

Utilities Advisory Commission

Application

Submission date: **16 November 2022, 12:00PM**

Receipt number: **5**

Related form version: **4**

Personal Information

Name **Benjamin Piiru**

Address

City

Postal Code

Cell Phone Number

Home Phone Number

Email Address

Are you a Palo Alto resident?

Yes

Do you have any relatives or members of your household who are employed by the City of Palo Alto, who are currently serving on the City Council, or who are Commissioners or Board Members?

No

Are you available and committed to complete the term applied for? **Yes**

Fair Political Practices

No

California state law requires board/commission members to file a disclosure of financial interests ([Fair Political Practices Commission, Conflict of Interest, Form 700](#)).

Do you/your spouse have an investment in, or do you or your spouse serve as an officer or director of, a company doing business in Palo Alto which you believe is likely to:

1. Engage in business with the City;
2. Provide products or services for City projects; or
3. Be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission?

Excluding your principal residence, do you or your spouse own real property in Palo Alto?

No

How did you learn about the vacancy on the Utilities Advisory Commission?

Other: I looked for the Commission specifically

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Read the code, and check only ONE option below:

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Alternate Contact Information - Address

Alternate Contact Information - Phone Number

Alternate Contact Information - Email

Personal and Job Experience

Please list your relevant education, training, experience, certificates of training, licenses, and professional registration.

(621 characters max)

I've been in the energy space for 17 years, at California electric and gas utilities, the California PUC, the California ISO, two renewable energy developers, and FERC. My experience is wide ranging and diverse, as I've seen energy regulation from all possible angles. I also went to law school for the express purpose of learning more about energy law and policy, regulation, and government practice.

Employment Information

Company/Employer Name

Nexamp

Occupation

Electric utility relationships

Is your Company/Employer your current one or last?

Current Employer

Please describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations, including dates and any offices held.

(1311 characters max)

I and my family just moved to Palo Alto a couple months ago. This will be my first attempt at taking part in my community.

Application Questions

1. What is it about the Utilities Advisory Commission that is compatible with your experience and of specific interest to you, and why?

(1449 characters max)

As mentioned, I have a wide-ranging set of experiences and skills that I bring to the table, all focused around utility regulation, climate change, and energy. The Commission is exactly the type of role I am hoping to give the most back to, and continue to sharpen my sword.

2. Please describe an issue that recently came before the Commission that is of particular interest to you and describe why you are interested in it. If you have never been to a Commission meeting, you can view archived videos from the Midpen Media Center.

(1449 characters max)

Archived videos are available from the [Midpen Media Center](#).

3. If appointed, what specific goals would you like to see the Utilities Advisory Commission achieve, and why? How would you suggest accomplishing this?

(1587 characters max)

Recent agenda items have included issues pertaining to climate change, either specifically or tangentially (see i.e., sea level rise, wildfire safety, etc.). During law school (graduated in 2019), my "senior thesis" for lack of a better term was focused on climate change mitigation, and I earned the highest grade in Climate Change Law & Policy. Climate change is the existential threat of our generation, and I am eager to find more ways to combat it beyond my current solar company day job.

I would want to strengthen the city's RPS goals, encourage energy efficiency programs, and reduce the city's overall carbon footprint. In my capacity as Commissioner, I would reach out to the City Council and advocate personally for stronger RPS goals. For energy efficiency programs, I would seek to reduce cost barriers to achieving energy efficiency in residential homes, and I would connect IOU and municipal resources to bring energy efficient solutions to ratepayers, particularly those in most need. Lastly, reduction of the city's carbon footprint more generally would include reaching out to renewable energy developers to hold seminars about services offered, and enable more education and outreach to the community. I would also advocate at the State level to encourage more ways for individual residents to save on energy and water usage.

4. Utilities Advisory Commission Members work with the **I'm familiar in so far as I have read them but have not** documents listed below. If you have experience with any **had occasion to "work" with them.** of these documents, please describe that experience. Experience with these documents is not required for selection.

(1035 characters max)

[The Utilities Strategic Plan \(2018\)](#)

[The Long Term Electric Acquisition Plan \(2012\)](#)

[The Gas Utility Long-term Plan \(2017\)](#)

[Urban Water Management Plan \(2021\)](#)

[Ten-Year Electric Energy Efficiency Plan and Ten-Year Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Plan \(2012\)](#)

[Sustainability and Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#)

[Fiber-to-the-Premise Master Plan \(2015\)](#)

If you'd like to provide any additional documents, please [Benjamin Piiru - resume.pdf](#) upload below.

Please confirm that you have read the Boards and Commissions Handbook. **Yes**

View the [Boards and Commissions Handbook](#).

Signature

Name of signatory: Benjamin Piiru



[Link to signature](#)

Date Completed

11/16/2022

Benjamin Piiru

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Nexamp, Palo Alto, CA

Director, Grid Integration, June 2021 – Present

- Lead the development and implementation of the company's interconnection strategy.
- Principal internal consultant and subject matter expert to 6 business organizations (Organic and Channel BD, Interconnection Engineering, Construction, Policy, and Legal) on issues pertaining to interconnection best practices, grid edge technology implementation, utility relationship development, and project timeline and cost troubleshooting.
- Advocate for company strategic initiatives with utility and state regulatory leadership.
- Manage interconnection-related issue escalations and disputes by way of utility and state regulatory formal and informal dispute resolution processes.

Southern California Gas Company, Los Angeles, CA

Supervisor, Energy Efficiency Policy, May 2020 – May 2021

- Led energy efficiency policy and compliance activities for the company.
- Oversaw the EE Policy team in the creation of data request responses, advice letters, compliance filings, and formal and informal regulatory comments.

SunEdison, Belmont, CA

Principal, Interconnection Policy, November 2014 – July 2016

- Led cross-functional project teams to address strategic issues and resolve complex electric distribution and transmission interconnection regulatory issues across North America.
- Oversaw the interconnection group as interim team lead.
- Managed the interconnection process for over 200 MW of solar projects across the country.

Southern California Edison, Rosemead, CA

Senior Regulatory Policy Analyst, August 2010 – November 2014

- Project managed various electric utility infrastructure policy issues at state and federal levels.

California Public Utilities Commission, San Francisco, CA

Junior Advisor to Commissioner Timothy Alan Simon, August 2009 – August 2010

- Advised the Commissioner and the senior advisors on policy issues in front of the Commission.

LAW SCHOOL INTERNSHIPS

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC

Braun Blasing Smith Wynne, P.C., Sacramento, CA

UC Davis Policy Institute for Energy, Environment, and the Economy, Davis, CA

California Independent System Operator, Folsom, CA

EDUCATION

University of California, Davis School of Law, Davis, CA

Juris Doctor, May 2019

University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

Bachelor of Arts in English; Minor in mathematics, August 2009

Utilities Advisory Commission Application

Submission date: **18 February 2023, 7:07AM**
Receipt number: **18**
Related form version: **6**

Personal Information

Name **Bob Wenzlau**

Address **[REDACTED]**

City **[REDACTED]**

Postal Code **[REDACTED]**

Cell Phone Number **[REDACTED]**

Home Phone Number

Email Address **[REDACTED]**

Are you a Palo Alto resident? **Yes**

Do you have any relatives or members of your household who are employed by the City of Palo Alto, who are currently serving on the City Council, or who are Commissioners or Board Members? **No**

Are you available and committed to complete the term applied for? **Yes**

Fair Political Practices

No

California state law requires board/commission members to file a disclosure of financial interests ([Fair Political Practices Commission, Conflict of Interest, Form 700](#)).

Do you/your spouse have an investment in, or do you or your spouse serve as an officer or director of, a company doing business in Palo Alto which you believe is likely to:

1. Engage in business with the City;
2. Provide products or services for City projects; or
3. Be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission?

Excluding your principal residence, do you or your spouse own real property in Palo Alto?

No

How did you learn about the vacancy on the Utilities Advisory Commission?

Palo Alto Weekly

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Personal and Job Experience

Please list your relevant education, training, experience, certificates of training, licenses, and professional registration. If describing work experience, please include company/employer name and occupation.

Bob has a Masters in Environmental Engineering and a Bachelors of Science in Civil Engineering from Stanford University. He is a professional engineer though not actively practicing as a registered engineer. Over the course of his career, Bob has worked in local government, industry, consulting, and as a business owner. His business, Terradex, Inc., a Palo Alto business, protects land globally from unsafe with remote sensing and other data services. Prior to founding Terradex in 2002, he was a founder and principal engineer of Pacific Environmental Group, Inc., environmental manager for National Semiconductor, staff engineer for EMCON Associates, and a staff member for City of Palo Alto founding the curbside recycling and composting programs. He also is an owner of Huxal Mezcal, a mezcal providing benefits to the firefighters of Oaxaca, Mexico.

Company/Employer Name

Terradex, Inc.

Occupation

Environmental Engineer

Is your Company/Employer your current one or last?

Current Employer

Please describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations, including dates and any offices held.

Bob completed a term as President of Neighbors Abroad since 2015. He was a founder and serves on Palo Alto Repair Cafe, the first repair cafe in the United States. He is currently on the board of Center for Public Environmental Oversight. He has volunteered on numerous city panels including the Zero Waste Task Force, the Blue Ribbon Compost Task Force, and the ad hoc Climate Advisory Task Force. He is a member of the Storm Water Oversight Committee. He has volunteered for the PTA providing bike safety training and mapping for safe routes to school.

Application Questions

1. What is it about the Utilities Advisory Commission that is compatible with your experience and of specific interest to you, and why?

The UAC holds purview of our water through the interest in supply, resilience, quality, fee and sustainability. This aligns with my experience as an environmental engineer focused on groundwater, storm water, sewer and supply. Bob is expert at carbon capture and drawdown, and the UAC has the capacity to develop drawdown approaches to complement electrification. Finally, the UAC is an integration between our community and staff, and my participation would support engagement and understanding, a shortcoming revealed in recent January gas rates.

2. Please describe an issue that recently came before the Commission that is of particular interest to you and describe why you are interested in it. If you have never been to a Commission meeting, you can view archived videos from the Midpen Media Center.

Archived videos are available from the [Midpen Media Center](#).

Two engagements with the UAC inspired my interest. First, I observed during staff presentations of Sept 2021 that the One Water program had no engagement from commissioners, and upon followup with a commissioner learned that experience in water was lacking on the commission. Additionally, when developing concerns about drinking water quality, found staff lacked engagement nor experience with drinking water quality, instead relying on representations from the SFPUC.

3. If appointed, what specific goals would you like to see the Utilities Advisory Commission achieve, and how would you help in the process?

I would support the UAC consistent with their mission and annual work plan. My goals would be to make the City of Palo Alto stronger as a water resource manager aligned with the One Water Plan initiative, provide more attention to our drinking water quality, develop a stronger integration between climate change and water resources, and develop a stronger carbon offset program to complement parallel activities of electrification. I would seek to build more local storage and capture capacity to create strong resilience. I would seek in the longer term that the UAC might assume a stronger mission and authority on climate change, and gain more authority from Council to leverage Council in areas of climate, electrification and water. I would strive to develop greater balancing of commission duties between the storm water management committee (underutilized and with capacity to water), and the UAC which is over utilized and lacks water resources focus.

4. Utilities Advisory Commission Members work with the documents listed below. If you have experience with any of these documents, please describe that experience. Experience with these documents is not required for selection.

[The Utilities Strategic Plan \(2018\)](#)

[The Long Term Electric Acquisition Plan \(2012\)](#)

[The Gas Utility Long-term Plan \(2017\)](#)

[Urban Water Management Plan \(2021\)](#)

[Ten-Year Electric Energy Efficiency Plan and Ten-Year Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Plan \(2012\)](#)

[Sustainability and Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#)

[Fiber-to-the-Premise Master Plan \(2015\)](#)

SCAP - Experience as a member of the ad hoc climate advisory committee, and as a contributor to offset development working with city staff and Neighbors Abroad to create the first agreement between Mexico and California for forest based carbon offsets.

Urban Water Management Plan - Developing a program for stronger organizational alignment to support objectives of One Water Plan (a component of the Urban Water Management Plan).

As you consider my application, my current service on the storm water committee should be balanced. It maybe that I can serve both roles. My interest is to support catalyzing evolution of our city to shift to greater focus on resource management (climate and water) while maintaining our fiduciary obligations to the rate payer as well as aligning with staff's interest in zippering committees to departments. I hope to contribute to this evolution.

If you'd like to provide any additional documents, please upload below.

[Energy-Water Commission.pdf](#)

[Palo Alto Drinking Water Solids.pdf](#)

[Announcing the First Issuance of Forest Carbon Credits to San Juan Lachao under the Climate Action Reserves Mexico Forest Protocol - Climate Action Reserve _ Climate Action Reserve.pdf](#)

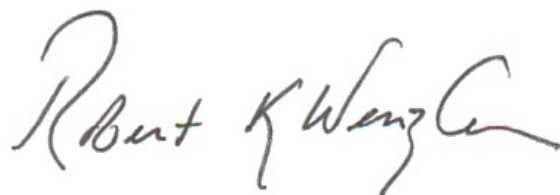
Please confirm that you have read the Boards and Commissions Handbook.

View the [Boards and Commissions Handbook](#).

Yes

Signature

Name of signatory: Bob Wenzlau

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Wenzlau". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" and last name "Wenzlau" clearly distinguishable.

Uploaded signature image:

[rk_w_signature_docusign.png](#)

Date Completed

02/18/2023

Proposal to Transform Palo Alto Utility Advisory Commission and Stormwater Oversight Committee into Energy Commission and Water Commission

June 25, 2022

Bob Wenzlau [REDACTED]

The City of Palo Alto is a resource agency given our ownership of our utilities which provide electricity, gas [methane] and water to our city. While a strong policy focus is set on climate/energy challenges, especially on getting rid of fossil fuels and electrifying everything, there is a lack of focus and capacity on our current water crisis. The water crisis has many manifestations - drought, flooding, and sea level rise. And it is, of course, inextricably linked to the climate/energy crisis.

This document outlines a proposal to transform the City of Palo Alto Utility Advisory Commission (UAC) and Stormwater Management Oversight Committee (SMOC) into an Energy/Climate Commission and a Water Commission. This restructuring is designed to more effectively and efficiently meet climate and water scarcity challenges in comparison to the current UAC and SMOC structures. In particular, a Water Commission would emerge with strong attention to the multitude of water challenges Palo Alto confronts addressing a lack of focus on the UAC.

This transition also contemplates the evolution of the current SCAP working group. The SCAP is an effective working group sponsored by the City council. The group is not burdened by the Brown Act, and has advised on technology, finance and communication. The group does not have permanent status, but has contributed to progress on development of SCAP programs.

Background

Palo Alto's current management of resources of Palo Alto is premised on somewhat arbitrary and historically evolved departmental structure, and not on the integrated resources themselves. The UAC advises Utility staff and the SMOC advises Public Works staff. The problem addressed in this proposal is that our greater sustainability challenges do not align with departmental structure, but rather with the resources themselves – electricity, gas, and water. Of particular focus is water, that while an integrated resource across the hydrologic cycle, is partitioned to multiple departments. Additionally, the climate and energy work of the Sustainability Climate Action Plan (SCAP) has inadvertently distracted and deprioritized critical attention to water.

