

Meeting Minutes – Draft
Governing Board of the Green Empowerment Zone (GEZ)

Supervisor John Gioia, Chair
Assemblymember Lori Wilson, Vice Chair
Chuck Leonard, Vice Chair

Friday, March 21, 2025

8:30 AM

**30 Muir Rd. ZA Conference Room,
Martinez, CA 94553**

ZOOM:

<https://cccouny-us.zoom.us/j/88323737930>

(888) 278-0254

Conference Code: 841892

1. The public may attend this meeting in person at the above location. The public may also attend this meeting remotely via Zoom or call-in.
2. Agenda Items: Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Governing Board.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.

Chair John Gioia called the meeting to order.

2. Public comment on items not on agenda
3. Review and Approve the Meeting Records from the January 17, 2025, Meeting.

There is a quorum to review and approve the Meeting Record from January 17, 2025.

A motion was made to approve the January 17, 2025, minutes. All were in favor.

4. Receive update on the release of the final Contra Costa Refinery Transition Partnership Reports (UCB Labor Center)

*The UC Labor Center gave a two-part presentation titled **Just Transition Economic Development Framework & GEZ Priority Technology Research**. The presentation first addressed the findings from Refining Transition: A Just Transition Economic Development Framework for Contra Costa County and then a GEZ CEM prioritization update.*

The baseline challenges continue to be economic inequality and environmental justice.

The report details which jobs and fields are growing and shrinking in Contra Costa. The County continues to suffer from some of the highest rates of pollution in the State and specifically communities that contain low-income people of color. Refinery transition is occurring and is already underway. Additional closures are likely by 2045. This transition will have consequences of loss of quality blue collar jobs, loss of critical local tax revenue, and pollution and cleanup needs. The transition is not the end but can allow efforts to address the underlying challenges of economic inequality and environmental justice.

The three priorities for a just transition are good jobs, healthy communities, and economic resilience.

1. Good jobs: Goal of increased quality jobs and ensuring accessibility to opportunity for groups most impacted by refinery transition.

2. Healthy communities: Goal of reducing pollution in pollution burdened communities in efforts to improve health outcomes.

3. Economic resilience: Goal of reducing economic dependency on fossil fuels production by diversifying industries that greatly affect the county tax revenue.

5. Adjourn.

The date for the next meeting of the Governing Board of the Green Empowerment Zone will be Friday, May 16, 2025.

Vice Chair Leonard adjourned the meeting.