%**
- By 2025, recover **20% of currently-disposed edible food** for human consumption.



Who is Regulated?

Tier 1

January 1, 2022

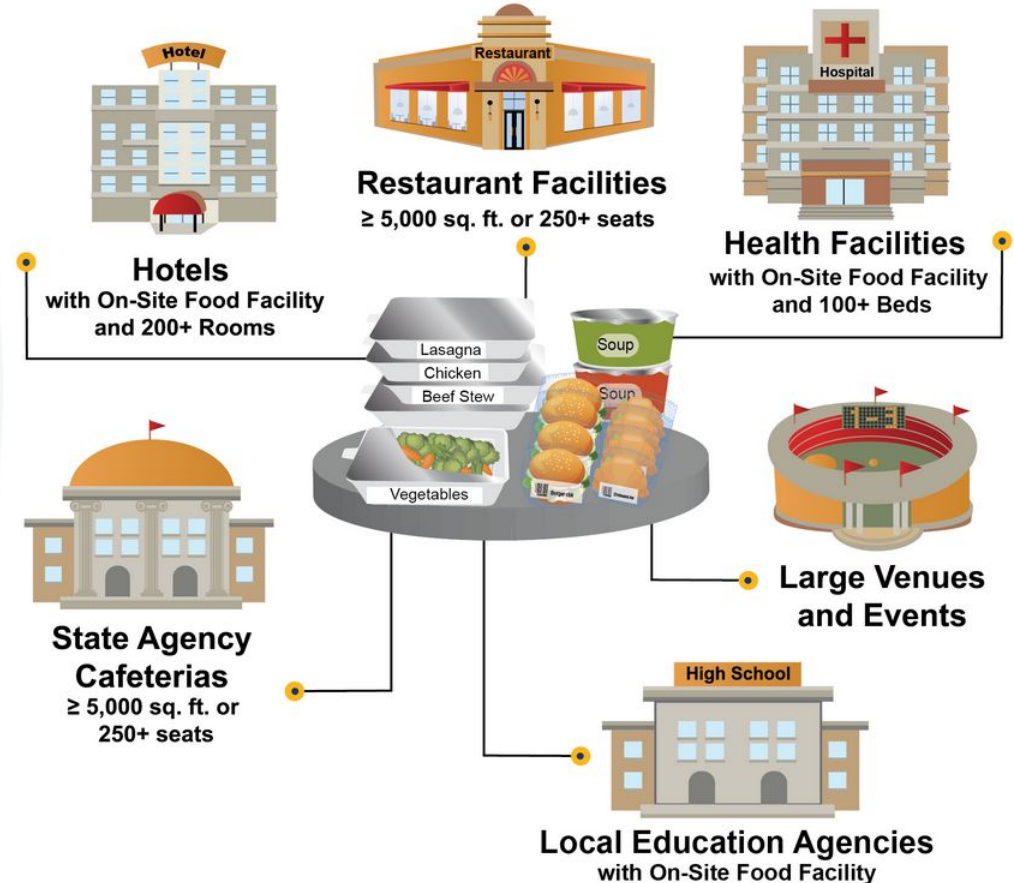
Tier one businesses typically have more produce, fresh grocery, and shelf-stable foods to donate.



Tier 2

January 1, 2024

Tier two businesses typically have more prepared foods to donate, which often require more careful handling to meet food safety requirements (e.g. time and temperature controls).



Who is Regulated?

	Los Altos	Santa Clara County
Tier 1 Entities	7	391
Tier 2 Entities	34	1,768
Food Recovery Organizations/Services	0	54

Santa Clara County Food Recovery Program



Unified Ordinance Approach



Regular meetings:

- Subcommittees/Steering
- Bay Area SB 1383 food recovery implementation (six counties sharing strategies and best practices)

Team:



- Supervising external resource teams (i.e. SCU Capstone, Climate Action Fellows)
- Hiring staff - Associate Director, Program Manager, and Outreach Fellow

Ongoing Programmatic Functions

- ★ Plan for Food Recovery Capacity
- ★ Provide Education & Outreach
- ★ Collect & Analyze Reporting
- ★ Inspect & Monitor Compliance
- ★ Report Program Information to CalRecycle

(The Program manages all SB 1383 jurisdictional requirements up to enforcement. Jurisdictions manage enforcement, with support from the Program.)



SANTA CLARA COUNTY
FOOD RECOVERY PROGRAM

SCCfoodrecovery.org



Home > Food Recovery

Recovering Your Surplus Edible Food: SB 1383 Food Recovery Program Compliance for Businesses

This website is designed to help you develop your own food recovery program in order to comply with new state regulations from Senate Bill 1383 pertaining to surplus edible food. Food recovery is the practice of saving surplus edible food that would otherwise be disposed of and distributing it to people to eat. We will walk you through the steps to compliance, important dates, and how to get help if you need it.