The stated purposes of the commissions from the City of Palo Alto website are:

The **Utilities Advisory Commission (UAC)** is charged with providing advice on acquisition, development and financial review of electric, gas and water resources;

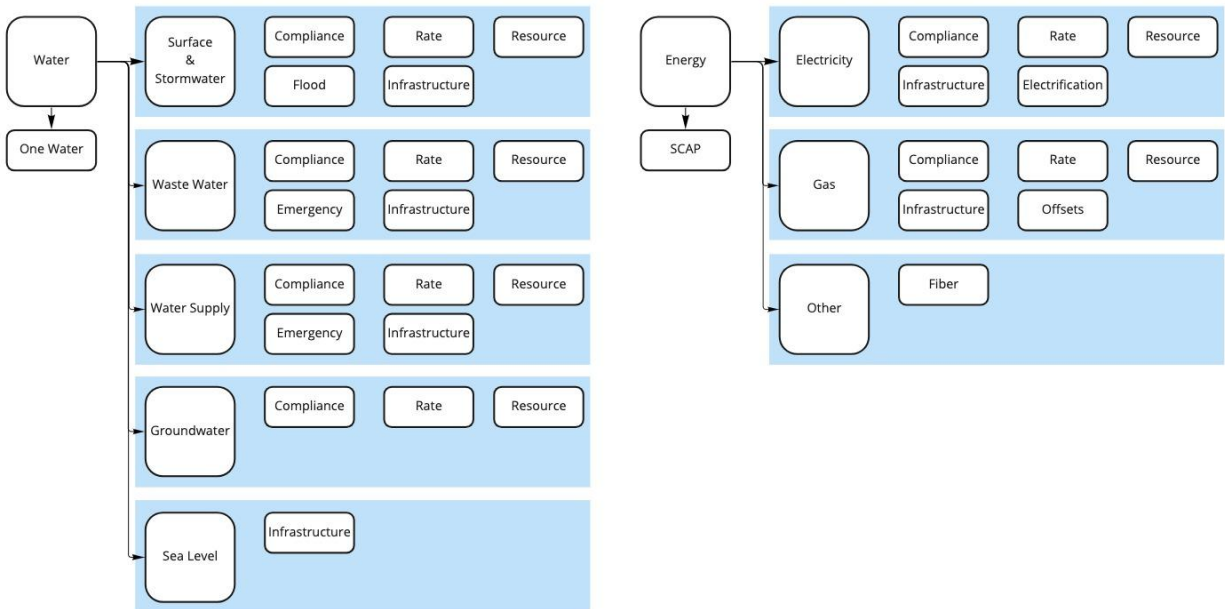
joint action projects with other public or private entities which involve electric, gas or water resources; environmental implications of proposed electric, gas or water utility projects; and conservation and demand management. Additionally, the UAC is charged with providing advice on the acquisition, development and financial review of the dark fiber network and wastewater collection utilities. As a highly regulated industry, there may be matters not listed below that will be presented to the UAC in accordance with current or future (local, state or federal) legislative requirements.

The **Stormwater Management Oversight Committee** reviews proposed stormwater management capital improvement projects, programs and expenditures that are funded by the Stormwater Management Fees. The City's Stormwater Management Fee, approved by Palo Alto property owners in 2017, funds a variety of projects to improve our storm drain system and reduce pollution to our local creeks and the San Francisco Bay. The Fee provides funding for increasing capacity and maintaining the storm drain system, green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) efforts, residential and commercial rebates, litter reduction, and flooding emergency-response services.

Proposal Shifts from a Departmental to a Resource Focus Oversight

A recommendation for a resource based rather than organizational based committee structure is offered. There are two triggers for this recommendation: climate and water scarcity. Our Sustainability Climate Action Plan (SCAP) has pushed a new burden on our energy systems to convert from fossil to electric sources. Water shortages have triggered a view to integrated water management. This increases the work of the UAC on energy, while at the same time One Water strategy is divided between the UAC and an underutilized SMOC.

The proposed change is to transform the UAC to the Energy Commission and the Storm Water Oversight Commission to the Water Commission. The portfolios are adjusted based on the resource - electric and gas to the Energy Commission and water to the Water Commission. Each commission would operate from an area of expertise.



Water Commission. A water commission would hold responsibility for all water resources and rates associated with the City. This would include water supply and storage, stormwater, wastewater, flood control, mitigation of sea level rise, groundwater resource management and quality. The commission would lead on the emerging One Water integrated resource planning program. The commission would interact with the Energy Commission on water supply versus hydro considerations, as well as the anticipated impact of our SCAP on sea-level rise that the Water Commission would strive to mitigate. A corollary focus would be on wildland fires given the need to provision water resources in the event of this major threat.

Energy and Climate Commission. The Energy Commission would manage electric and gas resources of the City. The Energy Commission is core to the principal approach on climate, being electrification of the gas services, and as such, assimilates Climate into the naming of the commission. The commission would be established as the long-term forum for SCAP planning knowing that SCAP considerations will touch all elements of city function.

The Energy and Climate Commission could assume the oversight of the SCAP working groups. This would integrate their actions into this overall organizational focus on an Energy and Climate Commission. While the UAC is central to climate mitigation, their role has been sidelined. This adjustment (under an Energy Commission) would align the public bodies guiding the City.

While the commissions would be separate, there would be multiple areas of overlay. Water is a basis of hydro power and a water resource for potable and nonpotable use. Water is pumped and treated, a source of energy use. Sea level rise and flooding are consequences of representative decisions of the energy commission. Points of interaction between an energy and water commission would be necessary.

An additional, but undeveloped consideration, is the lack delegated authority within our commissions. The City Council would delegate more authority to the Energy and Water commissions to relieve Council's agenda. Growing the delegated authority could leverage Council. This could include using the commissions to provide for representation on regional agencies. The commissions could set rate and energy/water policy with an appeal mechanism available to the City Council.

Impact on City Staff

There may be increased city staff burden as Utility staff would need to participate in both committees where now they would only join the UAC. However, the benefit of integrated resource management should generate a return on extra staff commitment.

Implementation via Colleagues Memo

Implementing this could be through a colleagues memorandum between City Council members. The memberships of the commissions need not change as each is already composed of expertise to the energy and water missions. Given the loss of two of the three council members, it could be prudent to develop this organizational change prior to 2023.

Conclusion. The success of the Energy Commission in electrification will be a driver of the challenges of the Water Commission. Sea level rise that the Water Commission lessens in impact toward the goals of electrification. There will be overlaps such as the balance of hydro as a source of clean electricity balanced against the impact on water supply to Palo Alto.

The organizational structure applied to climate and water scarcity is as important as the programs implemented. The “how we do it” and the “what we do” are both paramount to meeting the challenges.

FAQ (Some discussion and response of the proposal)

- The Stormwater Management Oversight Committee is a stipulated committee in the 2017 bond measure to fund the oversight of revenue to maintain stormwater systems. Can the committee assimilate other duties to support overall water resource management? A [Resolution](#) by Council anticipates but does not limit the scope of the SMOC. The citation in the resolution follows:

G. Oversight provision for proposed fee increase

The City Council would appoint an oversight committee to monitor and review expenditures for all storm water funding elements, including, but not limited to, Green Storm Water Infrastructure projects, storm water Capital Improvement Program projects, and Incentive Project funding and ensure that the money raised from the increased storm water management fee is spent in accordance with this resolution. The Committee would be empowered to consider and recommend consolidation of Green Storm Water Infrastructure and Incentive Project funding for particular projects. The City Council may choose to retain the members of the existing Council-appointed Storm Drain Oversight Committee to perform this oversight function. The oversight committee would report its findings to the City Council at least annually.

Author's Response: The discretion appears to exist to meet the ballot measure's requirements for a public body to assure proper spending of funds while enjoying a larger agenda. That discretion already is shown as staff requested use of the bond measure funds to support One Water consulting expenses. The City Attorney will need to judge whether this assimilation usurps the vote establishing the fund.

- **City Staff does not support this proposal.** Any commission takes an enormous amount of work, and the staff believes that this would require more work. The UAC was formed to advise our utilities, as we are unique in having a utility department. Sustainability has also emerged as a work area that also forms a work load.

Author's Response: The SMOC requires a high level of staff work relative to a small agenda. For relatively the same amount of work, the SMOC agenda could be broadened to include water. In parallel, the UAC, as transitioned to the Energy commission could include a large portion of the SCAP implementation, that of the electrification of Palo Alto.

- **What about Other Utilities not included?** There are certain utilities not encompassed by this model, such as the emerging fiber cable. Additionally the structure does not encompass zero waste/waste management.

Author's Response. Presuming that water and energy are delegated to the commissions, capacity would be retained on Council to manage these, and or these could be assigned to the Energy and Water Commission. For example, waste management might be assigned to the Water Commission given the participation of Public Works staff, while the fiber optic would be assigned to the Energy Commission given the participation of Utility staff.

May 8, 2021

Re: Request for the Utility Advisory Commission to Evaluate and Reduce Suspended Solids in Palo Alto Drinking Water

Commission Members,

This email develops concerns and makes recommendations to improve the Palo Alto drinking water quality. In short, Palo Alto's water is high in suspended solids (mud and silt) which consequently impacts health and maintenance. The City does not monitor for this occurrence nor does the supplier City of San Francisco Public Utility Commission (SFPUC). The recommendation in this email is for City of Palo Alto Utilities (CPAU) to evaluate and characterize the siltation, and if validated, create a modest capital project to install 5 micron filtration at the 5 points of connection between Palo Alto and the supplying water network maintained by the SFPUC. I hope that this can find its way into the UAC's work plan being prepared for Council.

Background

Palo Alto lives with a concept that our water is the finest in the world - Sierra water from Hetch Hetchy. Actually, while the source may be the Sierras, the water passes through several reservoirs where silts get entrained in our water, and is delivered "raw" to Palo Alto - no filtration. The water is only treated for bacteria by chloramination.

I learned first hand of this quality, compared experiences across the Crescent Park, and with a landscape contractor describing the general word on the street is Palo Alto's water quality is poor from suspended solids. (Suspended solids measure solids that are entrained in the water, while dissolved solids (TDS) measure solids (like salt) that dissolve in the water) However, Palo Alto does achieve state and federal standards, but like schools, achieving minimum standards when our health and thriving are core, is not the bar we seek to achieve. There are compelling reasons to do better, as I introduce.

I came to this issue by trying to address another water quality challenge - I sought to remove Trihalomethanes (e.g. chloroform - THMs) a bi-product of chloramination. The chloramination imparts a taste, and the THMs pose carcinogenic risk by drinking and inhalation in shower water. Their removal or destruction is via carbon filtration, but prior to carbon filtration, in order to preserve the carbon's useful life, one provides filtration of solids to 5 micron. Through this filtration I came to realize the sedimentation in our water.

Within 5 weeks my cartridge filter for the indoor water is spent (photos below). Initially I worked with Utilities to request line flushing on the street with no impact. Our water mains are new. While Utilities postulated a home issue, I queried via the CPNA group and found others afflicted by the same problem - many of whom gave up after the persistent siltation in the water. Others are burdened by the tedium of changing filters continuously.



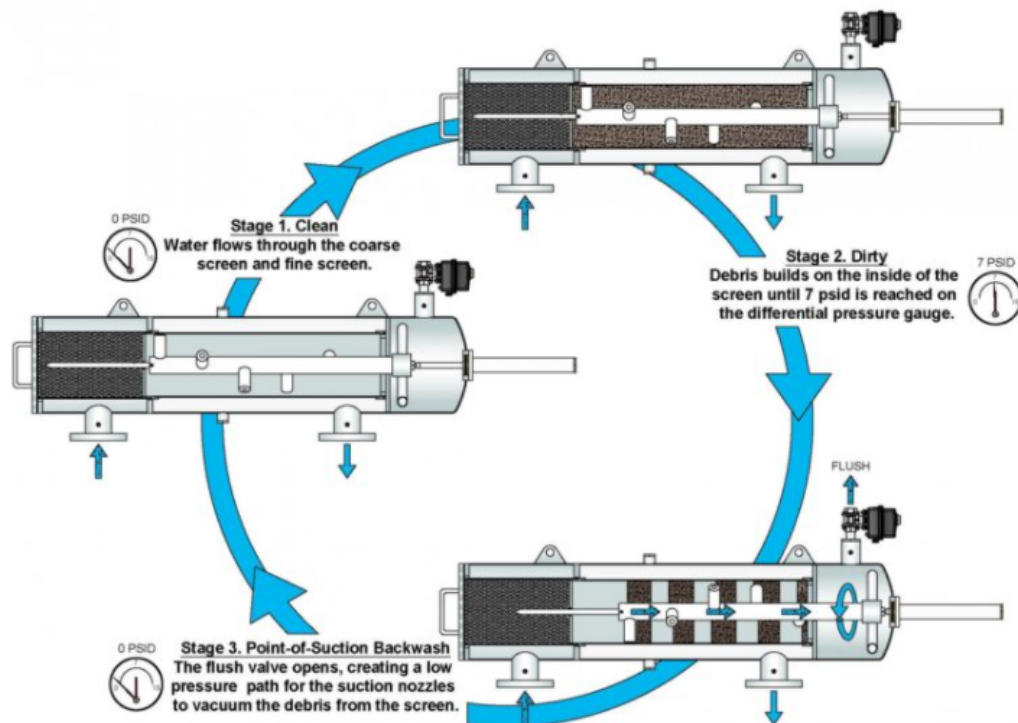
I worked with city staff who constructively engaged on this topic. I learned the reliance on SFPUC, I learned of the testing - and lack of testing for solids. I observed that the City's knowledge of drinking water quality could be stronger, in that we were too reliant on SFPUC. I began to evaluate the conventionality of municipal level filtration, and began to feel confident that there are steps that could be taken. (As background, I am an environmental engineer, and while drinking water is not my area of practice, I feel confident to develop this concern.)

Setting Direction

We are fortunate to have a water utility, and the ability to manage our water to the goals we could set as a City. I would ask the UAC or staff to start to analyze and engineer soon. This is a consulting engagement in all likelihood, however, I can forecast next steps.

First Analyze. The City should confirm the sediment load as Total Suspended Solids, a distribution of particle size, and the proportion that is inorganic versus organic. Why measure organics? As we chlorinate the water (and the chloramination drives the THM formation), the amount of chlorine demand is proportional to the organic load in the water. As such removal of organic load in our water, reduces the formation of THMs. The size distribution would inform any future selection of filtration.

Anticipate a Conceptual Design Approach. Each of the five points-of-entry into Palo Alto has the capacity to move 5,000 gallons per minute. (In total the City can utilize upwards of 15,000 to 25,000 gpm at maximum demand across all entry points.) There is conventional technology for continuous filtration to 5 micron (equivalent to what is needed to then apply carbon in a home). The technology has continuous automated backwashing that would remove the solids to a purple pipe or irrigation system. A representative filtration unit is \$125k, and installed and engineered may be \$500k. Therefore a total project could be \$2.5 million or with contingency \$4 million, perhaps with a \$200k annual maintenance. The annual water enterprise fund is about \$61 million per year, so this is a nominal expense.



There would be benefits to CPAU given a reduced need to flush lines as I expect tons of sediments from our raw water settle into our pipes. Homeowners and businesses would see less clogging of appliances, and more durability of drip systems that irrigate. The health impact would be significant given a reduction of THMs into the homes and businesses. And frankly our water would taste better.

My note is seeking to be constructive, and I have done my best with the understanding. I know our utility staff can carry this forward, but I believe it is up to the UAC or even Council to set this as a priority. I know that work plans are being put in place for the various commissions, and I would ask that this be introduced as a priority to start addressing within the 6 month plan. With data, we can better evaluate a concern, but now our City is unfortunately blind as there is no data collected to vet the anecdotal experience of residents and business.

I am ready to provide a presentation to the UAC, but as said, be a team player to work this with the support of staff. It just felt that to get the ball moving, I had to lift this to your attention. We can all learn a bit about water quality along the way!

Sincerely,

Bob Wenzlau





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[COMPLIANCE-PROJECTS/OFFSET-PROGRAM/](https://www.climateactionreserve.org/news/NEWSLETTER/) [MARKET-DIRECTORY/](https://www.climateactionreserve.org/news/NEWSLETTER/) [US/](https://www.climateactionreserve.org/news/NEWSLETTER/)

ANNOUNCING THE FIRST ISSUANCE OF FOREST CARBON CREDITS TO SAN JUAN LACHAO UNDER THE CLIMATE ACTION RESERVE'S MEXICO FOREST PROTOCOL

Announcing the First Issuance of Forest Carbon Credits to San Juan Lachao under the Climate Action Reserve's Mexico Forest Protocol

December 12, 2017



The San Juan Lachao forest project in Oaxaca, Mexico is near and dear to the hearts of Reserve staff members and others who worked on the project. It is a truly special example of how we can work together to address climate change and create real, lasting social, environmental and economic benefits for local communities. We're very pleased to share the story of the project through the below perspectives from partners ICICO, ANCE and the City of Palo Alto, as well as the perspective from the Reserve.



https://www.climateactionreserve.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/IMG_20161110_165529463.jpg

Climate Action Reserve:

By John Nickerson

The Reserve would like to announce that, at long last, it has issued 17,063 CRTs (net of buffer pool) to San Juan Lachao, Oaxaca for two reporting periods. The project in San Juan Lachao began in 2014 and became our proving grounds to finalize the development of our Mexico Forest Protocol, the quantification and verification guidance documents, and our computer data management and reporting tools. This is a major milestone for our work with the Mexico Forest Protocol and it is breaking the trail for many more credits to follow. We began the work to create a Mexican Forest Protocol in 2010. We quickly encountered unique challenges in Mexico that we didn't have in the United States, including the fact that most forest lands are communally owned and avoided emissions are managed at a jurisdictional level instead of the project level. Many additional challenges were confronted as we developed the protocol over a two-year timeframe with the assistance of many U.S. and Mexican stakeholders.

