

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION
Google Downtown West Mixed-Use Development District Utilities
STUDY SESSION

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 2021

Consistent with the California Governor's Executive Order No. N-29-20, Resolution No. 79450 from the City of San José and the Santa Clara County Health Officer's March 16, 2020 Shelter in Place Order, the City Council meeting was not physically open to the public. Public comments were accepted via eComment, email, by phone/Webinar or online.

The Council meeting was teleconferenced from remote locations and convened at 1:30 p.m.

Present: Council Members - Jimenez, Peralez, Cohen, Carrasco, Davis, Esparza, Arenas, Foley, Mahan, Jones; Liccardo.

Absent: Council Members - All present.

Staff: City Manager David Sykes; City Attorney, Nora Frimann; Economic Development Director, Nanci Klein; OED Project Manager, Bill Eckhart; Director, Environmental Services, Kerrie Romanow; Director of Public Works, Matt Cano; Director, Community Energy Department, Lori Mitchell; Rosalynn Hughey, Director, Planning, Building and Code Enforcement, City Clerk Toni J. Taber, and Deputy City Clerk Ruth Krantz.

PURPOSE

To provide an update on issues and topics identified and associated with a district system as proposed by Google for its Downtown West project.

PRESENTATION

The City Council received detailed information on opportunities and issues associated with the proposed district systems plan and recommended conditions of approval. Sustainable opportunities for Google and the City to collaborate on an array of infrastructure including District Systems and the shared use of resources, that could be innovative and exemplary for future development opportunities in the City were discussed.

Economic Development Director, Nanci Klein provided an introduction, and OED Project Manager, Bill Eckhart continued with District Systems Alignment, an Urban Concept, including operational systems for Heating, Power, Cooling, Water and Waste and their integration. An orientation of the operation, including examples of thermal systems in major global cities and various microgrid options for electricity.

Director, Environmental Services, Kerrie Romanow, continued with onsite wastewater treatment and recycled water reuse. Director, Community Energy Department, Lori Mitchell went on to discuss microgrid options, electric distribution systems. Director of Public Works, Matt Cano discussed encroachment permits.

Economic Development Director, Nanci Klein continued with next steps, including council action on the City Electric Service option and on Downtown West.

Mayor Sam Liccardo opened the floor for public comment.

Public Comments:

(1) Roland LeBrun offered opposition to the City or PG&E having anything to do with this, noting it should be designed and operated solely by Google and additionally urged the introduction of a transportation element. (2) Paul Soto opined that Google has not proven themselves to be a ‘good neighbor’ and criticized the economic power and changes to the infrastructure that Google is making. (3) Blair Beekman spoke to the lack of a unifying system to this point, expressed cautious hopefulness and spoke against nuclear power. (4) Jeffrey Buchanan, Working Partnerships USA urged staff to address community concerns and delivering quality jobs.

Director, Environmental Services, Kerrie Romanow; Economic Development Director, Nanci Klein; Director, Community Energy Department, Lori Mitchell; Director of Public Works, Matt Cano and Alexa Arena, Director of Development representing Google, responded to questions from Council.

City Manager, David Sykes offered closing comments and thanked everyone on the team.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Sam Liccardo adjourned the Study Session at 3:16 p.m.

Minutes Recorded, Prepared and Respectfully Submitted by,



Toni J. Taber, CMC
City Clerk