Quick Links

- Food Recovery Home Page
- 1. Confirm
- 2. Understanding SB 1383 +
- 3. Connect +
- 4. Contract +
- 5. Recover +
- 6. Track
- 7. Monitor
- 8. Report +

Monitoring & Inspections

Reporting Results

Food Recovery Reports Completed:

- 342 Tier 1 Businesses (87%)
- 54 Food Recovery Orgs (100%)

FROs reported recovering

9,764,987 lbs

Jan-June 2022

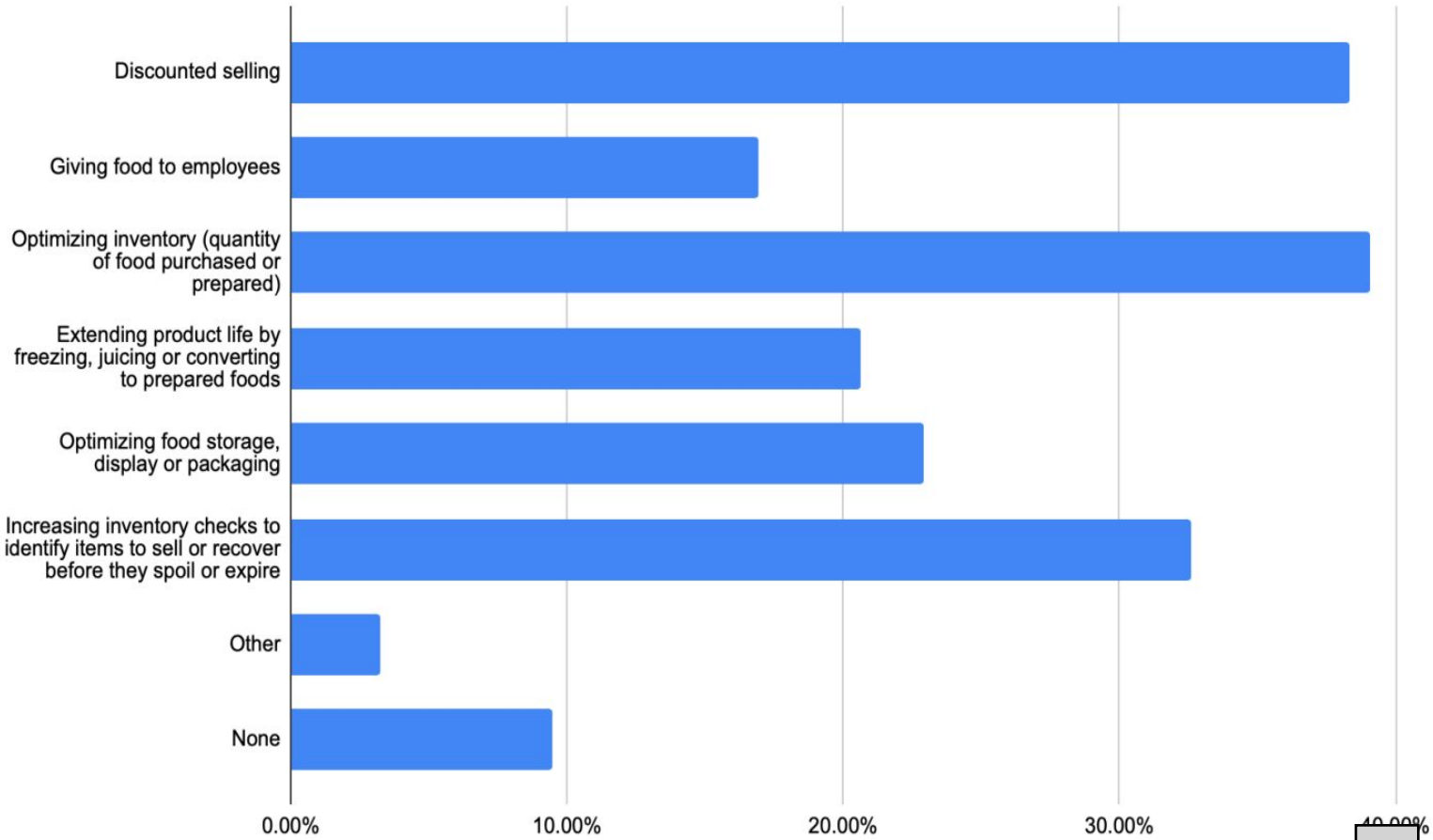
businesses reported recovering

4,936,252 lbs

Jan-June 2022

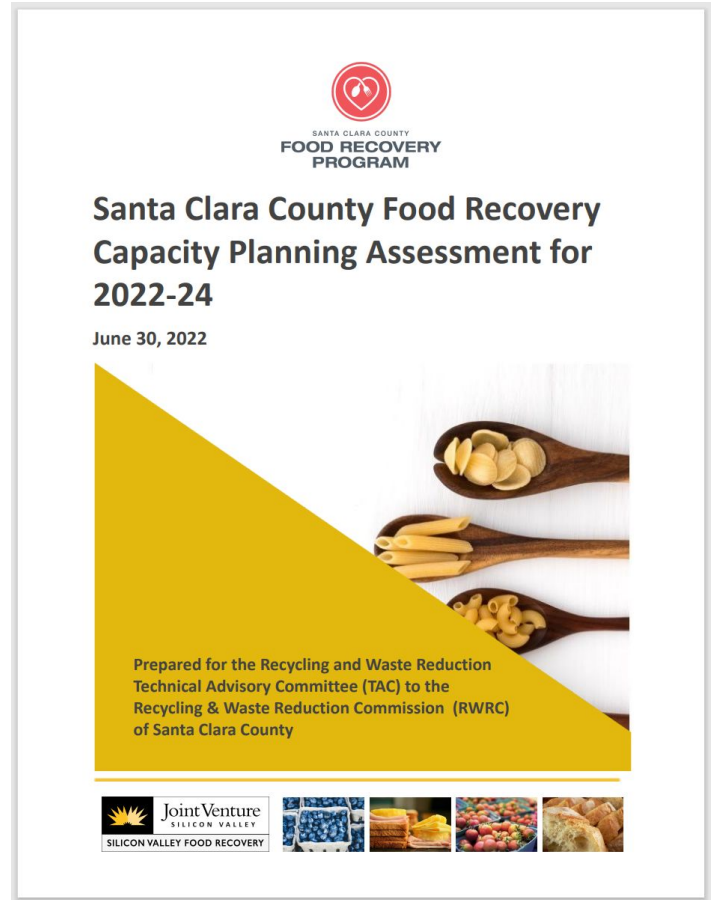
51 Inspections Conducted



Prevention Measures Reported (n=238)





Capacity Planning & Reporting

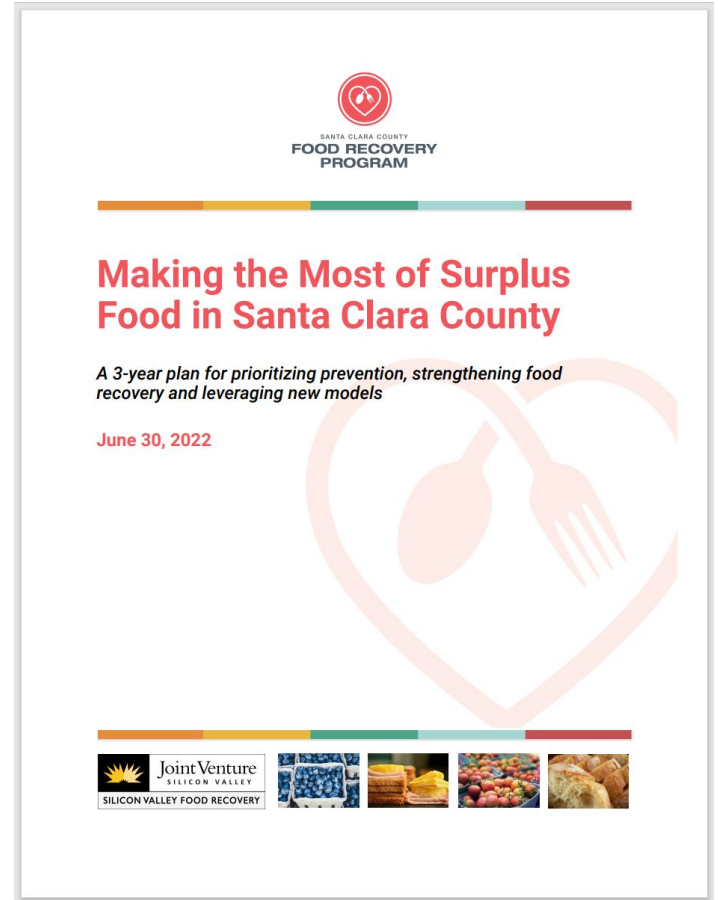
Capacity Assessment



-  **SB 1383 requirements**
jurisdiction capacity 2022-24
-  **Ample food recovery capacity**
(8,676-11,292 tons) for Edible Food Disposed (3,255 tons)

“Making the Most”

-  **3-year collaborative work plan**
beyond SB 1383 >> county-wide surplus of up to 24,000 tons
-  Roadmap for action, efficient resource utilization, & funding



What's Next?

In addition to regular Program Administration in 2023 (including annual education and outreach, list updates, and reporting), **we are also working on...**



Outreach and Education

Food waste prevention and safe food recovery best practice webinars and outreach



Capacity Building

Equipment grants for Food Recovery Organizations/Services



Food Recovery Program Long-Term Budget/Documentation

Full documentation of records, methods, and budgets for 23-24 and beyond



Governance / Long-Term Funding Mechanism Document

Identify preferred legal structure, governance document and municipal funding mechanism for Food Recovery Program long-term management

Questions?

