

# AMENDMENT TO THE SAN JOSÉ MUNICIPAL CODE TO ESTABLISH A CLIMATE ADVISORY COMMISSION (ITEM 6.2)

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City Council Meeting  
May 2, 2023

Presented by

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Delivering world-class utility services and programs to improve health, environment, and economy.



*Environmental Services*

# BACKGROUND

- Climate Smart San José (2018) and Pathway to Carbon Neutrality by 2030 (2022) set and accelerated efforts in three focus areas: transportation, buildings, and power source
- City Council approved the formation of San José Clean Energy and its Clean Energy Community Advisory Commission (CECAC) in 2017
- The CECAC provides guidance on SJCE's services, planning, and programs.





# COUNCIL DIRECTION

June 2022: Return with a recommendation on establishing a climate commission.

Direction also:

- Provided key provisions to include around the commission's scope of responsibility and composition
- Directed merging with CECAC and allowing CECAC members to serve out remainder of their terms



# BACKGROUND ON CECAC

## Current CECAC Composition:

- 9 seats (8 currently occupied)
  - 5 members' terms expire at the end of 2025
  - 3 expire at the end of 2023
- Members can include:
  - 6 members of the public with:
    - Expertise in community outreach, policy advocacy, and clean energy programs
    - Representation from Industry, Labor, Education, Non-Profits, Environmental Associations, and Advocacy Organizations.
  - 3 members of the public
    - Ideally live and/or work in San José, but can consider others with expertise



# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

**General support for the City to establish a Climate Advisory Commission.**

## **Feedback:**

- Suggested allowing only San José residents to sit on the commission
- Suggested increasing the total seats from 9 to 11
- Suggested allowing subcommittees for discussion of other topics, such as climate resiliency and adaptation

## **1 Presentation at CECAC 2 Public Webinars**

### Invitees included:

- Local non-profits and community-based organizations
- Business associations
- Environmental & technical organizations
- Neighborhood associations
- General public

### Outreach tactics:

- Councilmember email
- E-mail blasts: 1,400
- Social media posts
- Print/digital flyer (Project Hope/PRNS/Libraries)

# PROPOSED COMPOSITION

Category	No. of Seat(s)	Special Requirements
Community Representatives	5	Community representatives (limit 1 per City Council district)
Youth Representative	1	Youth representative (14-21 years of age)
Special Eligibility Representatives	3	Technical experts with experience in clean energy, power planning, transportation, finance, climate science, planning and building, or environmental law
	1	Representative from a climate, environmental advocacy, or community-based organization
	1	Representative from labor, business, and/or educational institution
	<b>11</b>	<b>Total Proposed Seats</b>

# INTERDEPARTMENTAL INVOLVEMENT

The Environmental Services Department will lead this new commission.

To bring topics and respond to the Climate Advisory Commission's inquiries effectively, the Climate Advisory Commission will be co-led by the following departments:

- Community Energy,
- Environmental Services,
- Planning, Building, and Code Enforcement, and
- Transportation



# PROPOSED SCOPE

- Focused oversight on the Climate Smart Plan, with a focus on the Pathway to Carbon Neutrality by 2030, and climate adaptation efforts to:
  - Provide feedback on staff recommendations to the City Council and the Transportation and Environment Committee
  - Serve as a community voice in matters related to San Jose's Climate Smart and climate adaptation initiatives
  - Advise on San José Clean Energy's services and product offerings, Integrated Resource Plan, and programs





# RECOMMENDATION

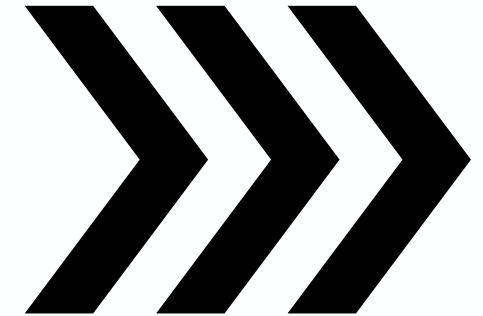
Approve an Ordinance of the City of San Jose Amending Part 21 of Chapter 2.08 of Title 2 of the San José Municipal Code to Establish the Climate Advisory Commission and merge it with the Clean Energy Community Advisory Commission effective January 1, 2024.



# NEXT STEPS

If approved, staff anticipates the following next steps:

- **July – October 2023:** Open Climate Advisory Commission applications
- **December 2023:** City Council approval of new Climate Advisory Commission members
- **January 2024:** New Climate Advisory Commission launches and CECAC is dissolved and new commission starts to meet.





An aerial night photograph of a city, likely Los Angeles, showing a mix of modern and older buildings. A semi-transparent blue rectangular overlay covers the left half of the image. The word "Questions" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font across the middle of this blue area. The background shows city lights, palm trees, and mountains in the distance under a dark sky.

# Questions