



MINUTES GLENDALE WATER & POWER COMMISSION

**CITY HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBER
613 E. Broadway, 2nd Floor, Glendale, CA 91206**

Monday, November 4, 2024, 4:00 PM

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 4:07 p.m.

Present: President Fay, Commissioners Jazmadarian, Kedikian, and Lowery

Absent: Commissioner Peterson

At President Fay's suggestion and with Commission concurrence, Item 6 "Reports - Information" was moved ahead of Item 5 "Action Items".

2. CONSENT ITEMS

a. Approval of the minutes for the following meeting:

- **October 7, 2024**

Moved by Commissioner Kedikian, Seconded by Commissioner Jazmadarian.

The Commission unanimously approved the October 7, 2024 Minutes as published.

3. GWP COMMISSION/STAFF COMMENTS

Interim General Manager Manuel "Manny" Robledo provided an update of ongoing matters related to GWP's Electric and Water operations. Mr. Robledo reported that everything in the distribution system is operating smoothly without any major issues; the Power Content Label (PCL) will be noted and filed by the City Council on November 19th (at the Commission's request, Mr. Robledo will provide a detailed presentation of GWP's resources and the cost of the resources and how they contribute to the load in Glendale); the Electric Department has been working with the Building and Safety Department to streamline GWP's permitting process by eliminating one of the final inspections by GWP which would save customers seven to ten days in getting their electrical modifications connected. Mr. Robledo addressed President Fay's question about cutting out an inspection without compromising safety or level of service. Mr. Robledo stated that the GWP Water Department will present an update on the Water Master Plan for Recycled Water and infrastructure replacement; GWP will also present an enhancement of GWP's Low Income Care Program, to the City Council, to increase funds to assist low income customers.

Ms. Dorine Martirosian, Principal Assistant City Attorney, reported to the Commission regarding President Fay's request to re-evaluate the date and time of future GWP Commission meetings. Ms. Martirosian stated that she reviewed the Glendale Municipal Code (GMC) and the City Charter and found no mandates that Commission meetings occur

on the first Monday of each month. Ms. Martirosian stated that neither the GMC nor Charter specified that it had to be on a certain date; however, the GMC requires a regular monthly meeting. GWP Commission could: 1) change the day of the meeting, provided there are no scheduling conflicts such as Commissioner availability, Council Chamber and GTV6 availability since there are several other boards and commissions, or 2) maintain the first Monday of every month, as currently scheduled, with the option of noticing a special meeting where a holiday or conflict falls on a Monday where the GWP Commission Meeting must be cancelled.

President Fay thanked Ms. Martirosian for the update and stated that it would be best for the Commission to check for alternative time slots and revisit it in the new year. Mr. Robledo stated that Mondays would work best, possibly the second Monday. President Fay concurred.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

5. ACTION ITEMS

a. Plan to Increase Solar Adoption and Develop Additional Distributed Energy Resources

Commissioner Lowery recused himself from this item, and was not present for the remainder of the meeting, due to a conflict of interest arising from the consultant company who conducted the solar energy study, Energy Environmental Economics (E3), being affiliated with Willdan who employs Commissioner Lowery.

Mr. Robledo introduced Ms. Ruzan Soloyan, Clean Energy Officer for GWP and Mr. Scott Mellon, Assistant General Manager - Power Management, who provided a review of the E3 Study previously presented at the GWP Commission Meeting on October 7, 2024. Insight and suggestions were sought from the Commissioners in order for GWP to present the Commission's recommendation to the City Council and address the various crucial topics (e.g., lack of communication regarding the high cost of implementing battery storage), in the findings.

President Fay requested for Mr. Eric Cutter, a Partner with E3, to incorporate topics that were in the full report, but not presented to the Commission, such as: local potential for solar at parking lots and larger scale solar projects in the City of Glendale, and the role of community solar for apartment residents.

Mr. Cutter provided a brief summary of the E3 presentation which evaluated the feasibility of main objectives and goals: ten percent customer solar adoption and storage by 2027; results of economic analysis of four scenarios including cost tests and scores; annual net ratepayer costs; findings related to the difficulty in achieving the solar adoption goals by 2027, and adoption of customer-owned solar and storage which will increase GWP rates (anticipated monthly bill increase of four to six dollars) for residents of low and moderate incomes).