Ciara Low
Program Manager
low@jointventure.org



SANTA CLARA COUNTY
FOOD RECOVERY PROGRAM

The screenshot shows the CalRecycle website page titled "Local Implementation Examples". The page lists four examples:

- County of Santa Clara:** Santa Clara County Food Recovery Program. [Santa Clara County Food Recovery Program](#)
- County of Los Angeles:** Edible Food Recovery Program Resources. [Edible Food Recovery Program Resources](#)
- City of Palo Alto:** Recycling and Composting Ordinance and Container and Compostable Bags Resources. [Recycling and Composting Ordinance and Container and Compostable Bags Resources](#)
- City of Oceanside:** Food Scraps Recycling Program Resources. [Food Scraps Recycling Program Resources](#)



MEETING DATE: December 12, 2022

SUBJECT: CPUC's Proposed Update to Net Energy Metering (NEM)

PREPARED BY: Tania Katbi, Sustainability Coordinator

REVIEWED BY: Aida Fairman, Director of Environmental Services and Utilities

BACKGROUND

On November 10, 2022, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) released a proposed update of the Net Energy Metering Tariff (NEM 2.0).

The proposed Net Billing Tariff (NEM 3.0) will feature changes to the current structure of NEM 2.0. If NEM 3.0 is adopted, it would sunset NEM 2.0 four months after the issuance of a final decision.

The Press Release, Fact Sheet, and FAQ are included in the agenda packet. To read the new proposal and learn more, please visit cpuc.ca.gov/nemrevisit.

STATUS UPDATE

The proposal will be on the CPUC's Dec. 15, 2022, Voting Meeting agenda.

Members of the public can comment on the proposal and view documents related to the proceeding at apps.cpuc.ca.gov/p/R2008020.



California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Terrie Prosper, 415.703.1366, news@cpuc.ca.gov

PRESS RELEASE

Docket #: R.20-08-020

**CPUC ISSUES SOLAR TARIFF MODERNIZATION PROPOSAL
TO SUPPORT RELIABILITY AND DECARBONIZATION**

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 10, 2022 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today issued a proposal to modernize the Net Energy Metering (NEM) solar tariff to promote solar and battery storage, grid reliability, and control electricity costs for all Californians. The update launches the solar industry into the future so that it can support the modern grid by incentivizing solar paired with battery storage and the adoption of electric vehicles, heat pump water heaters, and other electrification appliances while making rates more affordable for Californians.

The proposal:

- Supports the solar and battery storage industry;
- Saves a residential solar customer \$100 a month on average, and a residential solar plus battery storage customer at least \$136 a month on average;
- Controls electricity costs for all Californians; and,
- Has no impact on existing rooftop solar customers, who maintain their existing compensation rates.

The proposal improves the pricing structure and credits customers for the electricity they export based on its value to the grid. Under the proposal, average residential customers of Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Edison, or San Diego Gas & Electric installing solar will save \$100 a month on their electricity bill, and average residential customers installing solar paired with battery storage will save at least \$136 a month. With these savings on their energy bills, average new solar and solar plus battery storage customers will fully pay off their systems in just nine years or less. The tariff also works together with an additional \$900 million of state funding approved by the Legislature in

upfront incentives for residential solar plus battery storage adopters, with 70 percent of the incentives going directly to low-income customers. The proposal has no impact on existing rooftop solar customers and maintains their current compensation rates.

The proposal continues to support the solar industry while it pivots to a solar plus battery storage marketplace, which will bolster the local green energy economy. To support this evolution and the industry’s growth, the proposal provides extra credits to residential customer bills who adopt solar over the next five years, which allows the industry to gradually transition from solar-only sales to solar plus battery storage sales. The proposal does not include any charges specific to solar customers.

The proposed new tariff:

- Applies new residential rates to incentivize electricity use when it is most beneficial for grid reliability. These rates have significant differences between peak and off-peak prices to incent battery storage and load shifting from evening hours to overnight or midday hours. The rates promote technologies such as battery storage, electric vehicles, and heat pump water heaters, which are important for achieving carbon neutrality.
- Credits solar and solar plus battery storage customers for the electricity they export to the grid based on its value, as determined by the avoided cost to their utility of buying clean electricity elsewhere. This will incentivize solar exports during the late afternoon and early evening hours, particularly in the summer, when the grid is the most stressed.
- Provides extra electricity bill credits to residential customers who adopt solar or solar paired with battery storage in the next five years, which are paid on top of the avoided cost bill credits. Customers lock in these extra bill credits for nine years.
- Provides low-income customers more access to solar by providing a larger amount of extra bill credits to ensure the solar system payback is just as attractive as the payback for higher-income customers (nine years or less).
- Allows solar systems to cover 150 percent of a customer’s electricity usage to accommodate future electrification of appliances and vehicles.