San Juan Lachao is an indigenous community in western Oaxaca. Many of the community members continue to speak Chatino, their local dialect. The economy is based largely on subsistence agriculture, with coffee and honey production, timber sales, and a little tourism providing additional economic resources. The San Juan Lachao Project is more than a committed effort to increase sequestration for climate mitigation. It has brought pride to the community. They know they are being talked about in other parts of Mexico. It has brought employment to the community as trained community members are responsible to manage the project inventory and will eventually handle other reporting aspects of the project. The project has been accompanied with biodiversity studies and has raised awareness within the community of the wildlife relationships associated with a well-managed forest. The forest carbon project will provide an economic incentive that will enable them to achieve a more productive forest in terms of timber production by rewarding them to maintain the best-growing trees in the short term.

We are grateful for the relationships that were created during the protocol development time that we continue to treasure today. We are grateful to the The Walt Disney Company, which provided funding to help support and develop the project. We only got the project off the ground due to the commitment, vision, and support of Carlos Perez, Teresa Tattersfield and their team at ICICO (Integradora de Comunidades Indigenas y Campesinas de Oaxaca – Carlos' consulting firm) and for their forestry expertise, organizational, and capacity-development skills. We owe thanks to Leti Espinosa of Pronatura Mexico for building relationships and facilitating the agreement with Disney. We are grateful to the men and women of San Juan Lachao, who gave us a chance to test our protocol on their landscape, engaged directly in developing the inventory, and always welcomed us into their community with exceptional warmth, good food, and a bit of mezcal. We owe a debt of gratitude to Pedro Morales of White and Case. Pedro is our pro bono attorney that helped us sort through so many legal issues. We are grateful to the City of Palo Alto, who is working with the community to purchase the first issuance of credits. A huge thanks to Cecilia Simon and Amy Kessler to get to this milestone. Their perseverance and dedication to making the protocol function is why we got to this milestone.



<https://www.climateactionreserve.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/DSCN1499.jpg>

ICICO:

ICICO, or the Integradora de Comunidades Indigenas y Campesinas de Oaxaca A.C., is a non-profit organization based in Oaxaca, which provides technical assistance to rural communities. ICICO was the Project Developer for the San Juan Lachao project.

La comunidad de San Juan Lachao Pueblo Nuevo, está marcando un precedente en la región, en estado, en país y en el ámbito internacional, no solo por ser la primera comunidad en realizar un proyecto forestal piloto utilizando el protocolo forestal para México de la Reserva de Acción Climática, por lo consiguiente la primera comunidad en realizar la venta de bono de carbono en el mercado voluntario internacional, contribuyendo de esta manera a la mitigación del cambio climático.

Cabe resaltar que este no es un esfuerzo aislado, es un esfuerzo conjunto entre los dueños del bosque, las organizaciones de la sociedad civil y la Ciudad de Palo Alto, quien en esta ocasión es la entidad que está comprando los bonos generados en el proyecto forestal de captura de carbono de la Comunidad.

En este sentido, queremos reconocer el papel importante que Disney ha jugado en este proyecto, así como a la Ciudad de Palo Alto por el esfuerzo en la adquisición de 17,000 toneladas de CO2 eq., a un precio justo, quisiéramos que municipios del país tomaran como ejemplo esta iniciativa y realizaran la neutralización de sus emisiones para estar a la vanguardia en el tema ambiental.



<https://www.climateactionreserve.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/DSCN1509.jpg>

ANCE:

ANCE, or the Asociacion Nacional de Normalizacion y Certifiacion, A.C., is a nonprofit entity in Mexico, which evaluates and certifies compliance with national and international standards and regulations. ANCE was the verification body for the pilot project of San Juan Lachao.

La participación de ANCE como organismo verificador del Protocolo Forestal para México de CAR surgió del interés que tiene la Asociación por atender varios aspectos en torno al manejo responsable de los recursos naturales en México; particularmente desde el área del manejo sustentable de los bosques.

A lo largo de 7 años ANCE ha sido el único organismo mexicano acreditado por la Entidad Mexicana de Acreditación (ema) para la certificación de la norma NMX-AA-143-SCFI-2015 (2008 hasta diciembre de 2015), la cual es uno de los esquemas con los que cuentan la SEMARNAT y la CONAFOR para evaluar el cumplimiento adecuado de las leyes y normas mexicanas que permitan el desarrollo forestal sustentable en el país.

La experiencia de estos años, cristalizada en la certificación de 183 predios forestales a lo largo de 11 Estados, se traduce en 1,060,478.11 ha bajo manejo sustentable, uno de ellos es la Comunidad de San Juan Lachao, Oaxaca.

Cuando nos invitaron al primer curso de capacitación sobre el Protocolo Forestal para México CAR que dio la Reserva en Ciudad de México, nos convencimos de las ventajas que representaría tener proyectos con un esquema reconocido internacionalmente, con garantía de estar verificando una captura de CO2 real, transparente, con salvaguardas sociales y ambientales adecuadas a la legislación mexicana y teniendo en primer lugar el desarrollo de las comunidades rurales. De esta manera, el involucrarnos con la verificación del Proyecto de San Juan Lachao, hemos recorrido un camino de mejora continua en la aplicación y verificación del Protocolo Forestal para México, desde su versión 1.2 hasta la reciente versión 1.5, lo que nos ha permitido conocer los aspectos técnicos, sociales y ambientales que implica el desarrollo de un proyecto como este, el cual es pionero en México.

A partir de la experiencia con la verificación del proyecto de San Juan Lachao también hemos podido sugerir la participación de algunos predios certificados con la norma mexicana, invitando a productores y Técnicos en los estados de Puebla, Hidalgo, México, Durango, Jalisco y Michoacán, así como a las delegaciones estatales de CONAFOR, PROBOSQUE y a la industria mexicana a conocer el protocolo CAR con la esperanza de que más proyectos se sumen para tener una red bien establecida de proyectos forestales de mitigación del cambio climático previo al inicio oficial del Mercado Voluntario de Carbono en México.

Puntualizando, tenemos un gran ejemplo en la comunidad chatina de San Juan Lachao, Oaxaca; dignos representantes de las comunidades campesinas mexicanas, que a pesar de ser consideradas las más rezagadas del país, pueden darnos sorpresas gratas con ejemplos de innovación y compromiso con sus recursos naturales y su comunidad siendo pioneros en el manejo sustentable y conservación de los bosques.

Ojalá que el proyecto de San Juan Lachao sirva como referencia fidedigna para que muchas comunidades más se unan a este esfuerzo.

<https://www.climateactionreserve.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/sjl-1.jpg>

<https://www.climateactionreserve.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/sjl-2.jpg>



Palo Alto:

By the City of Palo Alto

On Monday, December 4, the City Council will consider a resolution approving an agreement to purchase “carbon offsets” to help Palo Alto maintain its net zero carbon footprint. The City has been working with its sister city, Oaxaca, Mexico on various sustainability issues and during that process learned about a forestry project that produces high-quality carbon offsets managed by the Integrative Organization of Oaxaca Indigenous and Agricultural Communities (ICICO). Carbon offsets are a form of trade to fund projects that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. In this case, carbon offsets are generated through monitored and verified increases to forest stock that result in carbon being sequestered in trees rather than released to the atmosphere.

The City will purchase 17,000 tons of carbon offsets from ICICO. Palo Alto’s \$136,000 investment is supporting conservation and restoration activities within 5,900 acres of native forest and will neutralize about 10 percent of the City’s annual emissions from natural gas use. The remaining offsets will be purchased from projects here in the U.S.

Revenue from the sale of carbon offsets through ICICO’s program also provides multiple co-benefits for the Oaxacan community including fire protection, tree care, fresh water spring recharge, and transportation and equipment for local schools.

Palo Alto has been providing 100 percent carbon neutral electricity since 2013. In July, the City also began offsetting 100 percent of its natural gas carbon omissions through carbon reduction projects like this one in Mexico. You can learn more about that [here](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/depts/utl/residents/sustainablehome/carbon_neutral/default.asp) (http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/depts/utl/residents/sustainablehome/carbon_neutral/default.asp).

The “carbon offsets” generated by the Oaxaca forestry project are similar to those contemplated by the [Carbon Neutral Natural Gas Plan](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/54160) (<http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/54160>) that was adopted by the City in 2016. The Mexican forestry project protocol was developed by Climate Action Reserve, one of the largest offset registries in North America that is used by the California Air Resources Board. You can read the full staff report [here](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62302) (<http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62302>) to learn more.



(<https://www.climateactionreserve.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/sjl-5.jpg>).



(<https://www.climateactionreserve.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/sjl-3.jpg>).

Tags: [Natural & Working Lands, including Forests](https://www.climateactionreserve.org/blog/tag/natural-and-working-lands/) (<https://www.climateactionreserve.org/blog/tag/natural-and-working-lands/>), [offsets](https://www.climateactionreserve.org/blog/tag/offsets/) (<https://www.climateactionreserve.org/blog/tag/offsets/>), [Reserve program & staff](https://www.climateactionreserve.org/blog/tag/reserve-program-and-staff/) (<https://www.climateactionreserve.org/blog/tag/reserve-program-and-staff/>).

NEWSLETTER SIGN UP ([HTTPS://WWW.CLIMATEACTIONRESERVE.ORG/NEWS-AND-EVENTS/NEWSLETTER/](https://www.climateactionreserve.org/news-and-events/newsletter/)) |
 CONTACT ([HTTPS://WWW.CLIMATEACTIONRESERVE.ORG/CONTACT-US](https://www.climateactionreserve.org/contact-us)) |
 SUPPORT THE RESERVE ([HTTPS://WWW.CLIMATEACTIONRESERVE.ORG/ABOUT-US/SUPPORT-THE-RESERVE/](https://www.climateactionreserve.org/about-us/support-the-reserve/))

Utilities Advisory Commission Application

Submission date: 25 February 2023, 1:41AM
Receipt number: 23
Related form version: 6

Personal Information

Name	Chris Tucher
Address	
City	
Postal Code	
Cell Phone Number	
Home Phone Number	
Email Address	
Are you a Palo Alto resident?	Yes
Do you have any relatives or members of your household who are employed by the City of Palo Alto, who are currently serving on the City Council, or who are Commissioners or Board Members?	No
Are you available and committed to complete the term applied for?	Yes

Fair Political Practices

No

California state law requires board/commission members to file a disclosure of financial interests ([Fair Political Practices Commission, Conflict of Interest, Form 700](#)).

Do you/your spouse have an investment in, or do you or your spouse serve as an officer or director of, a company doing business in Palo Alto which you believe is likely to:

1. Engage in business with the City;
2. Provide products or services for City projects; or
3. Be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission?

Excluding your principal residence, do you or your spouse own real property in Palo Alto?

No

How did you learn about the vacancy on the Utilities Advisory Commission?

Other: John Kelley

Consent to Publish Personal Information on the City of Palo Alto Website

Read the code, and check only ONE option below:

I request that the City of Palo Alto redact my home address, phone numbers, and email address from the attached Board and Commission Application prior to posting to the City's website.

Personal and Job Experience

Please list your relevant education, training, experience, certificates of training, licenses, and professional registration. If describing work experience, please include company/employer name and occupation.

BA: Occidental College

MBA: Harvard

Professional experience:

-Internet technology sales and marketing executive, 1995-2006, incl. Netscape and LookSmart (both public companies)

-Healthcare and health-tech sales and marketing executive and co-founder, 2006-2021, incl. Healthline and Conversa Health (acquired by American Well, a public company)

-De Anza College, 2018-2020, adjunct professor, Marketing

-Self-employed consultant - including grid and long-duration battery startup

Company/Employer Name

Self-employed

Occupation

Consultant

Is your Company/Employer your current one or last?

Current Employer

Please describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations, including dates and any offices held.

None to date

Application Questions

1. What is it about the Utilities Advisory Commission that is compatible with your experience and of specific interest to you, and why?

After a career in tech and health-tech, I've recently begun working in the field of energy and electric grid, including consulting engagements with young startups in the sector: a long-duration battery storage company and a grid advisory company. My top interest on the commission would be issues around energy usage, power sourcing and the electrical grid. That said, my interest extends to all aspects of Palo Alto utilities, including gas pricing, fiber-broadband plan and water management.

2. Please describe an issue that recently came before the Commission that is of particular interest to you and describe why you are interested in it. If you have never been to a Commission meeting, you can view archived videos from the Midpen Media Center.

Archived videos are available from the [Midpen Media Center](#).

eral key issues, just a few of which are:

-Timeframe appears, loosely, to be 5 years to completion (residential areas), but only after a 2yr planning phase, so that completion isn't until 2030. Is that unreasonably long?

-Household load 15+ years in future: Do we have solid assumptions and scenarios for load trends? Might load actually fall as "self consumption" and microgrid storage rises?

-How do important future technologies like grid-level battery storage or vehicle-to-grid fit into CPAU's modernization plan?

-What it will take for CPAU to persuasively educate residents on implementing solar and "self consumption" methods (e.g., battery, grid forming inverter) in their homes?

Grid modernization and CPAU's planning process -- incl. transmitter upgrades, staffing challenges, load monitoring -- are important to me because (1) the cost will be vast (\$80M+?) and (2) our grid will be vital to enabling the city's sustainability goals.

3. If appointed, what specific goals would you like to see the Utilities Advisory Commission achieve, and how would you help in the process?

I realize the commission has a broad set of goals. I'll just call out two. They seem related:

1) Ensure CPA has a good plan for grid modernization, based on well-reasoned assumptions, flexible scenarios, and clear short-term milestones. We need a "grid for tomorrow" that can support more robust transmission and better load management to allow for, among other things, hourly renewable energy matching (not year-end true-ups); smart use of battery storage (incl. Solar+Storage PPAs); vehicle-to-grid two-way charging and the complex billing issues that accompany it.

2) More briefly, enable CPA to hit its 2030 energy and sustainability goals ... because today, in my view, the community seems not to have much confidence, or clear understanding of how, we will do that.

I think I can help toward these goals because I have executive leadership experience, because I have at least a modest understanding of the technical and budgetary aspects, and because I can communicate well.

4. Utilities Advisory Commission Members work with the documents listed below. If you have experience with any of these documents, please describe that experience. Experience with these documents is not required for selection.

[The Utilities Strategic Plan \(2018\)](#)

[The Long Term Electric Acquisition Plan \(2012\)](#)

[The Gas Utility Long-term Plan \(2017\)](#)

[Urban Water Management Plan \(2021\)](#)

[Ten-Year Electric Energy Efficiency Plan and Ten-Year Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Plan \(2012\)](#)

[Sustainability and Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#)

[Fiber-to-the-Premise Master Plan \(2015\)](#)

I have some familiarity with each of these plans, but was not involved in discussing or drafting any of them, hence no experience.

If you'd like to provide any additional documents, please upload below.

Please confirm that you have read the Boards and Commissions Handbook.

Yes

View the [Boards and Commissions Handbook](#).

Signature

Name of signatory: Chris Tucher

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CTucher', with a large loop for the 'C' and a stylized 'T'.