Ms. Ruzan Soloyan, Clean Energy Officer, provided a brief review of GWP's findings, recommendations: net energy metering cost shift which will increase significantly and affect customers without solar; design and implementation of proposed programs such as In-System Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) with the proposed launch in November 2025; Comprehensive Residential Rebate Program implementing more energy efficiency rebates to assist customers with upfront costs - expected to launch in August of 2025; New Comprehensive Energy and Water Assessment and Installation Services to achieve more savings for customers - expected to launch in January 2026; solar adoption projections in Glendale by 2030. Ms. Soloyan also presented GWP's recommendations

for the GWP Commission’s recommendation to the City Council: accepting the E3 findings and endorsing the three proposed programs by GWP, and the amendment of Resolution No. 22-125 to reflect the recommendations).

Mr. Cutter, Ms. Soloyan and Mr. Mellon addressed questions by Mr. Robledo and the Commissioners regarding this report (e.g., explaining the cost ratio, and the cost shift from 2024 – 2054).

Ms. Dorine Martirosian, Principal Assistant City Attorney, assisted the GWP Commission with the options available to the Commission such as amending the Motion for Action Item 5.a and adopting the amended Motion.

1. Amended Motion recommending the City Council accept the findings of Energy Environmental Economics, Inc. and the adoption of programs aimed at enhancing demand management and Supporting a clean energy future, and recommendation to modify Resolution No. 22-125 for Council approval.

Ayes: President Fay, Commissioners Jazmadarian, and Kedikian

Noes: n/a

Absent: Commissioner Peterson

Motion Passed.

Public Speakers:

Vicki Kirschenballm (in person)

Jackie Gish (in person)

6. REPORTS – INFORMATION

a. Update of the 2024 Water Master Plan and Cost of Service Analysis

Mr. Chisom Obegolu, Assistant General Manager - Water, provided an update on the 2024 Water Master Plan (Recycled Water Expansion Plan and Water System Condition Assessment), and the Cost of Service Analysis (COSA) as part of GWP’s various water initiatives. Mr. Obegolu stated that in July of 2024, Request for Proposals (RFPs) were released for both the Water Master Plan and COSA; he discussed the RFP responses, and emphasized why the City is undertaking this project (e.g., L.A. County cannot exist without supplemental water which is primarily imported water supplies such as the Colorado River Aqueduct, L.A. Aqueduct - owned by LADWP, and the California Aqueduct). Mr. Obegolu presented detailed information on the State’s Water Project Allocation; the impact on the City’s groundwater system; seismic uncertainty; Glendale’s water supply sources from 1991 through 2024 - Glendale has been able to decrease its dependence on imported water supplies by increasing its groundwater and recycled water; the objective of the City’s Recycled Water Master Plan to continue to expand the use of recycled water through 2045; Glendale’s Water System (potable and recycled water system) and improvements to the City’s infrastructure, and engagement of the community by providing effective informational materials to target businesses since they will be impacted by the COSA.

Lastly, Mr. Obegolu summarized the RFP results (proposals received) and fiscal impact for the Recycled Water and Water System Plan and the Water COSA, respectively, and stated GWP’s recommendations to the City Council which are to authorize Professional Services Agreements with Arcadis U.S., Inc. (for the Water System Master Plan and Recycled Water Plan) and Raftelis (for the COSA).

Mr. Obegolu responded to the Commissioners' questions (e.g., why is there such a huge price range within the five firms who submitted proposals and their criteria; what is GWP's cost for pumping water uphill - elevation cost; is stormwater capture part of the Recycled Water Master Plan; what is the current cost that GWP pays per unit of water (acre-foot) for MWD imported water sources). Commissioner Jazmadarian commended Mr. Obegolu on a great presentation and stated that GWP needs to look at more sustainable supplies for the City of Glendale in order to not depend on imported water.

Ms. Dorine Martirosian, Principal Assistant City Attorney, explained that since Item 6.a is not agendaized as an action item, the Commission will not be able to adopt a Motion for recommendations, however it can endorse the program and what was presented for the Water System Master Plan and Recycled Water Master Plan, and the Water Cost-of-Service Analysis (COSA), and GWP staff can include the Commission's endorsement in the Council report to the City Council.

Commissioners Jazmadarian, Kedikian and Lowery and President Fay endorsed the recommendations, to the City Council, to move forward with the Water System Master Plan and Recycled Water Master Plan, and the COSA.

b. Average Energy Cost

Mr. Robledo provided an overview of the Average Energy Cost per the Commission's inquiry at the October 7, 2024 Commission meeting.

Mr. Robledo presented data on local resources: Grayson Power Plant, Scholl Biogas, Customer Solar, and DER Solar; he also provided data on external resources such as purchased energy and renewable resources. GWP is planning to add additional resources inside and outside of Glendale, and is planning to keep all of the newer resources carbon free or renewable by looking at import capabilities to Glendale and other alternatives to increase the amount of capacity that Glendale has through Los Angeles to give the City access to more renewable resources outside of the Glendale area.

