

TO: GEZ Governing Board

FROM: Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia, GEZ Chair
Assemblymember Lori Wilson, GEZ Deputy Chair
Chuck Leonard, UA Local 342, GEZ Deputy Chair

DATE: March 9, 2026

SUBJECT: Recommendations for Green Empowerment Zone Executive Committee Appointments

The Green Empowerment Zone (GEZ) enabling legislation requires the formation of an Executive Committee to be composed of up to 10 members of its Board, including the Chair and the two (2) Deputy Chairs. The officers discussed the importance of appointing the remaining seven (7) Executive Committee members in a way that insures a broad cross section of representation of the different stakeholder groups that serve on the Board.

At the last Governing Board meeting, the Board approved the recommendation by the Officers that the 7 additional members of the Executive Committee be representatives of the following stakeholder groups:

- 3 Elected Local Government Officials
- 1 Business Representative
- 1 Labor Representative
- 1 Environmental Justice/Community Representative
- 1 Industry Representative

Boardmembers in these stakeholder groups were asked to express their interest by February 27, 2026. The following individuals expressed interest in being considered for appointment to the Executive Committee:

- Labor Organization – Josh Anijar, Executive Director of the Contra Costa Central Labor Council
- Industrial – Marathon Refinery and Phillips 66 Refinery
- Business – Mark Orcutt, President/CEO of the East Bay Leadership Council, Zen Hunter-Ishikawa of the Norcal Venture Forum

- Local Government representatives: Mayor Brianne Zorn, Mayor of Martinez; Charles Palmares, Vallejo Councilmember, Doria Robinson, Vice Mayor of Richmond, Arlene Kobata, Pittsburg Councilmember; Carlyn Obringer, Concord Councilmember; Kari Birdseye, Benicia Councilmember; Anissa Williams, Oakley Councilmember; and Alexander Walker-Griffin, Hercules Vice-Mayor, Devin Murphy, Pinole City Councilmember.
- Environmental Justice/Environment representative – Theresa Hade, Fairfield, and with Diablo Valley College, Delon A Craft Sr., Antioch, and of STS Academy, William Goodwin, Pittsburg and member of Bay Area Air District Community Advisory Council.

After considering the goal of broad stakeholder and geographic representation, the officers recommend the following individuals to be appointed to the Executive Committee:

- Elected Officials – Martinez Mayor Brianne Zorn; Richmond Vice-Mayor Doria Robinson; Benicia City Councilmember Kari Birdseye **(The officers are recommending that the cities with refineries – Richmond, Benicia and Martinez – be prioritized for representation on the Executive Committee since they are facing the greatest challenges)**
- Business Representative – Mark Orcutt, President/CEO of East Bay Leadership Council
- Labor Representative – Josh Anijar, Executive Director of Contra Costa Central Labor Council
- Industry Representative - Tiffany Roberts – Phillips 66, Rodeo
- Environmental Justice/Community Representative – William Goodwin, Pittsburg

These seven (7) individuals would join the existing officers (Supervisor John Gioia, Assemblymember Lori Wilson and Chuck Leonard) on the Executive Committee.