Assembly Bill 327 (Perea, 2013) requires the CPUC to reform the NEM program, as well as conduct rate reform and distribution planning activities. Since 1997, California has supported the rooftop solar market through its NEM tariffs, which have enabled 1.5 million customers to install more than 12,000

megawatts of renewable generation. Due to the success of California's Renewables Portfolio Standard policies and the NEM tariff, California supplies a significant amount of its electricity needs during mid-day hours from renewable and zero-carbon energy resources.

To further reduce greenhouse gas emissions from electric generation, the proposal issued today incentivizes customers to install battery storage so they can store solar electricity produced in the daytime and export it in the evening, when the grid needs it the most for reliability and displacing fossil fuels. The proposal also controls electricity costs and improves electric bill affordability for all Californians by creating more grid value, with payments to new solar and solar plus storage customers calibrated to that value.

To read the new proposal (formally called a Proposed Decision), a fact sheet, Q&A, and more information, please visit cpuc.ca.gov/nemrevisit.

The proposal will be on the CPUC's Dec. 15, 2022 Voting Meeting agenda.

Members of the public can comment on the proposal and view documents related to the proceeding at apps.cpuc.ca.gov/p/R2008020.

The CPUC regulates services and utilities, safeguards the environment, and assures Californians' access to safe and reliable utility infrastructure and services. For more information on the CPUC, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov.

###



Fact Sheet:

Modernizing NEM to Meet California’s Reliability and Climate Goals

Proceeding [R.20-08-020](#) | www.cpuc.ca.gov/nemrevisit | November 10, 2022

CPUC Releases New Proposed Decision to Update the Net Energy Metering (NEM) Tariff to Support the Modern Grid

The Proposal Promotes Solar and Battery Storage, Supports Grid Reliability, and Controls Electricity Costs for All Californians

- On November 10, 2022, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) released a new proposal to modernize rooftop solar and storage through updated incentives.
- New residential customers installing solar will save \$100 a month on their electricity bills on average, and those installing solar and battery storage will save at least \$136 a month on average. With these savings, these customers will fully pay off their solar systems in just nine years or less.¹
- The proposal credits customers for the electricity they export based on its value to the grid.
- It financially incentivizes customers to install battery storage so they can store solar electricity produced in the daytime and export it in the evening, when the grid needs it the most for reliability and displacing fossil fuels.
- There is an additional \$900 million in state funding approved by the Legislature for residential solar plus battery storage adopters.
- The proposal does not affect existing rooftop solar customers, and it does not include any charges specific to solar customers.

The Proposal:

Promotes Consumer Adoption of Solar and Battery Storage

- The proposal financially incentivizes Californians to install both battery and solar systems as well as adopt electrification measures—like electric vehicles and heat pump water heaters—all of which support grid reliability.
- The proposal provides extra electricity bill credits to residential customers who adopt solar or solar paired with battery storage in the next five years. Customers lock in these extra bill credits for nine years.
- The proposal controls electricity costs and improves electric bill affordability for all Californians by creating more grid value, and payments to new solar and solar plus storage customers are calibrated to that value.

¹ The new proposed tariff would apply to Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), Southern California Edison (SCE), and San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) customers. A tariff lays out the electric rates and charges for a customer class.



- The proposal has no impact on existing rooftop solar customers. Existing solar customers will maintain their current compensation rates.

Supports the Solar and Battery Storage Industries

- The proposal gives time for solar companies and installers to transition to a thriving solar plus storage battery marketplace, which will bolster the local green energy economy. The proposal does this by providing extra bill credits to residential customers who adopt solar over the next five years, which allows industry to gradually transition from solar-only sales to solar plus battery storage sales.

Supports Equity

- The new tariff works together with an additional \$900 million in upfront incentives for residential solar plus battery storage adopters; \$630 million of the \$900 million will go directly to low-income adopters.
- It provides low-income customers more access to solar by providing a larger amount of extra bill credits to ensure the solar system payback is just as attractive as the payback for higher-income customers making it possible to pay back for the system within just nine years with energy bill savings.

Supports Grid Reliability Through Improved Price Signals

- The proposal applies new residential rates that financially incentivize electricity use when it is most beneficial for grid reliability. The rates financially incentivize technologies like battery storage, electric vehicles, and heat pump water heaters, which are important for achieving carbon neutrality.
- The new tariff also credits solar and solar plus battery storage customers for the electricity they export to the grid based on its value, as determined by the avoided cost to their utility of buying clean electricity elsewhere. This will incentivize solar exports during the late afternoon and early evening hours, particularly in the summer, when the grid is the most stressed.
- The extra payments solar and solar plus battery customers receive if they install systems in the next five years are paid on top of these avoided cost electricity bill credits.