Mr. Robledo responded to the Commissioners' questions relating to maintenance costs. President Fay, and Commissioners Jazmadarian, and Kedikian commended Mr. Robledo on a comprehensive all-inclusive and comparable cost metric presentation.

Public Speakers:

Jackie Gish (in person)

c. American Public Power Association Smart Energy Provider Designation

Mr. Bryan Salazar, Business Transformation Manager, provided a brief presentation on GWP's recognition from the APPA Smart Energy Provider Designation.

Mr. Salazar mentioned that GWP was recently recognized, at the national level, by the American Public Power Association (APPA) Smart Energy Provider which recognizes commitment to energy efficiency, distributed energy, and environmental initiatives. APPA has approximately 2,000 public utilities as memberships across the country, and there are 111 utilities that have gained this recognition as a smart energy provider. The City of Glendale has been a part of this program for the past three cycles, and designation will be honored from 2024 - 2027.

Mr. Salazar shared the plaque with the Commission and thanked the Public Benefits Charge/Marketing, Customer Service, Power Management, and Business Systems Support Departments for all of their contributions toward this recognition.

President Fay and all the Commissioners congratulated GWP staff for this achievement.

Mr. Salazar responded to the Commissioners' questions regarding this report (e.g., the number of public utilities relating to the six public utilities which were mentioned alongside Glendale to receive the award).

d. Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

Mr. Bryan Salazar, Business Transformation Manager, provided a presentation on the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure.

Mr. Salazar presented an overview and statistics such as: Low Carbon Fuel Standards (approved by the California Air Resources Board in 2009 and designed to reduce GHG emissions in the transportation sector); Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure; City Owned EV Charging Program; the 2024 Year-to-Date Average Utilization hour at the various charging stations throughout the City of Glendale when they are or are not in operation; City Owned Electric Vehicle Charging Station Statistics; Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Adoption in Glendale and Comparisons in neighboring cities (e.g., Glendale, L.A. County, Burbank and Pasadena); Zero-Emission Vehicle by population by zip code; ZEV population by zip code and EV chargers; design and plan review phase of project pipeline at the Sports Complex, Maple Park, Palmer Park, GCC Lot 34, Scholl Canyon Golf Course and Fremont Park.

Mr. Salazar discussed the future of Electric Vehicle Charging infrastructure and its complexities and costs associated with ownership and GWP's options to privatize future such charged station projects. He highlighted various locations to increase and install public access possibilities to Electric Vehicle Charging Stations (e.g., La Crescenta Pavilion; Trader Joe's in Montrose; Wickham Way; Montrose Shopping Park; Montrose Community Park; Chevy Chase Medical Center; Adams Square; Stocker Village; Pelanconi Park and Kenneth Village); Ratio of ZEVs to City Owned and Public EV Chargers; Electric Vehicle Charger Rebates; Incentivized EV Charging Ports by Zip Code; EV Population to Electric Vehicle Charging Station Ratio Comparisons to neighboring cities, and the next steps GWP will take to solicit Request for Proposals (RFPs) for City Owned Electric Vehicle Charging Station maintenance, network services, private development on City property, the permitting process for current pipeline projects, continue to enhance community outreach for EV charger rebates, and to evaluate City owned facilities for Level 2 and Level 3 EV charger installations.

Messrs. Salazar and Robledo responded to the Commissioners' questions (e.g., clarification regarding whether the RFPs are issued by the City or GWP; perspective chargers and parking issues - how will GWP deal with select locations for EV charging; the criteria and selection process for the locations for EV charging; would parking spaces be restricted to EV charging only; whether it is worthwhile to install more Level 2 chargers if Level 3 chargers are more effective; GWP's role and/or strategy in the deployment of EV charging stations; why residents do not taking advantage of rebates for chargers - better community outreach to better communicate with residents regarding rebates; whether the data that the City gets is different from the State in terms of zip codes relating to where electric vehicles are more utilized in Glendale, and how the City can incentivize rebates for multifamily owners/apartments (renters) who have electric vehicles).

7. AGENDA FORECAST

Mr. Robledo and the Commissioners reviewed the agenda forecast. There will be no Commission meeting on December 2, 2024 and no special meeting is scheduled. Due to the New Year's Day holiday, there will be no Commission Meeting on January 6, 2025; however, a special GWP Commission Meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2025.

Per Mr. Robledo, the Legislative Update will be moved to March 2025 (second Monday of the month, depending on the status of meeting date for Commission and if the regular Commission meeting date is changed to the second Monday of each month).

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn:

Moved by: Commissioner Kedikian

Seconded by: Commissioner Jazmadarian

Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.