

Taber, Toni

From: City Clerk
Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2021 8:31 AM
To: Agendadesk
Subject: Fw: Comments for March 25, 2021 Study Session - Google Downtown West Mixed-Use Development District Utilities
Attachments: SPUR Google Downtown West District Systems.pdf

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José

200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor
San Jose, CA 95113

Main: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

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From: Laura Feinstein <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 5:22 PM
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Comments for March 25, 2021 Study Session - Google Downtown West Mixed-Use Development District Utilities

[External Email]

Dear Sir or Madam,

Please find attached SPUR's Comments for March 25, 2021 Study Session - Google Downtown West Mixed-Use Development District Utilities.

Best regards,

Laura Feinstein

—
Laura Feinstein, PhD (she • her • they)
Sustainability and Resilience Policy Director

[REDACTED] (cell)

[REDACTED] (google voice)

SPUR

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3/24/2021

San José City Council
City of San José
200 E. Santa Clara Street
San José CA 95113

Comments for March 25, 2021 Study Session - Google Downtown West Mixed-Use Development District Utilities

Dear Mayor Liccardo, Vice Mayor Jones and Councilmembers:

On behalf of SPUR, I am writing to express support for Google's Downtown West energy and recycled water district systems, but we also urge San José to ensure that the district systems are well-integrated with the city's centralized systems for energy and recycled water.

Distributed systems such as district-scale approaches to supplying recycled water and renewable energy can, when properly managed, improve sustainability and resilience for the community. They can provide greater economies of scale than projects serving only a single building, while reducing losses during transmission and providing a local source of water and energy in case of disaster. In SPUR's report, *Future-Proof Water*, SPUR's board adopted the policy that Bay Area water managers should pursue demand management as a first priority, followed by supply augmentation approaches, including district-scale systems for recycled water.¹ Similarly, in SPUR's report, *Fossil-Free Bay Area*, SPUR's board adopted the policy that local government should encourage distributed energy generation and storage at all scales.²

While SPUR wholeheartedly supports district scale systems, we do emphasize two important conditions to our support for district scale recycled water. First, new private developments should pay for the extension of the centralized recycled water distribution system to their parcel whenever possible. Scaling up nonpotable recycled water in California's cities will require the expensive installation of an entirely new set of underground pipes for water distribution, informally known as "purple pipe." Extending the network of purple pipe throughout the city allows more users to connect inexpensively to recycled water supplies, and establishes long-term, easily-maintained access to recycled water for future property owners. Asking private property owners to fund the extension of the purple pipe system to their parcel whenever possible will allow the system to expand throughout the city without imposing the capital costs on San Jose Water

¹ Laura Tam and Sarah Jo Szambelan, *Future-Proof Water* (San Francisco, CA: SPUR, 2013), pp. 31. <https://www.spur.org/publications/spur-report/2013-03-18/future-proof-water>.

² Laura Tam and Sarah Jo Szambelan, *Fossil-Free Bay Area: A Cleaner Future for the Region's Energy* (San Francisco, CA: SPUR, 2016), pp. 51. <https://www.spur.org/publications/spur-report/2016-09-21/fossil-free-bay-area>.

Company's ratepayers. Second, distributed recycled water systems should be connected to and well-integrated with the centralized distribution system for recycled water to the greatest extent possible.

In the long run, we encourage Google and San Jose Water to work together to explore the possibility of the Downtown West recycled water system exporting treated excess recycled water to the centralized system. Creating a synergistic relationship between distributed and centralized water systems would be a pioneering next step in water resilience, if it can be done safely. It is of course paramount that any recycled water entering the system meet necessary water quality standards. This sort of two-way relationship between distributed and centralized systems is common in energy, both for solar and biogas energy, but has not yet been pioneered in the water sector.

SPUR urges San José to continue its world-class track record on sustainability and resilience by developing a portfolio of small, medium, and large-scale recycled water and energy systems for the city.

If you have any questions, please contact Laura Feinstein at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Laura Feinstein, Ph.D.
Sustainability and Resilience Policy Director
SPUR: Ideas + Action for a Better City

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (cell)

Taber, Toni

From: City Clerk
Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2021 8:24 AM
To: Agendadesk
Subject: Fw: DANG support letter for Google District Systems
Attachments: DANG supoprt letter for district systems.pdf

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José

200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor
San Jose, CA 95113
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From: Bob Staedler <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 7:52 PM
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Cc: The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <[REDACTED]> Kline, Kelly
<[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]>
Peralez, Raul <[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> District4
<[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]> Groen, Mary
Anne <[REDACTED]> Ramos, Christina M <[REDACTED]> Severino, Lori
<[REDACTED]> Smith, Henry <[REDACTED]> Lomio, Michael
<[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> Bert Weaver <[REDACTED]> Bill
Rankin <[REDACTED]> Edward Saum <[REDACTED]> Darnell, Harvey
<[REDACTED]> Sutherland, Kathy <[REDACTED]> Kevin & Karena Christman
<[REDACTED]> Laura Winter <[REDACTED]> Mary Pizzo <[REDACTED]> Norma Ruiz
<[REDACTED]> Sarah Springer <[REDACTED]>
Subject: DANG support letter for Google District Systems

[External Email]

Good evening,

The Diridon Area Neighborhood Group (DANG) would like to have the attached letter in the public record for the Google District Systems Study Session tomorrow afternoon.

Thank you,

Bob

Bob Staedler
Principal



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S Y N E R G Y

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City of San Jose
Toni Taber, City Clerk
200 East Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113

RE: Google Downtown West Proposed District Systems Program

The Diridon Area Neighborhood Group (DANG) would like to express our support for Google's proposal to develop utilidors in Downtown West. We are encouraged that Google is thinking big and taking an innovative approach to development of a sustainable and resilient community. Downtown West covers more than 80 acres and construction for traditional infrastructure improvements to support a development of this size would stretch way beyond its borders. Utilidors will reduce construction impacts to the adjacent neighborhoods and streets. We encourage Google and the City to have conversations with other developers of buildings over 80 feet tall in the greater Diridon Station Area to show their support for sustainable development and consideration for neighborhoods by joining the District Systems Program. Google's commitment to developing 80 acres has had a huge effect on the desirability of development in the area. The DANG supports equitable development agreements and standards throughout the entire Diridon Station Area and thanks Google for leading the way to develop a sustainable and resilient community.

Sincerely,

On behalf of DANG
Kathy Sutherland
Laura Winter
Mary Pizzo

cc: Mayor Sam Liccardo
Vice Mayor Chappie Jones
Councilmember Sergio Jimenez
Councilmember Raul Peralez
Councilmember David Cohen
Councilmember Magdalena Carrasco
Councilmember Dev Davis
Councilmember Maya Esparza
Councilmember Sylvia Arenas
Councilmember Pam Foley
Councilmember Matt Mahan