[Link to signature](#)

Date Completed

02/24/2023

Utilities Advisory Commission

Application

Submission date: **7 February 2023, 10:12AM**

Receipt number: **13**

Related form version: **6**

Personal Information

Name	Claude Ezran
Address	
City	
Postal Code	
Cell Phone Number	
Home Phone Number	
Email Address	
Are you a Palo Alto resident?	Yes
Do you have any relatives or members of your household who are employed by the City of Palo Alto, who are currently serving on the City Council, or who are Commissioners or Board Members?	No
Are you available and committed to complete the term applied for?	Yes

Fair Political Practices

No

California state law requires board/commission members to file a disclosure of financial interests ([Fair Political Practices Commission, Conflict of Interest, Form 700](#)).

Do you/your spouse have an investment in, or do you or your spouse serve as an officer or director of, a company doing business in Palo Alto which you believe is likely to:

1. Engage in business with the City;
2. Provide products or services for City projects; or
3. Be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission?

Excluding your principal residence, do you or your spouse own real property in Palo Alto?

No

How did you learn about the vacancy on the Utilities Advisory Commission?

Email from the City

Consent to Publish Personal Information on the City of Palo Alto Website

Read the code, and check only ONE option below:

I request that the City of Palo Alto redact my home address, phone numbers, and email address from the attached Board and Commission Application prior to posting to the City's website.

Personal and Job Experience

Please list your relevant education, training, experience, certificates of training, licenses, and professional registration. If describing work experience, please include company/employer name and occupation.

- **Retired high-tech marketing executive, 30+ years of experience in Silicon Valley companies such as Intel, 3Com, Adobe, and start-ups, mostly at the Director and VP level.**
- **Director of Marketing for Oorja Fuel Cells, a clean energy company(2015-2016).**
- **Extensive experience working collaboratively in teams.**
- **Member of the Board of Directors of Cable Co-op (1992-1998).**
Subscribers-owned cable TV company serving Palo Alto households. Very similar to a publicly owned utility.
- **MBA, Harvard Business School.**
- **MSEE, Ecole Superieure d'Electricite (France).**
Studied electricity generation and transport.
- **BS. Advanced mathematics and physics**

Company/Employer Name	Oorja Fuel Cells (clean energy company)
Occupation	Director of Marketing
Is your Company/Employer your current one or last?	Last Employer

Please describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations, including dates and any offices held.

- **Human Relations Commission, including Vice-chair and Chair: 2008-2014.**
- **Participated in a community workshop for the update of CPAU's Strategic Plan: 2017**
- **Founder and Organizer of Palo Alto World Music Day: 2009-2019**
- **Member of the Board of Directors, Palo Alto Recreation Foundation (PARF): 2010-2020**
- **Graduate of the Palo Alto Citizen Police Academy: 2019**
- **Member of the Community Advisory Group to the Police Chief: 2010-2012**
- **Member of Steering Committee for Measure A (school parcel tax): 2005**
- **Treasurer of the Palo Alto PTA Council: 2004-2007.**
- **Member of the Board of Directors, Cable Co-op: 1992-1998.**

Application Questions

1. What is it about the Utilities Advisory Commission that is compatible with your experience and of specific interest to you, and why?

Three examples regarding my life-long strong interest in energy and utility issues:

Director of Marketing for Oorja Fuel Cells (2015-2016).
Oorja was a clean energy company that manufactured power systems based on methanol fuel cells. These systems reduced operating costs and greenhouse gas emissions in a wide variety of applications such as wireless telecommunications and materials handling.

Member of the Board of Directors of Cable Co-op (1992-1998)
Cable Co-op was a cable TV company serving 28,000 households around Palo Alto. It was owned by its subscribers. In many ways its mission and its functioning were very similar to those of a publicly owned utility.

MSEE, Ecole Supérieure d'Electricité (France).
My engineering School was partially funded by EDF (Électricité de France), a state-owned utility which is one of the largest utilities in the world. I studied electricity generation and distribution in great detail and visited many different types of power generation plants.

2. Please describe an issue that recently came before the Commission that is of particular interest to you and describe why you are interested in it. If you have never been to a Commission meeting, you can view archived videos from the Midpen Media Center.

Archived videos are available from the [Midpen Media Center](#).

I am very interested in the plans for an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) and how that could improve conservation of water and energy, as well as provide customers with information they are currently lacking to better manage their consumption.

Given likely water shortages in the future due to climate change and droughts, I am interested in the use of recycled water and also water purification. I visited both the Regional Water Quality Control Plant and the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center.

Resiliency is another important issue for the Commission that I am very interested in. We need to look at what can be done to decrease the frequency and duration of power outages by looking at all the factors that impact reliability: equipment quality, equipment placement, redundancies, risk management, human factors, etc. I am also concerned by the vulnerabilities highlighted by the major power outage of 2010 that was caused by a small plane crash in East Palo Alto.

3. If appointed, what specific goals would you like to see the Utilities Advisory Commission achieve, and how would you help in the process?

- **Continue the focus on: clean energy, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, transition from gas to electricity, and improving sustainability.**
- **Continue to improve recycling rates, but also focus also on reducing waste in the first place. I am particularly thinking about food waste, especially from restaurants.**
- **Address the long term negative effect that progress toward our Zero-Waste objectives will have on refuse collection fees, maybe through a new financial reserve to be established and also improved efficiencies in the collection system.**
- **Secure long-term green electric, gas, and water supplies at competitive rates in order to better moderate the rise in utility rates. The currently very high prices for gas are definitely a concern.**
- **Energy conservation programs, green building codes, etc.**
- **Smart meters to improve conservation of water and energy.**
- **Improved reliability and resiliency of the electric grid. Look at the entire chain of factors that impact them.**

4. Utilities Advisory Commission Members work with the documents listed below. If you have experience with any of these documents, please describe that experience.

Experience with these documents is not required for selection.

[The Utilities Strategic Plan \(2018\)](#)

[The Long Term Electric Acquisition Plan \(2012\)](#)

[The Gas Utility Long-term Plan \(2017\)](#)

[Urban Water Management Plan \(2021\)](#)

[Ten-Year Electric Energy Efficiency Plan and Ten-Year Natural Gas](#)

[Energy Efficiency Plan \(2012\)](#)

[Sustainability and Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#)

[Fiber-to-the-Premise Master Plan \(2015\)](#)

I read these documents in the past and will definitely spend more time on them if selected for the position.

I participated in a community workshop for the update of the Strategic Plan, in 2017.

I do, also, closely follow the news about the City utilities, mostly through the Palo Alto Weekly.

If you'd like to provide any additional documents, please upload below.

Please confirm that you have read the Boards and Commissions Handbook.

View the [Boards and Commissions Handbook](#).

Yes

Signature

Name of signatory: Claude Ezran



[Link to signature](#)

Date Completed

02/07/2023

Utilities Advisory Commission Application

Submission date: **26 February 2023, 2:10PM**
Receipt number: **26**
Related form version: **6**

Personal Information

Name	Greg Scharff
Address	
City	
Postal Code	
Cell Phone Number	
Home Phone Number	
Email Address	
Are you a Palo Alto resident?	Yes
Do you have any relatives or members of your household who are employed by the City of Palo Alto, who are currently serving on the City Council, or who are Commissioners or Board Members?	No
Are you available and committed to complete the term applied for?	Yes

Fair Political Practices

No

California state law requires board/commission members to file a disclosure of financial interests ([Fair Political Practices Commission, Conflict of Interest, Form 700](#)).

Do you/your spouse have an investment in, or do you or your spouse serve as an officer or director of, a company doing business in Palo Alto which you believe is likely to:

1. Engage in business with the City;
2. Provide products or services for City projects; or
3. Be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission?

Excluding your principal residence, do you or your spouse own real property in Palo Alto?

Yes

How did you learn about the vacancy on the Utilities Advisory Commission?

Other: Current Commissioner

Consent to Publish Personal Information on the City of Palo Alto Website

Read the code, and check only ONE option below:

I give permission for the City of Palo Alto to post to the City's website the attached Board and Commission Application intact. I have read and understand my rights under Government Code Section 6254.21. I may revoke this permission at any time by providing written notice to the Palo Alto City Clerk.

Personal and Job Experience

Please list your relevant education, training, experience, certificates of training, licenses, and professional registration. If describing work experience, please include company/employer name and occupation.

I was on the city Council for 9 years, Mayor twice and served as Palo Alto's Representative to NCPA from 2013-2021. At NCPA I served on the executive board as well as various leadership roles. I am also a current UAC Commissioner

Company/Employer Name

Bay Conservation and Development Commission

Occupation

General Counsel

Is your Company/Employer your current one or last?

Current Employer

Please describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations, including dates and any offices held.

**City Council 2009-2018
Mayor 2013, 2017**

Application Questions

1. What is it about the Utilities Advisory Commission that is compatible with your experience and of specific interest to you, and why?

City Council, Finance Committee 8 years, NCPA 8 years and Current UAC Commission member. Utilities is a large portion of our budget and is also a key to meeting our climate action goals

2. Please describe an issue that recently came before the Commission that is of particular interest to you and describe why you are interested in it. If you have never been to a Commission meeting, you can view archived videos from the Midpen Media Center.

Archived videos are available from the [Midpen Media Center](#).

I am very interested in most of the issues that come before the UAC. Fiber to the premises is of particular interest and ensuring that we get it done and that we do it in a cost effective manner without undue risk to the City.

3. If appointed, what specific goals would you like to see the Utilities Advisory Commission achieve, and how would you help in the process?

1. Continue to move towards our environmental goals while at the same time keeping our utility rates at their historical relationship with PG&E and the other bay area public power cities. 2. Make fiber to the premises successful. 3. Ensure with a transition to electrification that we have the capacity to serve our electrical needs and that the transition is smooth. 4. Ensure that Palo Alto has an adequate supply of water and uses it efficiently.

4. Utilities Advisory Commission Members work with the **I have experience with all of these documents through** documents listed below. If you have experience with any **my work as a City Councilmember and UAC member.** of these documents, please describe that experience.

Experience with these documents is not required for selection.

[The Utilities Strategic Plan \(2018\)](#)

[The Long Term Electric Acquisition Plan \(2012\)](#)

[The Gas Utility Long-term Plan \(2017\)](#)

[Urban Water Management Plan \(2021\)](#)

[Ten-Year Electric Energy Efficiency Plan and Ten-Year Natural Gas](#)

[Energy Efficiency Plan \(2012\)](#)

[Sustainability and Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#)

[Fiber-to-the-Premise Master Plan \(2015\)](#)

If you'd like to provide any additional documents, please upload below.

Please confirm that you have read the Boards and Commissions Handbook.

Yes

View the [Boards and Commissions Handbook](#).

Signature

Name of signatory: Greg Scharff

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "H G Scharff". The letters are stylized and connected.

[Link to signature](#)

Date Completed

02/26/2023

Utilities Advisory Commission

Application

Submission date: 27 February 2023, 12:42PM
Receipt number: 27
Related form version: 6

Personal Information

Name	Gregory Hood
Address	
City	
Postal Code	
Cell Phone Number	
Home Phone Number	
Email Address	
Are you a Palo Alto resident?	Yes
Do you have any relatives or members of your household who are employed by the City of Palo Alto, who are currently serving on the City Council, or who are Commissioners or Board Members?	No
Are you available and committed to complete the term applied for?	Yes

Fair Political Practices

No

California state law requires board/commission members to file a disclosure of financial interests ([Fair Political Practices Commission, Conflict of Interest, Form 700](#)).

Do you/your spouse have an investment in, or do you or your spouse serve as an officer or director of, a company doing business in Palo Alto which you believe is likely to:

1. Engage in business with the City;
2. Provide products or services for City projects; or
3. Be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission?

Excluding your principal residence, do you or your spouse own real property in Palo Alto?

No

How did you learn about the vacancy on the Utilities Advisory Commission?

Daily Post

Other: Chamber of Commerce

Consent to Publish Personal Information on the City of Palo Alto Website

Read the code, and check only ONE option below:

I request that the City of Palo Alto redact my home address, phone numbers, and email address from the attached Board and Commission Application prior to posting to the City's website.

Personal and Job Experience

Please list your relevant education, training, experience, certificates of training, licenses, and professional registration. If describing work experience, please include company/employer name and occupation.

With over 4 decades of construction experience across the county, and now as a resident of Palo Alto, I welcome the opportunity to give back to our community by serving as a member on the Utility Advisory Committee. With a masters in civil engineering from Berkeley with a focus on Construction Engineering and Management, I have worked on a number of award winning public works projects, including Fontana Park, which involved coordinating construction across easements for both the San Gabriel Water Company and SCE's primary UHV transmission lines. More recently, I was the electrical project manager with Blocka Construction on Folsom Dam's new spillway. Other projects with Blocka include water treatment plant upgrades for Silicon Valley Water and the Hayward Water District. In addition to being a certified Project Management Professional (PMP), and licensed contractor (B, C-10), I am a real estate broker and am currently developing a property management business here in Palo Alto.

Company/Employer Name

Hood General Contracting, Inc. / Hood Properties, Inc.

Occupation

General Contractor / Electrician / Property Management

Is your Company/Employer your current one or last?

Current Employer

Please describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations, including dates and any offices held.

**Habitat for Humanity (Team Leader, 1993-1996)
Associated General Contractors, Los Angeles (Board Member, 2004)
Associated General Contractors, Riverside (Apprentice Instructor, 2004-2015)
Project Management Institute - Inland Empire (Director of Social Media, 2013-2014)
Rebuilding Peninsula (House Captain, 2017)
ACE - Architecture, Construction, Engineering (High School Student Mentorship - Mentor, 2017 – Present)
Project Management Institute - Silicon Valley (Event Facilitator, 2021-Present)
Leadership Palo Alto - Class of 2020**

Application Questions

1. What is it about the Utilities Advisory Commission that is compatible with your experience and of specific interest to you, and why?

As an electrician, general contractor and construction project manager, who has requested services and coordinated plans with utility engineers and having built schedules for service I can provide a new and fresh perspective to the committee. Where I can be most helpful is understanding the principles ranging from logistics (supply chain from a customer perspective) to electricity and where challenges might arise as CPAU serves our community during an environmental disaster. Part of my experience includes working for Northrop Grumman in Sustainment and Support for the U.S. Army (work included generator based temporary power and microgrid power generation) and as a member of San Bernardino County's Search & Rescue. As we face, growing environmental challenges, utility responses and coordination with first responders will be critical - utility preparedness and agency coordination. At no point are utilities under greater stress than when an environmental event strikes.

2. Please describe an issue that recently came before the Commission that is of particular interest to you and describe why you are interested in it. If you have never been to a Commission meeting, you can view archived videos from the Midpen Media Center.

Archived videos are available from the [Midpen Media Center](#).

Grid modernization is the issue. It is clear that having more than one EV is a challenge to the grid. I have personally installed both 225A, and derated 400A (residential 320A) panels for customers with multiple EVs. With the push towards all-electric homes, the demand will only increase, even with the offset of LED lighting solutions (many of which are only 4 watts of load per fixture, or 5.3% of a standard 75w incandescent bulb). The other factor that seems to be overlooked is how climate change will impact customer cooling demand. Another added load that will come into play is water purification. When our water supply is at risk of contamination, consumers are sure to operate their own filtration systems. This is sure to require additional energy. Lastly, the greatest challenge facing CPAU is housing density. The state's mandate for Palo Alto to add 6,086 housing units, if met, could result in a demand increase of 23.3% for electricity as well as other utility services.

3. If appointed, what specific goals would you like to see the Utilities Advisory Commission achieve, and how would you help in the process?

General Goals

Electrical training and safety

Utility security - cyber terrorism response (see 12/7/2023)

Planning for continued disruption of natural gas pricing and supply

Residential electrical code compliance - consumer awareness

Specific Goals

Bi-directional power distribution (transformer upgrades), See AIM 12/7/2022 Meeting

Transmission undergrounding and installation of vaults with subsurface switchgear

Stormwater management in relation to undergrounding electrical distribution

I could offer review and recommendations for the planning and implementation of a modernized electrical distribution system. As an ongoing committee focus, the addition of all-electric households, conversion from gas, the addition of high density residential zones including ADU and compliance with SB9, and the 'Builder's Remedy' we can reasonably anticipate an increase on CPAU's load. My contribution would include using analytic tools to assess and support program decision making.