Why the NEM Tariff Needs to Be Modernized

- Assembly Bill 327 (Perea, 2013) requires the CPUC to reform its existing NEM tariff. The CPUC partially revised the NEM tariff in 2016, creating NEM 2.0, and committed to return to the effort after obtaining more information. Accordingly, the CPUC initiated its current reform of NEM 2.0 in 2019.
- Since its creation more than 20 years ago, the NEM tariff has successfully enabled 1.5 million customers to install more than 12,000 megawatts of renewable generation. However, NEM 2.0 is not aligned with California's current reliability and climate change goals.
- When the sun starts to set in the late afternoon and early evening hours, output from solar declines, and other energy resources, primarily fossil gas plants, must ramp up and fill in the



gap to meet electricity demand. As a result, during the hours between 4 and 9 p.m., greenhouse gas emissions are at their highest. A new tariff structure that incentivizes widespread battery storage adoption will better support our current grid needs, because battery storage allows customers to save solar energy for use or export in the evening hours, contributing to grid reliability and the displacement of fossil fuels.

- NEM customers are connected to the grid and intermittently import and export electricity throughout the day. The new tariff updates price signals and compensation for solar and solar plus battery storage customers, which will improve these customers' interaction with and contributions to the grid.

Next Steps

- Parties may file comments on the Proposed Decision within 20 days and reply comments by 5 days thereafter, and the public may comment at any time on the [Docket Card](#).
- The Proposed Decision may be heard, at the earliest, at the CPUC's December 15, 2022, Voting Meeting. To confirm when it will be heard, see the agenda and hold list posted on the [CPUC website](#).
- If adopted, the Proposed Decision would go into effect for new solar customers four months after issuance of the final Decision. This will not impact customers currently taking service under the NEM 2.0 tariff.
- If adopted, the next phase of the NEM revisit proceeding will include a Ruling to seek stakeholder input on an evaluation of the new tariff, with a focus on customer affordability, equity, and grid reliability.



CPUC Frequently Asked Questions: Modernizing the Net Energy Metering Tariff (NEM) to Meet California’s Reliability and Climate Goals

Proceeding [R.20-08-020](#) | www.cpuc.ca.gov/nemrevisit | November 10, 2022

1. I am a Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), Southern California Edison (SCE), or San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) residential customer interested in installing rooftop solar. How would the Proposed Decision affect me?

If you install rooftop solar after the new tariff goes into effect, you should be able to fully pay off your system in nine years or less based on your ongoing electricity bill savings.

Under the proposal, the average residential solar customer will save approximately \$100 a month on electricity bills. Solar customers will also go on an electricity rate that will make it more affordable to add additional electrical appliances, such as heat pump water heaters, and take advantage of at-home electric vehicle charging.

2. I am interested in installing rooftop solar plus battery storage. How would this Proposed Decision affect me?

Under the new tariff, a solar system paired with battery storage will generate significant savings on your electricity bill. The payback for solar systems with battery storage is lower and electricity bill savings are higher. Under the proposal, the average residential solar plus storage customer should save at least \$136 a month on electricity bills. The Proposed Decision intentionally incentivizes customer storage because of the higher benefits it brings to both the grid and to the environment (relative to a solar-only customer system).

There is also \$900 million in State funding of upfront incentives available beginning July 1, 2023 for customers installing solar plus battery storage. These upfront incentives will decrease the payback for a solar plus battery storage adopter even more.

3. I currently have solar panels. How would this Proposed Decision affect me?

If the Proposed Decision is adopted, it will have no effect on existing solar customers. Existing solar customers will continue to remain on their current Net Energy Metering (NEM) tariff for 20 years after their system is connected to the electric grid.

4. Would the Proposed Decision increase the profits of PG&E, SDG&E, and SCE?



The proposal does not affect utility profits. Utilities only make a profit on investments in the transmission and distribution system. There is no profit on the sale of electricity because utilities are required to simply buy energy and sell it to customers at cost, without adding a profit margin on top.

5. Does this Proposed Decision include a charge specific to solar customers?

No. There are no charges specific to solar customers proposed in the Proposed Decision.

6. I live in PG&E, SCE, or SDG&E territory, but a local public power agency supplies my power. How would the Proposed Decision affect me?

Public power agencies, also known as [Community Choice Aggregators](#), or CCAs, purchase power for their customers and transmit the power using the utilities' electric grid. Your public power agency decides whether to offer you a tariff if you want to install solar or solar and battery storage. If they do, your public power agency will determine how much to pay you for the energy exported from your solar system and how much to charge you for energy imported to your home.

7. I don't have rooftop solar. How would the Proposed Decision affect me?

Even if you don't have rooftop solar, the Proposed Decision controls electricity costs and improves electric bill affordability for all Californians by reducing overall costs to the grid.

You are continuing to do your part to combat climate change by being a customer of a California utility or CCA because they are using your utility bill payments to enable new renewable energy projects to come online.