4. Utilities Advisory Commission Members work with the **N/A** documents listed below. If you have experience with any of these documents, please describe that experience. Experience with these documents is not required for selection.

[The Utilities Strategic Plan \(2018\)](#)

[The Long Term Electric Acquisition Plan \(2012\)](#)

[The Gas Utility Long-term Plan \(2017\)](#)

[Urban Water Management Plan \(2021\)](#)

[Ten-Year Electric Energy Efficiency Plan and Ten-Year Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Plan \(2012\)](#)

[Sustainability and Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#)

[Fiber-to-the-Premise Master Plan \(2015\)](#)

If you'd like to provide any additional documents, please upload below.

Please confirm that you have read the Boards and Commissions Handbook.

Yes

View the [Boards and Commissions Handbook](#).

Signature

Name of signatory: Gregory Hood

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregory Hood', is displayed on a white background.

Uploaded signature image: [IMG_2576.jpg](#)

Date Completed

02/27/2023

Utilities Advisory Commission Application

Submission date: **3 January 2023, 7:43PM**
Receipt number: **8**
Related form version: **5**

Personal Information

Name	Jason Titus
Address	
City	
Postal Code	
Cell Phone Number	
Home Phone Number	
Email Address	
Are you a Palo Alto resident?	Yes
Do you have any relatives or members of your household who are employed by the City of Palo Alto, who are currently serving on the City Council, or who are Commissioners or Board Members?	No
Are you available and committed to complete the term applied for?	Yes

Fair Political Practices

No

California state law requires board/commission members to file a disclosure of financial interests ([Fair Political Practices Commission, Conflict of Interest, Form 700](#)).

Do you/your spouse have an investment in, or do you or your spouse serve as an officer or director of, a company doing business in Palo Alto which you believe is likely to:

1. Engage in business with the City;
2. Provide products or services for City projects; or
3. Be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission?

Excluding your principal residence, do you or your spouse own real property in Palo Alto?

Yes

How did you learn about the vacancy on the Utilities Advisory Commission?

Email from the City

Consent to Publish Personal Information on the City of Palo Alto Website

Read the code, and check only ONE option below:

I request that the City of Palo Alto redact my home address, phone numbers, and email address from the attached Board and Commission Application prior to posting to the City's website.

Personal and Job Experience

Please list your relevant education, training, experience, certificates of training, licenses, and professional registration. If describing work experience, please include company/employer name and occupation.

I have been a resident of Palo Alto since 2003 and have been involved in the PV Partners program since 2008. During my 8 years at Google I managed their developer programs - partnering with startups and software developers building upon Google's technologies. My team launched multiple sustainability accelerators around the world and worked with companies that are changing how people and companies interact with energy, water, and their world around them. Since leaving Google in July of 2022 I have been advising and investing in cleantech startups from window installed heatpumps to superdeep geothermal energy (disclosed in my form 700).

Please describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations, including dates and any offices held.

I was a member of the Palo Alto 2030 Comprehensive Plan Citizens Advisory Committee from 2015-2017, and party co-host for Addison Elementary, and a volunteer for the Pescadero Pancake Breakfasts.

Application Questions

1. What is it about the Utilities Advisory Commission that is compatible with your experience and of specific interest to you, and why?

I've been interested in renewable energy and water conservation for over 20 years and have installed solar on 4 different properties we have owned in that time. In the near future we will need shift how we source energy and water as well as rapidly evolve our infrastructure to be more dynamic and responsive. The city wants to electrify residences and businesses and yet most do not have the panel capacity to do so. It will need to facilitate smarter infrastructure to enable them to install heat pumps, induction stoves, EV chargers and more. The utility will need to deeply understand the load requirements and the pace and trajectory of these shifts and plan accordingly. These changes are similar to the challenges I faced managing and iterating large scale services such as Yahoo! Mail where modeling and capacity management were vital. I understand the need for careful transitions while evolving infrastructure and understand how to make it easier for customers to be part of the migration

2. Please describe an issue that recently came before the Commission that is of particular interest to you and describe why you are interested in it. If you have never been to a Commission meeting, you can view archived videos from the Midpen Media Center.

Archived videos are available from the [Midpen Media Center](#).

The discussion of permitting and inspection timelines for electrification permitting is of interest to me. Every step of my own home's electrification process last year (heat pump water heater, heat pump heating, and EV charging and the associated electrical work) was called out by my vendors as notably slower and more complicated than other municipalities. I am interested in solutions like SolarApp+ for all of the steps towards electrification as well as processes to facilitate electrification at time of need (i.e. heat pump water heaters ready for install when water heaters fail for customers).

3. If appointed, what specific goals would you like to see the Utilities Advisory Commission achieve, and how would you help in the process?

Help Palo Alto become best in class for electrification, renewable energy, system resilience, and water conservation. Track time and number of transitions, gather comparative data from leaders in the field and neighboring cities, score ourselves quarterly, and set goals to get to the top cohort of utilities.

4. Utilities Advisory Commission Members work with the documents listed below. If you have experience with any of these documents, please describe that experience. Experience with these documents is not required for selection.

[The Utilities Strategic Plan \(2018\)](#)

[The Long Term Electric Acquisition Plan \(2012\)](#)

[The Gas Utility Long-term Plan \(2017\)](#)

[Urban Water Management Plan \(2021\)](#)

[Ten-Year Electric Energy Efficiency Plan and Ten-Year Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Plan \(2012\)](#)

[Sustainability and Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#)

[Fiber-to-the-Premise Master Plan \(2015\)](#)

I have tracked the Fiber to the Premise plan and the followup discussions on fiber and have submitted feedback to the evolving fiber plans. I have also taken part in some of the public discussions of the Sustainability and Climate Action Plan and some follow-on Sustainability and Climate Action Plan Ad Hoc Committee meetings.

If you'd like to provide any additional documents, please upload below.

Please confirm that you have read the Boards and Commissions Handbook.

Yes

View the [Boards and Commissions Handbook](#).

Signature

Name of signatory: Jason Titus



[Link to signature](#)

Date Completed

01/03/2023

Utilities Advisory Commission Application

Submission date: **28 February 2023, 1:36PM**
Receipt number: **30**
Related form version: **6**

Personal Information

Name **Katie Causey**

Address **[REDACTED]**

City **[REDACTED]**

Postal Code **[REDACTED]**

Cell Phone Number **[REDACTED]**

Home Phone Number

Email Address **[REDACTED]**

Are you a Palo Alto resident? **Yes**

Do you have any relatives or members of your household who are employed by the City of Palo Alto, who are currently serving on the City Council, or who are Commissioners or Board Members? **No**

Are you available and committed to complete the term applied for? **Yes**

Fair Political Practices

No

California state law requires board/commission members to file a disclosure of financial interests ([Fair Political Practices Commission, Conflict of Interest, Form 700](#)).

Do you/your spouse have an investment in, or do you or your spouse serve as an officer or director of, a company doing business in Palo Alto which you believe is likely to:

1. Engage in business with the City;
2. Provide products or services for City projects; or
3. Be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission?

Excluding your principal residence, do you or your spouse own real property in Palo Alto?

No

How did you learn about the vacancy on the Utilities Advisory Commission?

City Website

Consent to Publish Personal Information on the City of Palo Alto Website

Read the code, and check only ONE option below:

I request that the City of Palo Alto redact my home address, phone numbers, and email address from the attached Board and Commission Application prior to posting to the City's website.

Personal and Job Experience

Please list your relevant education, training, experience, certificates of training, licenses, and professional registration. If describing work experience, please include company/employer name and occupation.

Currently in the process of trying to be eligible for a Master's in Bioengineering which has included general engineering course work on city infrastructure.

Company/Employer Name

Post Grad Student

Occupation	Student
Is your Company/Employer your current one or last?	Last Employer
Please describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations, including dates and any offices held.	Life long Palo Altan, previously involved in League of Women Voter's Climate Change committee, Palo Alto Recreation Foundation, and currently on the board of the Palo Alto Renters' Association.

Application Questions

1. What is it about the Utilities Advisory Commission that is compatible with your experience and of specific interest to you, and why?

I've completed coursework related to both subjects of general engineering and have worked with the most vulnerable members of Palo Alto understanding how they're impacted by climate change, internet access, and rising utility bills.

2. Please describe an issue that recently came before the Commission that is of particular interest to you and describe why you are interested in it. If you have never been to a Commission meeting, you can view archived videos from the Midpen Media Center.

Archived videos are available from the [Midpen Media Center](#).

Issues around workforce and filling line men positions.

3. If appointed, what specific goals would you like to see the Utilities Advisory Commission achieve, and how would you help in the process?

Helping elevate the perspective of how the most vulnerable Palo Altans are impacted by climate change, rising utility rates, and can be benefit from fiber.

4. Utilities Advisory Commission Members work with the **No** documents listed below. If you have experience with any of these documents, please describe that experience. Experience with these documents is not required for selection.

[The Utilities Strategic Plan \(2018\)](#)

[The Long Term Electric Acquisition Plan \(2012\)](#)

[The Gas Utility Long-term Plan \(2017\)](#)

[Urban Water Management Plan \(2021\)](#)

[Ten-Year Electric Energy Efficiency Plan and Ten-Year Natural Gas](#)

[Energy Efficiency Plan \(2012\)](#)

[Sustainability and Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#)

[Fiber-to-the-Premise Master Plan \(2015\)](#)

If you'd like to provide any additional documents, please upload below.

Please confirm that you have read the Boards and Commissions Handbook. **Yes**

View the [Boards and Commissions Handbook](#).

Signature

Name of signatory: Katie Causey



[Link to signature](#)

Date Completed

02/28/2023

Utilities Advisory Commission Application

Submission date: **11 February 2023, 5:19PM**
Receipt number: **17**
Related form version: **6**

Personal Information

Name	Maximillian Rayner
Address	
City	
Postal Code	
Cell Phone Number	
Home Phone Number	
Email Address	
Are you a Palo Alto resident?	Yes
Do you have any relatives or members of your household who are employed by the City of Palo Alto, who are currently serving on the City Council, or who are Commissioners or Board Members?	No
Are you available and committed to complete the term applied for?	Yes

Fair Political Practices

No

California state law requires board/commission members to file a disclosure of financial interests ([Fair Political Practices Commission, Conflict of Interest, Form 700](#)).

Do you/your spouse have an investment in, or do you or your spouse serve as an officer or director of, a company doing business in Palo Alto which you believe is likely to:

1. Engage in business with the City;
2. Provide products or services for City projects; or
3. Be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission?

Excluding your principal residence, do you or your spouse own real property in Palo Alto?

No

How did you learn about the vacancy on the Utilities Advisory Commission?

City Website

Consent to Publish Personal Information on the City of Palo Alto Website

Read the code, and check only ONE option below:

I request that the City of Palo Alto redact my home address, phone numbers, and email address from the attached Board and Commission Application prior to posting to the City's website.

Personal and Job Experience

Please list your relevant education, training, experience, certificates of training, licenses, and professional registration. If describing work experience, please include company/employer name and occupation.

BA (double major in computer science and engineering)
MBA (Finance)
Management consultant

Company/Employer Name

Hudson Crossing LCC

Occupation	Management and technology consultant
Is your Company/Employer your current one or last?	Current Employer
Please describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations, including dates and any offices held.	PAUSD PK-12 Computer Science Curriculum Design Advisory Committee (2018) Judo teacher - Palo Alto Judo Club

Application Questions

1. What is it about the Utilities Advisory Commission that is compatible with your experience and of specific interest to you, and why?	My mixed background in computer science, engineering, and finance has armed me with the intellectual prerequisites to be able to contribute to the Commission
2. Please describe an issue that recently came before the Commission that is of particular interest to you and describe why you are interested in it. If you have never been to a Commission meeting, you can view archived videos from the Midpen Media Center. Archived videos are available from the Midpen Media Center .	Current rates and incentives for solar installations are of keen interest to me.
3. If appointed, what specific goals would you like to see the Utilities Advisory Commission achieve, and how would you help in the process?	Most progress to be made is a matter of incentives & constraints, and a full understanding of the second order effects (i.e. to look beyond intentions to actual effects)

4. Utilities Advisory Commission Members work with the documents listed below. If you have experience with any of these documents, please describe that experience. Experience with these documents is not required for selection.

[The Utilities Strategic Plan \(2018\)](#)

[The Long Term Electric Acquisition Plan \(2012\)](#)

[The Gas Utility Long-term Plan \(2017\)](#)

[Urban Water Management Plan \(2021\)](#)

[Ten-Year Electric Energy Efficiency Plan and Ten-Year Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Plan \(2012\)](#)

[Sustainability and Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#)

[Fiber-to-the-Premise Master Plan \(2015\)](#)

The lack of faster progress in Fiber to the Premise, Electrical and Gas plans is the key takeaway from my experience with those documents. If elected I would look to understand better what changes if any might allow for greater progress in Palo Alto.

If you'd like to provide any additional documents, please [MAX-RAYNER-short-bio-2023.pdf](#) upload below.

Please confirm that you have read the Boards and Commissions Handbook.

View the [Boards and Commissions Handbook](#).

Yes

Signature

Name of signatory: Maximillian Rayner



[Link to signature](#)

Date Completed

02/11/2023

MAX RAYNER

Maximillian Rayner is a **Partner** at [Hudson Crossing](#), a strategic advisory firm where he focuses on market and technology strategies, agile business transformation and product innovation. Hudson Crossing clients range from global hotel brands to private equity and venture capital firms, world leading financial services companies, leading casino and entertainment groups, airlines, travel distribution and technology companies and startups in e-commerce and big data solutions for digital marketing.

In his practice areas, Mr. Rayner has advised some of the world's leading companies on transformational investments and technology projects: Amadeus, American Express, Booking Holdings, Choice Hotels, Expedia Group, Flight Centre Travel Group, Four Seasons, Hilton Worldwide, Hotelbeds, Hyatt Hotels Corporation, Lychee.com, Mandarin Oriental, Travelport, and leading investors such as Battery Ventures, Comvest, EQT, Thoma Bravo, and Warburg Pincus.

Prior to becoming a partner at Hudson Crossing, Mr. Rayner served as **TravelClick's SVP of Product Engineering & General Manager for Reservations Solutions**.

Mr. Rayner also served as **CTO** at **Travelzoo**, where he led Travelzoo's Product Development, Engineering and IT.

Prior to that, Mr. Rayner served as **EVP of Products & Services** and **CIO** at information security provider **SurfControl** (sold at a 63% stock value premium).

Mr. Rayner served as **VP of Systems Architecture** at **Salesforce.com** where its team designed Salesforce.com's Internet-scale hosting platform, and as head of **Sun Microsystems'** business intelligence systems and global Internet engineering.

Mr. Rayner holds an **MBA from UCLA (Finance)** and a **BA from Dartmouth College (Computer Science & Engineering)**.

Utilities Advisory Commission Application

Submission date: **2 February 2023, 10:43AM**
Receipt number: **11**
Related form version: **6**

Personal Information

Name	Meagan Mauter
Address	
City	
Postal Code	
Cell Phone Number	
Home Phone Number	
Email Address	
Are you a Palo Alto resident?	Yes
Do you have any relatives or members of your household who are employed by the City of Palo Alto, who are currently serving on the City Council, or who are Commissioners or Board Members?	No
Are you available and committed to complete the term applied for?	Yes

Fair Political Practices

No

California state law requires board/commission members to file a disclosure of financial interests ([Fair Political Practices Commission, Conflict of Interest, Form 700](#)).

Do you/your spouse have an investment in, or do you or your spouse serve as an officer or director of, a company doing business in Palo Alto which you believe is likely to:

1. Engage in business with the City;
2. Provide products or services for City projects; or
3. Be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission?

Excluding your principal residence, do you or your spouse own real property in Palo Alto?

No

How did you learn about the vacancy on the Utilities Advisory Commission?

Other: Referred by colleague

Consent to Publish Personal Information on the City of Palo Alto Website

Read the code, and check only ONE option below:

I request that the City of Palo Alto redact my home address, phone numbers, and email address from the attached Board and Commission Application prior to posting to the City's website.

Personal and Job Experience

Please list your relevant education, training, experience, certificates of training, licenses, and professional registration. If describing work experience, please include company/employer name and occupation.

BS, M.E.E in Environmental Engineering, Engineer in Training (EIT) certification, and PhD in Chemical & Environmental Engineering. I am currently an associate professor in Stanford's Civil & Environmental Engineering Department. I also serve as the research director for the National Alliance for Water Innovation, a U.S. Department of Energy Energy-Water Hub (and co-funded by the CA Department of Water Resources and State Water Resources Control Board) focused on minimizing the cost, energy, and carbon intensity of securing non-traditional water supplies. We are especially focused on early stage applied research and demonstration projects related to energy efficient water reuse. I also have expertise in energy systems and in coordination of water and electricity grids.

Company/Employer Name

Stanford University

Occupation

Associate Professor

Is your Company/Employer your current one or last?

Current Employer

Please describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations, including dates and any offices held.

I have occasionally volunteered for the Children's Center of the Stanford Community, served on several grant review panels in the water sector, and work closely with municipalities across California in developing robust water supply portfolios, and served on several California Council on Science and Technology panels/webinars/reviews. Finally, I am a member of the Stanford Faculty Senate. I have never formally held office in a civic organization.

Application Questions

1. What is it about the Utilities Advisory Commission that is compatible with your experience and of specific interest to you, and why?

I am passionate about securing water supply for California cities under changing climate, water demand, and regulatory constraints. I am also passionate about facilitating a n affordable and just transition to a clean energy economy. My applied research focuses on identifying, quantifying, and exploiting synergies across water, energy, transportation, and telecommunications infrastructure systems in a municipal setting. Finally, I have a deep interest in federal financing of infrastructure projects to accelerate adoption of resilient and sustainable infrastructure systems by local communities and have written on the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. I am interested in expanding my engagement beyond Santa Barbara and focusing closer to home on the myriad of infrastructure challenges and opportunities in Palo Alto.

2. Please describe an issue that recently came before the Commission that is of particular interest to you and describe why you are interested in it. If you have never been to a Commission meeting, you can view archived videos from the Midpen Media Center.

Archived videos are available from the [Midpen Media Center](#).

I am particularly interested in issues of urban water supply and energy resiliency. The urban water management plan adoption in May 2021, including planning for the future implementation the Bay Delta plan, appropriate specification of design droughts under future climate scenarios, demand side management interventions, distributional impacts of rate increases, and the transfer agreement with Valley Water are all areas in which I have technical expertise. I am especially interested in issues related to the safe, cost-effective, and energy efficient expansion of recycled water use throughout the Bay Area.

3. If appointed, what specific goals would you like to see the Utilities Advisory Commission achieve, and how would you help in the process?

As a commissioner, I would bring my knowledge and expertise of potable and non-potable reuse facility designs, operating costs, and outreach efforts to ensure that our region develops reuse facilities commensurate with future demand, safe drinking water standards, and energy efficiency targets. I would like to support the relationship between Palo Alto and Valley Water and provide balanced and thoughtful oversight throughout the finalization of design. I am also interested in supporting the Commissions ability to look across infrastructure projects for potential synergies and cost savings. Multifunctional infrastructure upgrades, for instance designing recycled water facilities with the intent of intermittent operation to support local electric power grid stability, are going to be critical to cost effective municipal decarbonization and resiliency plans.

4. Utilities Advisory Commission Members work with the documents listed below. If you have experience with any of these documents, please describe that experience. Experience with these documents is not required for selection.

I have experience analyzing urban water management plans for the city of Santa Barbara. I am also familiar with municipal climate action plans across the state. I do not have direct experience working on or with the master plans in Palo Alto, but I have read several of them.

[The Utilities Strategic Plan \(2018\)](#)

[The Long Term Electric Acquisition Plan \(2012\)](#)

[The Gas Utility Long-term Plan \(2017\)](#)

[Urban Water Management Plan \(2021\)](#)

[Ten-Year Electric Energy Efficiency Plan and Ten-Year Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Plan \(2012\)](#)

[Sustainability and Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#)

[Fiber-to-the-Premise Master Plan \(2015\)](#)

If you'd like to provide any additional documents, please upload below.

Please confirm that you have read the Boards and Commissions Handbook. **Yes**

View the [Boards and Commissions Handbook](#).

Signature

Name of signatory: Meagan Mauter

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Meagan Mauter', with a stylized, cursive script.

[Link to signature](#)

Date Completed

02/02/2023

Utilities Advisory Commission

Application

Submission date: **25 February 2023, 11:02PM**

Receipt number: **24**

Related form version: **6**

Personal Information

Name	Michael D Albertaine
Address	
City	
Postal Code	
Cell Phone Number	
Home Phone Number	
Email Address	
Are you a Palo Alto resident?	Yes
Do you have any relatives or members of your household who are employed by the City of Palo Alto, who are currently serving on the City Council, or who are Commissioners or Board Members?	No
Are you available and committed to complete the term applied for?	Yes

Fair Political Practices

No

California state law requires board/commission members to file a disclosure of financial interests ([Fair Political Practices Commission, Conflict of Interest, Form 700](#)).

Do you/your spouse have an investment in, or do you or your spouse serve as an officer or director of, a company doing business in Palo Alto which you believe is likely to:

1. Engage in business with the City;
2. Provide products or services for City projects; or
3. Be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission?

Excluding your principal residence, do you or your spouse own real property in Palo Alto?

No

How did you learn about the vacancy on the Utilities Advisory Commission?

Other: John Bowie

Consent to Publish Personal Information on the City of Palo Alto Website

Read the code, and check only ONE option below:

I request that the City of Palo Alto redact my home address, phone numbers, and email address from the attached Board and Commission Application prior to posting to the City's website.

Personal and Job Experience

Please list your relevant education, training, experience, certificates of training, licenses, and professional registration. If describing work experience, please include company/employer name and occupation.

I am a registered nurse with two certifications within the field of Critical Care. I hold two bachelor's degrees, one in science in nursing from Samuel Merritt University and the second in history from Whitman College. I have long been interested in sustainability of infrastructure and construction and how to mitigate the impacts of climate change. I have been looking for a productive outlet to channel this energy and I believe the Commission would be a great opportunity to serve my community and learn more about this interesting field.

Company/Employer Name

Lucile Packard Children's Hospital

Occupation

RN

Is your Company/Employer your current one or last?

Current Employer

Please describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations, including dates and any offices held.

I am recently returned from a year-long sabbatical in Malaga, Spain. My wife and I took our two small children to learn a new language and culture to be better citizens of the world. While there I was the delegate for my Spanish language class for the University, where my primary role was to liaise between the school and the student body. Prior to that I have been involved with the Whitman College Alumni organization in supporting and recruiting future students.

Application Questions

1. What is it about the Utilities Advisory Commission that is compatible with your experience and of specific interest to you, and why?

The Utilities Advisory Commission fulfills my interest to have an impact in my community in the name of climate change. My interest in climate, infrastructure and city planning has lead me to seek out this opportunity. I strive to live my beliefs by riding my bike to work, living in apartment style housing, and by owning a single car for a family of four. I believe that sustainable living will not degrade but improve the quality of life we already enjoy. However, the transition to this future needs active participants to usher it in. I hope to be that participant.

2. Please describe an issue that recently came before the Commission that is of particular interest to you and describe why you are interested in it. If you have never been to a Commission meeting, you can view archived videos from the Midpen Media Center.

Archived videos are available from the [Midpen Media Center](#).

The issue of purchasing geothermal power that came before the Commission is exciting because of the rarity of the renewable base power generation. I have an interest in geothermal primarily for its higher efficiency for heating and cooling of homes and businesses. I believe geothermal has many benefits over stand alone heat pumps that government policy could assist in reducing the upfront costs. However, the ability to use geothermal from a natural steam well should not be overlooked and the commissioners were correct to seek out further availability of power from the NCPA. Additionally, the Commission should be seeking to diversify its power portfolio at all reasonable costs.

3. If appointed, what specific goals would you like to see the Utilities Advisory Commission achieve, and how would you help in the process?

As a life long tenant I would like to see the Commission work to support tenants abilities to become more sustainable and investigate ways in which landlords and tenants can help achieve the visions of the Commission.

I would like to see the Commission investigate the feasibility of community based solar grids, where an array is placed in a location and then is owned through a cooperative allowing for renters and those unable to afford the upfront costs to participate in solar.

In the role as a commissioner I would act as an advocate and facilitate dialogue between the stakeholders to achieve a mutually beneficial outcome.

4. Utilities Advisory Commission Members work with the documents listed below. If you have experience with any of these documents, please describe that experience. Experience with these documents is not required for selection.

I do not have experience with these documents but have familiarized myself with them.

[The Utilities Strategic Plan \(2018\)](#)

[The Long Term Electric Acquisition Plan \(2012\)](#)

[The Gas Utility Long-term Plan \(2017\)](#)

[Urban Water Management Plan \(2021\)](#)

[Ten-Year Electric Energy Efficiency Plan and Ten-Year Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Plan \(2012\)](#)

[Sustainability and Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#)

[Fiber-to-the-Premise Master Plan \(2015\)](#)

If you'd like to provide any additional documents, please upload below.

Please confirm that you have read the Boards and Commissions Handbook.

Yes

View the [Boards and Commissions Handbook](#).

Signature

Name of signatory: Michael Albertine

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ma' with a stylized flourish.

[Link to signature](#)

Date Completed

02/25/2023

Utilities Advisory Commission

Application

Submission date: 28 February 2023, 10:35PM
Receipt number: 10
Related form version: 6

Personal Information

Name	Natalie Geise
Address	
City	
Postal Code	
Cell Phone Number	
Home Phone Number	
Email Address	
Are you a Palo Alto resident?	Yes
Do you have any relatives or members of your household who are employed by the City of Palo Alto, who are currently serving on the City Council, or who are Commissioners or Board Members?	No
Are you available and committed to complete the term applied for?	Yes

Fair Political Practices

No

California state law requires board/commission members to file a disclosure of financial interests ([Fair Political Practices Commission, Conflict of Interest, Form 700](#)).

Do you/your spouse have an investment in, or do you or your spouse serve as an officer or director of, a company doing business in Palo Alto which you believe is likely to:

1. Engage in business with the City;
2. Provide products or services for City projects; or
3. Be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission?

Excluding your principal residence, do you or your spouse own real property in Palo Alto?

No

How did you learn about the vacancy on the Utilities Advisory Commission?

City Website

Consent to Publish Personal Information on the City of Palo Alto Website

Read the code, and check only ONE option below:

I request that the City of Palo Alto redact my home address, phone numbers, and email address from the attached Board and Commission Application prior to posting to the City's website.

Personal and Job Experience

Please list your relevant education, training, experience, certificates of training, licenses, and professional registration. If describing work experience, please include company/employer name and occupation.

Education:
BS and PhD in Chemistry

Work Experience:
Graduate Student Researcher, SLAC National Lab, 2015-2021
I studied battery and energy materials to correlate their performance with underlying structural changes during their use.

Analyst, Powerhouse, 2022-present
Powerhouse is an innovation firm that helps corporations find, partner with, or invest in startups in clean energy, mobility, and climate. I lead startup sourcing and engagement to expand our database and network. I manage projects and deliverables where I identify technologies and startups that align with the goals and needs of our clients.

Company/Employer Name

Powerhouse

Occupation

Consultant

Is your Company/Employer your current one or last?

Current Employer

Please describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations, including dates and any offices held.

Volunteer, Palo Alto Repair Cafe, 2020-present

- I help community members repair clothing and textiles to encourage reuse and zero-waste practices.

Member, Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Lightsource (SSRL) User Executive Committee, 2017-2020

- The UEC represents the scientists who use SSRL, a Dept. of Energy User Facility, to SSRL management and federal government. We provided feedback on user needs for short-term improvements and long-range planning for the synchrotron facility.

Co-founder and Leader, Chemistry Association in the Interest of Minority Students, Stanford Chemistry Department, 2016-2021

- I facilitated and developed voluntary DEI programming reaching 80+ attendees at seminars/town halls and ~20% of department grad students each year in small-group events.

Member, Stanford University Board of Judicial Affairs, 2017-2021

- We set community guidelines and oversaw processes related to academic integrity and student conduct.

Application Questions

1. What is it about the Utilities Advisory Commission that is compatible with your experience and of specific interest to you, and why?

I currently work at Powerhouse, an innovation consulting and venture capital firm focused on clean energy, climate, and mobility. Our clients include major utilities, energy retailers, tech companies, renewable project developers, and engineering consultancies.

I support research and scouting projects related to decarbonization, energy markets, renewable project deployment, and utility operations. I can bring new perspectives to the UAC from utility projects around the world.

Prior to my role at Powerhouse, I worked at SLAC, a Department of Energy National Lab. I researched the degradation of battery and energy storage materials. I can apply my understanding of energy materials and technical background to the work of the UAC in looking at new technologies.

2. Please describe an issue that recently came before the Commission that is of particular interest to you and describe why you are interested in it. If you have never been to a Commission meeting, you can view archived videos from the Midpen Media Center.

Archived videos are available from the [Midpen Media Center](#).

Grid resiliency and modernization have recently come before the Commission. The grid is challenged by aging infrastructure with limited capacity. Meanwhile, decarbonization efforts have incentivized electrification of vehicles and home appliances. This can lead to outages due to increased electricity demand with limited local substation capacity. While some of the demand is flexible, the utility is not sufficiently utilizing that flexibility to control demand and prevent outages.

I am interested to better address demand management, which can defer substation upgrades. I would prioritize studying and implementing managed charging, demand response, vehicle-to-grid, and similar programs.

Further, the integration of additional distributed energy resources, such as residential solar and storage, can provide resiliency during outages. Often, this provides resiliency at the single-household level, so I would like to identify and promote solutions that provide community resiliency.

3. If appointed, what specific goals would you like to see the Utilities Advisory Commission achieve, and how would you help in the process?

1) Procurement for reliable and affordable access to energy, heat, water, and telecommunications

I am interested to review PPAs, water supplies, infrastructure plans, and the like to ensure that we have adequate resources at reasonable costs. I will work to ensure that short-term and long-term risks are considered, such as the impacts of technological shifts or climate change.

2) Improve Customer/Engagement Programs

I will provide feedback and help develop customer engagement programs (such as electrification and energy/water efficiency incentives) and rate designs (such as those for time-of-use, demand response, and charging) to contribute to resiliency, demand management, and decarbonization.

3) Increase Pilots through the Program for Emerging Technologies

I'm excited to bring my experience with start-ups and innovation partnerships to help recruit more applicants and ultimately enable more pilot projects.

4. Utilities Advisory Commission Members work with the documents listed below. If you have experience with any of these documents, please describe that experience. Experience with these documents is not required for selection.

[The Utilities Strategic Plan \(2018\)](#)

[The Long Term Electric Acquisition Plan \(2012\)](#)

[The Gas Utility Long-term Plan \(2017\)](#)

[Urban Water Management Plan \(2021\)](#)

[Ten-Year Electric Energy Efficiency Plan and Ten-Year Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Plan \(2012\)](#)

[Sustainability and Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#)

[Fiber-to-the-Premise Master Plan \(2015\)](#)

I have reviewed the Sustainability and Climate Action Plan, but do not have experience with the others. I would review those documents as needed upon joining the UAC or as issues relating to them came up.

If you'd like to provide any additional documents, please upload below.

Please confirm that you have read the Boards and Commissions Handbook.

Yes

View the [Boards and Commissions Handbook](#).

Signature

Name of signatory: Natalie Geise

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Natalie Geise', with a long, sweeping vertical line extending upwards from the end of the signature.

[Link to signature](#)

Date Completed

02/28/2023

Utilities Advisory Commission Application

Submission date: **6 February 2023, 12:00PM**
Receipt number: **9**
Related form version: **6**

Personal Information

Name	Rachel E Croft
Address	
City	
Postal Code	
Cell Phone Number	
Home Phone Number	
Email Address	
Are you a Palo Alto resident?	Yes
Do you have any relatives or members of your household who are employed by the City of Palo Alto, who are currently serving on the City Council, or who are Commissioners or Board Members?	No
Are you available and committed to complete the term applied for?	Yes

Fair Political Practices

No

California state law requires board/commission members to file a disclosure of financial interests ([Fair Political Practices Commission, Conflict of Interest, Form 700](#)).