The CPUC offers several community solar programs for low-income customers and customers living in disadvantaged communities. If interested, please visit: cpuc.ca.gov/solarindacs.



MEETING DATE: December 12, 2022

SUBJECT: Reach Codes

PREPARED BY: Tania Katbi, Sustainability Coordinator

REVIEWED BY: Aida Fairman, Director of Environmental Services and Utilities

BACKGROUND

On September 6, 2022, the City Council accepted staff’s recommendation to readopt the existing Reach Codes to remain in effect after January 1, 2023, and return early next year with additional amendments to the Los Altos Municipal Code based on the recommendations of the Environmental Commission which were presented at the September 6, 2022, meeting.

STATUS UPDATE

During the November 29th City Council meeting, City Council adopted the updated California Building Standards Code (Title 24) with local amendments. These will continue to be in effect for three years or until the new Reach Codes have been adopted.

City Staff continue to work on the remaining three recommendations as follows:

1. Staff began conducting research on reach codes in peer and neighboring jurisdictions. As the new State Codes take effect on January 1, 2023, staff will continue to review and research what these jurisdictions have adopted.
2. A local cost analysis is currently being conducted with an anticipated completion date of the beginning of next year. After receiving the cost analysis, staff will meet internally to assess the results and begin drafting our recommendations.
3. Once staff recommend the Reach Codes to City Council and it is formally adopted, it can then be submitted to the CEC for review.



MEETING DATE: December 12, 2022

SUBJECT: Tree Protection Ordinance

PREPARED BY: Tania Katbi, Sustainability Coordinator

REVIEWED BY: Aida Fairman, Director of Environmental Services and Utilities

BACKGROUND

Staff presented initial recommendations on the Tree Protection Ordinance to the Environmental Commission Subcommittee on November 2, 2022. The Subcommittee provided feedback to staff. Staff has also been seeking information from a Certified Arborist to inform their recommendations for the Ordinance.

STATUS UPDATE

Staff has continued to meet internally with the Development Services Department to learn about the processes and procedures of Tree Removal Permits and has continued to research neighboring jurisdictions' policies on protected trees. Staff will also begin to work with members of the Subcommittee to assess the City's Street Tree Planting List.

Staff expects to receive proposals from three Certified Arborists by December 9, 2022, and will meet internally to review and discuss them. Staff will work with the Certified Arborist to update various policy elements of the ordinance and will bring updated recommendations to the Subcommittee by early next year.



MEETING DATE: December 12, 2022

SUBJECT: MWENDO

PREPARED BY: Tania Katbi, Sustainability Coordinator

REVIEWED BY: Aida Fairman, Director of Environmental Services and Utilities

BACKGROUND

In 2015, the Santa Clara County Water Efficient New Development Task Force (“Task Force”) was formed to develop a Model Water Efficient New Development Ordinance to be adopted by jurisdictions in Santa Clara County to ensure that new developments are to be water efficient in order to extend the region’s water supplies. In September 2018, Santa Clara Valley Water District, on behalf of the Task Force, procured the technical assistance of a qualified sustainability consulting firm to finalize the Model Water Efficient New Development Ordinance, with input from Task Force representatives, the California Building Standards Commission, and the California Energy Commission.

STATUS UPDATE

Staff met in November with the subcommittee, Valley Water, and their contractor, Green Evolution to get up to speed on MWENDO. City Staff also met internally with the Planning Department to review specific measures within the Ordinance and will meet with the Building Department in the next month.

Green Evolution is currently working on updating the Model Ordinance and will provide it to jurisdictions upon completion. Staff will review it and meet internally to discuss any critical changes.

Staff continues to conduct research on the measures and plans to meet with the Subcommittee again in December.



MEETING DATE: December 12, 2022

SUBJECT: Environmental Commission Work Plan

PREPARED BY: Tania Katbi, Sustainability Coordinator

REVIEWED BY: Aida Fairman, Director of Environmental Services and Utilities

BACKGROUND

The Environmental Commission Work Plan is intended to focus the Commission’s agenda items and align them with City Council priorities, and to serve as a roadmap for projects and actions, as appropriate, during the 2022/23 year. The Commission will review the targets, projects, and status updates at each of its monthly meetings and review its priorities every three to six months.

At the Environmental Commission’s regular meeting on August 8, 2022, the Commissioners discussed prioritization of the Commission’s Work Plan items upon request by staff and put forth the following priorities (listed in order) for review by staff. City staff have updated “EV Fair” to Priority #5 and “Greening City Operations” to Priority #6.

1. Reach Codes
2. Tree Preservation Guidelines
3. Water Conservation (MWENDO), Implementation of CAAP priorities
4. Update Environmental Webpage on City website
5. EV Fair
6. Greening City Operations
7. Assist staff with Outreach and Education Effort
8. Single Use Plastics
9. Gas-Powered Off-Road Engines

The prioritization of the tasks in the Work Plan and target dates will be updated by staff as needed.