Do you/your spouse have an investment in, or do you or your spouse serve as an officer or director of, a company doing business in Palo Alto which you believe is likely to:

1. Engage in business with the City;
2. Provide products or services for City projects; or
3. Be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission?

Excluding your principal residence, do you or your spouse own real property in Palo Alto?

No

How did you learn about the vacancy on the Utilities Advisory Commission?

Email from the City

Consent to Publish Personal Information on the City of Palo Alto Website

Read the code, and check only ONE option below:

I request that the City of Palo Alto redact my home address, phone numbers, and email address from the attached Board and Commission Application prior to posting to the City's website.

Personal and Job Experience

Please list your relevant education, training, experience, certificates of training, licenses, and professional registration. If describing work experience, please include company/employer name and occupation.

For the last 7 years I helped develop and launch a digital health product for behavior change - to help people stop smoking and nicotine - at Pivot Health Technologies. The product is an FDA cleared biometric sensor plus behavior support app. I led early development of the app, working with scientific advisors to select and implement behavior change models, designing the user path and program content, and used data for program iteration. I later transitioned to lead Marketing and Corporate Development (I'm currently a consultant to this company).

Prior to that I spent 18 years in strategic marketing, product and business development in the medical device industry, working in compliance with FDA and EU regulations. This included 6 years working on surgical weight loss, which has a large behavior change component. Prior to that I spent 5 years in investment banking.

**BS Industrial Engineering, Stanford
MBA in Finance, Wharton U Penn**

Company/Employer Name

Pivot Health Technologies

Occupation

Corporate Development Consultant, past employee

Is your Company/Employer your current one or last?

Last Employer

Please describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations, including dates and any offices held.

Escondido Elementary School:

- **PTA communications chair - 2 years (2020-2022)**
- **Safe Routes to School Rep - current (2022-current)**
- **Room parent - 3 years (current, 3 years out of the last 6)**

Palo Alto: I worked actively in my local neighborhood community (Southgate) over 4 years (2018-2022) to organize feedback regarding Caltrain grade separation, communicating rail crossing activities to the community and organizing and communicating the community's response back to CAP, XCAP and City Council.

Nextdoor: neighborhood lead for Southgate

Attended PA Climate Summit in November 2022

Application Questions

1. What is it about the Utilities Advisory Commission that is compatible with your experience and of specific interest to you, and why?

- I've spent 12 years working on products to help people change behavior for health. There are proven behavior change models that I would love to see tested to reduce the demand side of utility use, and help users shift the hours they are using energy to times when renewables are available.

- I have 30 years of experience in the corporate regulated industries (finance and health care) leading strategic marketing and dealmaking functions.

- I'm passionate about climate change and environmental conservation. I've personally made many changes in our house / way of living to conserve energy, water, gas, and reduce waste, not all of which were easy, and some of which were thwarted. Since cities are a critical piece of the climate equation, I'd like to understand and help our city make decisions about utilities that lead us to sustainability while still meeting our residents' and businesses' needs.

Link to my professional experience:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/rachelecroft/>

2. Please describe an issue that recently came before the Commission that is of particular interest to you and describe why you are interested in it. If you have never been to a Commission meeting, you can view archived videos from the Midpen Media Center.

Archived videos are available from the [Midpen Media Center](#).

I'm very interested in all issues concerning sustainability and climate change. Cities will play a key role in reaching net zero and preserving the environment, and I'm personally interested in participating in the transition.

I watched the 2 most recent meetings online.

Examples of areas of interest:

- One Water Plan: As a lifelong peninsula resident and 14 year Palo Alto resident, I'm concerned by our drying climate, and I'm interested in helping the city solidify our long term water supply and reduce our collective demand. I personally removed my lawn, and installed rain sensors, smart irrigation, and a low flow toilet, but I would like to do more, and help Palo Alto help people reduce.

- Modernizing our grid for the gas to electric shift: I've made some energy efficiency changes to our house, but I tried and failed to get a heat pump furnace. I'm interested in helping PA create processes and services to ease electrification and make sure the grid can handle the increased demand.

3. If appointed, what specific goals would you like to see the Utilities Advisory Commission achieve, and how would you help in the process?

I would like to see measurable progress toward sustainability goals:

- **Increased electrification:** motivating and enabling our residents to electrify easily through procedures, permitting and grid upgrades - measured by electrification activities over 3 years, coupled with reductions in gas use.
- **Maintain stable, fair energy prices** for residents while maximizing PA's use of clean energy, measured by demand curve, energy source and prices.
- **Solidify long term sources of water**, grow efficiency programs, and increase reuse especially in landscape applications, measured via per capita water use, supply vs demand analysis, and reused water metrics, with a specific goal of decreasing PA's per capita water use during the next 3 years.
- **Broadly, my goal would be to be a productive contributing member of the commission** by listening to input from the city staff, residents, and regulatory agencies, contributing creative ideas, and helping make smart, equitable decisions for our community.

4. Utilities Advisory Commission Members work with the documents listed below. If you have experience with any of these documents, please describe that experience.

I'm familiar with the SCAP process and website, but I have not done any work directly with SCAP documents.

Experience with these documents is not required for selection.

[The Utilities Strategic Plan \(2018\)](#)

[The Long Term Electric Acquisition Plan \(2012\)](#)

[The Gas Utility Long-term Plan \(2017\)](#)

[Urban Water Management Plan \(2021\)](#)

[Ten-Year Electric Energy Efficiency Plan and Ten-Year Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Plan \(2012\)](#)

[Sustainability and Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#)

[Fiber-to-the-Premise Master Plan \(2015\)](#)

If you'd like to provide any additional documents, please upload below.

Please confirm that you have read the Boards and Commissions Handbook.

Yes

View the [Boards and Commissions Handbook](#).

Signature

Name of signatory: Rachel E Croft



[Link to signature](#)

Date Completed

02/06/2023

Utilities Advisory Commission Application

Submission date: **10 February 2023, 1:14PM**
Receipt number: **16**
Related form version: **6**

Personal Information

Name **Rajmohan Rajagopalan**

Address

City

Postal Code

Cell Phone Number

Home Phone Number

Email Address

Are you a Palo Alto resident? **Yes**

Do you have any relatives or members of your household who are employed by the City of Palo Alto, who are currently serving on the City Council, or who are Commissioners or Board Members?

No

Are you available and committed to complete the term applied for? **Yes**

Fair Political Practices

No

California state law requires board/commission members to file a disclosure of financial interests ([Fair Political Practices Commission, Conflict of Interest, Form 700](#)).

Do you/your spouse have an investment in, or do you or your spouse serve as an officer or director of, a company doing business in Palo Alto which you believe is likely to:

1. Engage in business with the City;
2. Provide products or services for City projects; or
3. Be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission?

Excluding your principal residence, do you or your spouse own real property in Palo Alto?

No

How did you learn about the vacancy on the Utilities Advisory Commission?

Palo Alto Weekly

Consent to Publish Personal Information on the City of Palo Alto Website

Read the code, and check only ONE option below:

I request that the City of Palo Alto redact my home address, phone numbers, and email address from the attached Board and Commission Application prior to posting to the City's website.

Personal and Job Experience

Please list your relevant education, training, experience, certificates of training, licenses, and professional registration. If describing work experience, please include company/employer name and occupation.

I am pursuing an Exec MBA at MIT Sloan School of Management (just about to graduate in June 2023) focusing on Sustainability. I also have a Master's degree in Computer Science and a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering.

Company/Employer Name	Microsoft
Occupation	General Manager
Is your Company/Employer your current one or last?	Current Employer
Please describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations, including dates and any offices held.	Volunteer in local community temple, board director in a non-profit focused on building sustainable habits among consumers -- Ecochallenge.org

Application Questions

1. What is it about the Utilities Advisory Commission that is compatible with your experience and of specific interest to you, and why?

Sustainability focus at MIT Sloan, Board member at Ecochallenge.org. Tech Industry veteran to help focus on the software and systems.

2. Please describe an issue that recently came before the Commission that is of particular interest to you and describe why you are interested in it. If you have never been to a Commission meeting, you can view archived videos from the Midpen Media Center.

City's Electric Grid Modernization Analysis presented on 02/01/2023. I'm interested in it as a resident of Palo Alto, one of the best and most advanced chartered cities anywhere on the planet, to understand where we are and what our roadmap looks like.

Archived videos are available from the [Midpen Media Center](#).

3. If appointed, what specific goals would you like to see the Utilities Advisory Commission achieve, and how would you help in the process?

1) I'd like to see Palo Alto the best city when it comes to modern and sustainable utility policies and incentives to residents and be a role model for other cities in the Bay Area, and the rest of the world to emulate.

2) I'd help as a principled and innovative leader and leverage my MIT network and my Microsoft experience and network for the city to achieve its goals.

4. Utilities Advisory Commission Members work with the **Fiber to the Premise Master Plan and Long Term Electric Acquisition Plan. Interested in both of these plans.** documents listed below. If you have experience with any of these documents, please describe that experience.

Experience with these documents is not required for selection.

[The Utilities Strategic Plan \(2018\)](#)

[The Long Term Electric Acquisition Plan \(2012\)](#)

[The Gas Utility Long-term Plan \(2017\)](#)

[Urban Water Management Plan \(2021\)](#)

[Ten-Year Electric Energy Efficiency Plan and Ten-Year Natural Gas](#)

[Energy Efficiency Plan \(2012\)](#)

[Sustainability and Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#)

[Fiber-to-the-Premise Master Plan \(2015\)](#)

If you'd like to provide any additional documents, please upload below.

Please confirm that you have read the Boards and Commissions Handbook.

Yes

View the [Boards and Commissions Handbook](#).

Signature

Name of signatory: Rajmohan Rajagopalan



[Link to signature](#)

Date Completed

02/10/2023

Utilities Advisory Commission Application

Submission date: 10 February 2023, 11:02AM
Receipt number: 15
Related form version: 6

Personal Information

Name RAMARAO V Digumarthi

Address [REDACTED]

City [REDACTED]

Postal Code [REDACTED]

Cell Phone Number [REDACTED]

Home Phone Number

Email Address [REDACTED]

Are you a Palo Alto resident? Yes

Do you have any relatives or members of your household who are employed by the City of Palo Alto, who are currently serving on the City Council, or who are Commissioners or Board Members? No

Are you available and committed to complete the term applied for? Yes

Fair Political Practices

No

California state law requires board/commission members to file a disclosure of financial interests ([Fair Political Practices Commission, Conflict of Interest, Form 700](#)).

Do you/your spouse have an investment in, or do you or your spouse serve as an officer or director of, a company doing business in Palo Alto which you believe is likely to:

1. Engage in business with the City;
2. Provide products or services for City projects; or
3. Be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission?

Excluding your principal residence, do you or your spouse own real property in Palo Alto?

No

How did you learn about the vacancy on the Utilities Advisory Commission?

Email from the City

Consent to Publish Personal Information on the City of Palo Alto Website

Read the code, and check only ONE option below:

I give permission for the City of Palo Alto to post to the City's website the attached Board and Commission Application intact. I have read and understand my rights under Government Code Section 6254.21. I may revoke this permission at any time by providing written notice to the Palo Alto City Clerk.

Personal and Job Experience

Please list your relevant education, training, experience, certificates of training, licenses, and professional registration. If describing work experience, please include company/employer name and occupation.

I am a Palo Alto resident for 40 years. I have Ph.D. From Stanford University in Aerospace Engineering. I worked in the Energy industry including green energy research for 20 years at International Power Technology and RANN. I worked as Senior Research Scientist at Lockheed Martin Palo Alto Labs. I have always watched the UAC work as a citizen of the Palo Alto and its effects on my utility bill.

Company/Employer Name

White Plume of Freedom Fiduciary Services / Self employed

Occupation

Professional Fiduciary

Is your Company/Employer your current one or last?

Current Employer

Please describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations, including dates and any offices held.

I was an active member of the PTA and local AYSO organizations. I am the current NPC for Fairmedow neighborhood and CERT.

Application Questions

1. What is it about the Utilities Advisory Commission that is compatible with your experience and of specific interest to you, and why?

I worked in the power industry in both research and production. I understand the energy industry and its effect on citizens including my utility bill as citizen of Palo Alto.

2. Please describe an issue that recently came before the Commission that is of particular interest to you and describe why you are interested in it. If you have never been to a Commission meeting, you can view archived videos from the Midpen Media Center.

Archived videos are available from the [Midpen Media Center](#).

I have not recently attended any of UAC meetings. I shall watch some of the recent archived videos

3. If appointed, what specific goals would you like to see the Utilities Advisory Commission achieve, and how would you help in the process?

I would moderate or reduce the cost of power in Palo Alto. I would like to accelerate the implementation of fiber across the city (it has taken very long time). I would like to see a further increase in the green energy portion of the power used in Palo Alto.

4. Utilities Advisory Commission Members work with the **I read thru the documents.** documents listed below. If you have experience with any of these documents, please describe that experience. Experience with these documents is not required for selection.

[The Utilities Strategic Plan \(2018\)](#)

[The Long Term Electric Acquisition Plan \(2012\)](#)

[The Gas Utility Long-term Plan \(2017\)](#)

[Urban Water Management Plan \(2021\)](#)

[Ten-Year Electric Energy Efficiency Plan and Ten-Year Natural Gas](#)

[Energy Efficiency Plan \(2012\)](#)

[Sustainability and Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#)

[Fiber-to-the-Premise Master Plan \(2015\)](#)

If you'd like to provide any additional documents, please upload below.

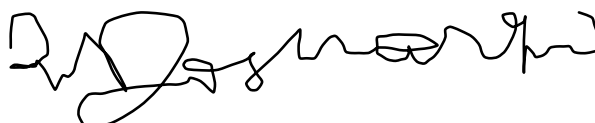
Please confirm that you have read the Boards and Commissions Handbook.

Yes

View the [Boards and Commissions Handbook](#).

Signature

Name of signatory: R.V. Digumarthi



[Link to signature](#)

Date Completed

02/10/2023

Utilities Advisory Commission Application

Submission date: 27 February 2023, 11:45AM
Receipt number: 28
Related form version: 6

Personal Information

Name	robert foley
Address	
City	
Postal Code	
Cell Phone Number	
Home Phone Number	
Email Address	
Are you a Palo Alto resident?	Yes
Do you have any relatives or members of your household who are employed by the City of Palo Alto, who are currently serving on the City Council, or who are Commissioners or Board Members?	No
Are you available and committed to complete the term applied for?	Yes

Fair Political Practices

No

California state law requires board/commission members to file a disclosure of financial interests ([Fair Political Practices Commission, Conflict of Interest, Form 700](#)).

Do you/your spouse have an investment in, or do you or your spouse serve as an officer or director of, a company doing business in Palo Alto which you believe is likely to:

1. Engage in business with the City;
2. Provide products or services for City projects; or
3. Be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission?

Excluding your principal residence, do you or your spouse own real property in Palo Alto?

No

How did you learn about the vacancy on the Utilities Advisory Commission?

Email from the City

Consent to Publish Personal Information on the City of Palo Alto Website

Read the code, and check only ONE option below:

I request that the City of Palo Alto redact my home address, phone numbers, and email address from the attached Board and Commission Application prior to posting to the City's website.

Personal and Job Experience

Please list your relevant education, training, experience, certificates of training, licenses, and professional registration. If describing work experience, please include company/employer name and occupation.

BS Mathematics College of the Holy Cross Worcester, MA
MS Mathematics Iowa State University Ames, Iowa
IBM manager for 25 years
Current company QView Medical Inc. Los Altos, CA
a resident of Palo Alto since 1972 - on leave to Dallas Tx 1979-1982.
involved in community affairs through the local Church, St. Thomas Aquinas
Stanford University IBM Resident scholar 1984-1986

Company/Employer Name

QView Medical, Inc.

Occupation

Manager

Is your Company/Employer your current one or last?

Current Employer

Please describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations, including dates and any offices held.

Jail ministry Redwood City San Mateo county 1991-1993
Board member Thomas Merton Center Palo Alto (St. Thomas Aquinas Church) 2001 -2003 and current member - Thomas Merton Center supports activities in East Palo Alto, supports Elizabeth Seton School, Palo Alto.

Application Questions

1. What is it about the Utilities Advisory Commission that is compatible with your experience and of specific interest to you, and why?

Business operations in the past 30 years with three startups - 2 were acquired, and one is still active.
I am involved in healthcare -- breast cancer early detection, which has perhaps more stringent regulatory requirements than utilities. I acted as regulatory affairs chief while gaining FDA approval for all three companies.

2. Please describe an issue that recently came before the Commission that is of particular interest to you and describe why you are interested in it. If you have never been to a Commission meeting, you can view archived videos from the Midpen Media Center.

Archived videos are available from the [Midpen Media Center](#).

The price of natural gas increases has been in the national and local news. All Palo Alto Altans have been effective. The process of commission approvals, movement of reserves to the general fund, and bridging the gap if something like this does and will happen again.

3. If appointed, what specific goals would you like to see the Utilities Advisory Commission achieve, and how would you help in the process?

Oversight of budgets, reserves, the safety of residents, affordability as best as can be done in these rising costs

4. Utilities Advisory Commission Members work with the documents listed below. If you have experience with any of these documents, please describe that experience. Experience with these documents is not required for selection.

[The Utilities Strategic Plan \(2018\)](#)

[The Long Term Electric Acquisition Plan \(2012\)](#)

[The Gas Utility Long-term Plan \(2017\)](#)

[Urban Water Management Plan \(2021\)](#)

[Ten-Year Electric Energy Efficiency Plan and Ten-Year Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Plan \(2012\)](#)

[Sustainability and Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#)

[Fiber-to-the-Premise Master Plan \(2015\)](#)

If you'd like to provide any additional documents, please upload below.

Please confirm that you have read the Boards and Commissions Handbook.

Yes

View the [Boards and Commissions Handbook](#).

Signature

Name of signatory: robert foley

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light yellow background. The signature is cursive and appears to read "Robert M. Foley".

[Uploaded signature image: rmf signature.jpg](#)

Date Completed

02/27/2023

Utilities Advisory Commission

Application

Submission date: **27 February 2023, 6:08PM**

Receipt number: **29**

Related form version: **6**

Personal Information

Name	Robert Phillips
Address	
City	
Postal Code	
Cell Phone Number	
Home Phone Number	
Email Address	
Are you a Palo Alto resident?	Yes
Do you have any relatives or members of your household who are employed by the City of Palo Alto, who are currently serving on the City Council, or who are Commissioners or Board Members?	Yes
Are you available and committed to complete the term applied for?	Yes

Fair Political Practices

No

California state law requires board/commission members to file a disclosure of financial interests ([Fair Political Practices Commission, Conflict of Interest, Form 700](#)).

Do you/your spouse have an investment in, or do you or your spouse serve as an officer or director of, a company doing business in Palo Alto which you believe is likely to:

1. Engage in business with the City;
2. Provide products or services for City projects; or
3. Be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission?

Excluding your principal residence, do you or your spouse own real property in Palo Alto?

Yes

How did you learn about the vacancy on the Utilities Advisory Commission?

Palo Alto Weekly

Consent to Publish Personal Information on the City of Palo Alto Website

Read the code, and check only ONE option below:

I request that the City of Palo Alto redact my home address, phone numbers, and email address from the attached Board and Commission Application prior to posting to the City's website.

Personal and Job Experience

Please list your relevant education, training, experience, certificates of training, licenses, and professional registration. If describing work experience, please include company/employer name and occupation.

PhD in Engineering Economic Systems from Stanford University, Bachelor Degrees in Mathematics and Economics from Washington State University. Previously Consultant and Advisor on Energy Policy to US Department of Energy and South Korea. Previously consulted on electric power planning and pricing to Pennsylvania Power and Light (PP&L), TVA, and Powergen (UK). Previously managing partner at a quantitative consulting company (Decision Focus Incorporated) and Professor of Professional Practice at Columbia Business School. Fellow of the International Federation of Operations Research and Management Science. Author of a MBA-level textbook on dynamic pricing including electric power.

Company/Employer Name

Retired

Occupation

Retired

Is your Company/Employer your current one or last?

Current Employer

Please describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations, including dates and any offices held.

Former Board Member for Environmental Volunteers 2006 - 2008.

Application Questions

1. What is it about the Utilities Advisory Commission that is compatible with your experience and of specific interest to you, and why?

Electric power and natural gas are complex markets. I am interested in helping Palo Alto Utilities work within these markets to provide energy to the city that is affordable, reliable and environmentally sustainable. I have an extensive background in both complex markets and in electric power markets and understand the underlying economics of electric power and natural gas.

2. Please describe an issue that recently came before the Commission that is of particular interest to you and describe why you are interested in it. If you have never been to a Commission meeting, you can view archived videos from the Midpen Media Center.

Archived videos are available from the [Midpen Media Center](#).

I am particularly interested in the questions of how the commission plans its acquisition of both electricity and natural gas, particularly in the context of the recent rate spike the city experienced in natural gas. Are we doing all we can as a city to cushion as much as possible Palo Alto citizens from future spikes?

3. If appointed, what specific goals would you like to see the Utilities Advisory Commission achieve, and how would you help in the process?

I would like to ensure that our plans for natural gas and electricity supply and the contracts that we enter into are consistent with the goals of providing reliable and environmentally sustainable energy to our citizens at the lowest cost, where environmentally sustainable includes reducing carbon emissions.

4. Utilities Advisory Commission Members work with the documents listed below. If you have experience with any of these documents, please describe that experience. Experience with these documents is not required for selection.

[The Utilities Strategic Plan \(2018\)](#)

[The Long Term Electric Acquisition Plan \(2012\)](#)

[The Gas Utility Long-term Plan \(2017\)](#)

[Urban Water Management Plan \(2021\)](#)

[Ten-Year Electric Energy Efficiency Plan and Ten-Year Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Plan \(2012\)](#)

[Sustainability and Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#)

[Fiber-to-the-Premise Master Plan \(2015\)](#)

I have read the strategic plan and the long-term electric acquisition plan.

If you'd like to provide any additional documents, please upload below.

Please confirm that you have read the Boards and Commissions Handbook.

View the [Boards and Commissions Handbook](#).

Yes

Signature

Name of signatory: Robert Phillips

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Phillips". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'R' and 'P'.

[Uploaded signature image: Signature.jpg](#)

Date Completed

02/27/2023

Utilities Advisory Commission

Application

Submission date: **12 March 2022, 6:24PM**

Receipt number: **1**

Related form version: **3**

Personal Information

Name **Siyi Zhang**

Address

City

Postal Code

Cell Phone Number

Home Phone Number

Email Address

Are you a Palo Alto resident?

Yes

Do you have any relatives or members of your household who are employed by the City of Palo Alto, who are currently serving on the City Council, or who are Commissioners or Board Members?

No

Are you available and committed to complete the term applied for?

Yes

Fair Political Practices

No

California state law requires board/commission members to file a disclosure of financial interests ([Fair Political Practices Commission, Conflict of Interest, Form 700](#)).

Do you/your spouse have an investment in, or do you or your spouse serve as an officer or director of, a company doing business in Palo Alto which you believe is likely to:

1. Engage in business with the City;
2. Provide products or services for City projects; or
3. Be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission?

Excluding your principal residence, do you or your spouse own real property in Palo Alto?

Yes

How did you learn about the vacancy on the Utilities Advisory Commission?

**Community Group
Email from the City**

Consent to Publish Personal Information on the City of Palo Alto Website

Read the code, and check only ONE option below:

I give permission for the City of Palo Alto to post to the City's website the attached Board and Commission Application intact. I have read and understand my rights under Government Code Section 6254.21. I may revoke this permission at any time by providing written notice to the Palo Alto City Clerk.

Alternate Contact Information - Address

Alternate Contact Information - Phone Number

Alternate Contact Information - Email

Personal and Job Experience

Please list your relevant education, training, experience, certificates of training, licenses, and professional registration.

(621 characters max)

I am very passionate about grid infrastructure and energy technology, with years of experience working in energy storage at Tesla, where I launched Tesla's ConnectedSolution Virtual Power Plant for National Grid & Eversource in Massachusetts. I also worked in EV charging (EV Connect), and currently focusing on home electrification at Lunar Energy. I see utility partnership a key for everyone to get reliable, affordable clean energy.

I hold engineering degrees from MIT and Stanford in renewable energy.

Linkedin Profile:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/greensiyi/>

Employment Information

Company/Employer Name

Lunar Energy

Occupation

Hardware Product Manager

Is your Company/Employer your current one or last?

Current Employer

Please describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations, including dates and any offices held.

(1311 characters max)

I am an active volunteer at Sun work, a local NGO that installs solar and heat pump water heaters for single-family homes across northern california.

Application Questions

1. What is it about the Utilities Advisory Commission that is compatible with your experience and of specific interest to you, and why?

(1449 characters max)

My whole career revolves around clean energy, and I believe forward-thinking utilities have to act now to transition to a zero-carbon future. I hope to bring my industry experience to the commission, initiate meaningful conversations with industry veterans, academia to make informed decisions, and take actions that solve the long-term need of our community.

2. Please describe an issue that recently came before the Commission that is of particular interest to you and describe why you are interested in it. If you have never been to a Commission meeting, you can view archived videos from the Midpen Media Center.

(1449 characters max)

Archived videos are available from the [Midpen Media Center](#).

I want to make solar and battery more accessible for Palo Alto residents. In my recent solar installation experience, five local installers outright declined to work with me because they don't want to deal with CPAU. I can't imagine how many potential solar owners in Palo Alto have turned away like me. I want to make the process easier for CPUC and installers so that all residents can benefit.

3. If appointed, what specific goals would you like to see the Utilities Advisory Commission achieve, and why? How would you suggest accomplishing this?

(1587 characters max)

See above.

5. Utilities Advisory Commission Members work with the documents listed below. If you have experience with any of these documents, please describe that experience. Experience with these documents is not required for selection.

(1035 characters max)

I have worked at the MIT office of sustainability in the past on the university's overall climate action plan. I am also very passionate about energy efficiency - in the process of retrofitting and electrifying my house in Palo Alto. Can provide real feedback on incentives, and ways to help home owners more educated.

[The Utilities Strategic Plan \(2018\)](#)

[The Long Term Electric Acquisition Plan \(2012\)](#)

[The Gas Utility Long-term Plan \(2017\)](#)

[Urban Water Management Plan \(2021\)](#)

[Ten-Year Electric Energy Efficiency Plan and Ten-Year Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Plan \(2012\)](#)

[Sustainability and Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#)

[Fiber-to-the-Premise Master Plan \(2015\)](#)

If you'd like to provide any additional documents, please upload below.

Please confirm that you have read the Boards and Commissions Handbook.

View the [Boards and Commissions Handbook](#).

Yes

Signature

Name of signatory: Siyi Zhang



[Link to signature](#)

Date Completed

03/12/2022

Utilities Advisory Commission

Personal Information – Note: The UAC regularly meets the first Wednesday of the month at 4:00 P.M.

Name: Dr. Terry Martin

Address: [REDACTED]

Cell Phone: n/a

☒ Home / ☐ Office Phone: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Are you a Palo Alto Resident? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Do you have any relatives or members of your household who are employed by the City of Palo Alto, who are currently serving on the City Council, or who are Commissioners or Board Members? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Are you available and committed to complete the term applied for? ☒ Yes ☐ No

California state law requires appointed board and commission members to file a detailed disclosure of their financial interests ([Fair Political Practices Commission](#), [Conflict of Interest](#), [Form 700](#)).

Do you or your spouse have an investment in, or do you or your spouse serve as an officer or director of, a company doing business in Palo Alto which you believe is likely to;

1) engage in business with the City,

2) provide products or services for City projects, or

3) be affected by decisions of the board or commission you are applying for? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Excluding your principal residence, do you or your spouse own real property in Palo Alto? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Consent to Publish Personal Information on the City of Palo Alto Website

California Government Code Section 6254.21 states, in part, "No state or local agency shall post the home address or telephone number of any elected or appointed official on the Internet without first obtaining the written permission of that individual." *This consent form will not be redacted and will be attached to the Application and posted to the City's website.*

For the full code, review the California Government Code [Section 6254.21](#)

Read the code, and check only ONE option below:

☐

I give permission for the City of Palo Alto to post to the City's website the attached Board and Commission Application intact. I have read and understand my rights under Government Code Section 6254.21. I may revoke this permission at any time by providing written notice to the Palo Alto City Clerk.

OR

☒

I request that the City of Palo Alto redact my home address, phone numbers, and email address from the attached Board and Commission Application prior to posting to the City's website.

I am providing the following alternate information and request that they use the following contact information instead:

Address:

Cell Phone:

☐

Home / ☐ Office Phone: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

How did you learn about the vacancy on the Utilities Advisory Commission?

(Select more than one if applicable)

☐

Community Group

☐

Email from the City

☐

Palo Alto Weekly

☐

Daily Post

☐

City Website

☐

Flyer

Other: NextDoor website

List relevant education, training, experience, certificates of training, licenses, or professional registration: (621 characters)

PhD in Experimental Physics/ Stanford

19 year career at Stanford from 1970's thru 1980's, including Nobel prize winning research (team member).

Deputy Operations Director at SLAC, prior to joining the private sector.

In the 1990's Varian R&D manager, Varian CIO, and CEO of my own software company.

Also designed and managed a private corporate fiber network.

Employment

☐

Current Employer

☒

Last Employer

Employer: Self (Wynn Martin Teechnology)

Occupation: Corporate information architect

Describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations: (1311 characters)

Not much beyond assisting my neighbors solve household problems.

I am applying now only because I think my technical and business management background could be useful to improve Palo Alto Utility service.

1. What is it about the Utilities Advisory Commission that is compatible with your experience and of specific interest to you, and why? (1518 characters)

I have a somewhat unique background that could be useful in both the technical and business side of utility services.

Even before high school I gained hands on experience with carpentry, plumbing, and electrical projects, and that interest lives on today with countless home improvement projects. At SLAC I was in charge of designing and building a \$10,000,000 vacuum "pipe" with various components powered by 12KV electrical feeds. I am familiar with utility technology from the end user perspective as well as the system provider viewpoint.

In the 1990's, fate led me to become a pioneer in the corporate transition from mainframe computing to networked PC's. My focus became understanding corporate workflows and requirements, and developing custom software to support maximum efficiency and quality. My work was in high demand, and I was able to retire 20 years ago.

After owning my home for 46 years, I believe it could be possible to improve quality and lower cost, so I will offer assistance.

2. Please describe an issue that recently came before the Commission that is of particular interest to you and describe why you are interested in it. If you have never been to a Commission meeting you can view an archived video from the [Midpen Media Center](#). (1518 characters)

I have two main areas of interest.

- 1) Electrical grid reliability, to ensure maximum fault tolerance
- 2) Fiber networking. No agenda, except to consider "all" the factors and make correct decisions.

And a general interest in improving quality and lowering operation costs.

3. If appointed, what specific goals would you like to see the Utilities Advisory Commission achieve, and why? How would you suggest accomplishing this? (1656 characters)

I would not set out with an agenda, or want to assume a political leadership role. Rather, I could be useful as a technical fact checker, and perhaps someone capable of looking more deeply into the consequences of various proposals. Both my technical and business careers were successful because of my problem solving ability.

4. Utilities Advisory Commission Members work with the documents listed below. If you have experience with any of these documents, please describe that experience. Experience with these documents is not required for selection. (1035 characters)

[The Utilities Strategic Plan \(2018\)](#)

[The Long Term Electric Acquisition Plan \(2012\)](#)

[The Gas Utility Long-term Plan \(2017\)](#)

[Urban Water Management Plan \(2016\)](#)

[Ten-Year Electric Energy Efficiency Plan and Ten-Year Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Plan \(2012\)](#)

[Sustainability and Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#)

[Fiber-to-the-Premise Master Plan \(2015\)](#)

No experience to date, as I just learned of this option to apply.

5. Please confirm that you have read the Boards and Commissions Handbook: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Signature: (Please type or sign) Terry Martin Date: 2/27/23