STATUS UPDATE

City Staff are primarily focusing current efforts on the first three items listed above.

Subcommittees to provide updates on recent work related to the work plan.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
2022/23 Work Plan
Updated November 2022

Category	Priority	Projects	Assignments	City Priority related to
Climate Action and Adaptation Plan	N/A	Implementation of City's CAAP priority actions for year	Subcommittee- Bruno Delagneau, Raashina Humayun, Carl van Reis	CAAP Goals
Climate Action and Adaptation Plan	1	Reach Codes 2.0	Subcommittee - Tom Hecht, Laura Teksler and Don Weiden	CAAP Goals
Natural Resource Management	2	Tree Protection Ordinance	Subcommittee - Raashina Humayun, Shiaoping Lu, Carl van Reis	
Natural Resource Management	N/A	Urban Forest Management	Subcommittee - Raashina Humayun, Shiaoping Lu, Carl van Reis	CAAP Goals
Water Conservation	3	Public communication and outreach efforts, assist staff with MWENDO	Subcommittee – Raashina Humayun, Shiaoping Lu, and Laura Teksler	CAAP & Resource Conservation
Public Outreach & Education	4	Update environmental webpage on the City web site	Staff (webpage) Commissioner Carl van Reis (Energy & Water usage metrics)	Public outreach and education
Climate Action and Adaptation Plan	5	EV Fair	EC Liaison Carl van Reis	CAAP Goals
Climate Action and Adaptation Plan	6	Greening City operations	Appropriate City staff coordinating with CAAP subcommittees	CAAP Goals
Public Outreach & Education	7	Assist staff with various outreach and education efforts		Public outreach and education
Solid Waste	8	Single Use Plastics	Subcommittee- Bruno Delagneau, Laura Teksler, and Don Weiden	CAAP & Solid Waste Reduction
Climate Action and Adaptation Plan	9	Gas Powered Off Road Engines	Subcommittee TBD	CAAP Goals



MEETING DATE: December 12, 2022

SUBJECT: Environmental Commission Website - Electrification

PREPARED BY: Tania Katbi, Sustainability Coordinator

REVIEWED BY: Aida Fairman, Director of Environmental Services and Utilities

BACKGROUND

The electrification portion of the Environmental Commission webpage is meant to be a resource and guide for residents looking to electrifying their homes. Among other benefits, building electrification is a crucial step towards meeting the City’s climate goal of reducing or eliminating methane gas use by 2035.

City staff have been working with commissioners to update the Environmental Commission webpage to provide a new section specific to building electrification and solar energy. Staff and commissioners have gone through ongoing rounds of review to ensure the information provided on the website is accurate as well as easy to digest.

STAFF UPDATE

Staff will continue to work with the Environmental Commission to finalize the electrification and solar information for the website and plan for it to be posted by the end of December.

Staff is reviewing Chair Delagneau’s letter to the Los Altos Town Crier and will provide an update at the next meeting.



MEETING DATE: December 12, 2022

SUBJECT: EV Fair

PREPARED BY: Tania Katbi, Sustainability Coordinator

REVIEWED BY: Aida Fairman, Director of Environmental Services and Utilities

BACKGROUND

Goal 1.4A of the Climate Action and Adaptation (CAAP) Plan recommends the following:

- Develop a yearly EV fair with participation from local dealerships and owners.
- Develop a map of the city charging network and available dedicated parking spaces.
- Create a webinar series on EV ownership.
- Promote all available incentive programs and encourage their use.

The goal is to increase education and awareness of available EV resources and incentive programs.

STATUS UPDATE

City staff have continued to meet with the EV Fair Planning Committee (Sybil Cramer – Silicon Valley Chapter of Electric Vehicle Association, Suresh Venkatraman – GreenTown, and Commissioner Van Reis) to establish elements of the fair and coordinate next steps.

In the last planning meeting, the Committee confirmed the event will be held at the Los Altos Community Center on April 1st. The plan is to incorporate a ‘meet and greet’ model where EV owners will display their vehicles. Attendees can chat with EV owners, ask questions, and explore different features of the vehicles. There will potentially be E-bikes on display, as well as informational booths and exhibits. The EV charging stations at the Community Center will also be located next to the event.

EV recruitment is currently being conducted, with the goal of having a variety of EVs on display. The City of Los Altos (Sustainability Coordinators, Tania Katbi and Casey Leedom) are tasked with publicity in support from GreenTown (Suresh Venkatraman). Sybil Cramer is tasked with informational booth recruitment and Green Town with volunteer recruitment.

The Committee will continue to update the Environmental Commission at regular meetings as details become finalized.

DISCUSSION

1. Event start time and duration
2. Booth and vehicle layout
3. EV vehicle recruitment