

**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, November 21, 2025**

**9:30 AM**

**1025 Escobar  
Room 110A/B/C  
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 of the September 19, 2025, Meeting.

*There is a quorum to review and approve the Meeting Record from September 19, 2025.*

*A motion was made to approve September 19, 2025, minutes. All were in favor.*

4. RECEIVE Update on Frequency of Governing Board Meetings

*Governing Board currently meets every other month. Senator Grayson recommended utilizing working groups to allow GEZ work to move forward at an accelerated schedule. Increasing Governing Board meetings could prove to be difficult due to member's schedules. The Labor Center stated that their research schedule is planned according to the current GEZ meeting schedule. The Chair stated that in the future meetings can be added into the schedule when a need demands it. The topic of meeting frequency will be further discussed once the additional Governing Board members are*

finalized in January.

A Governing Board member requested a work plan be provided to the Board. The Chair requested that the UC Labor Center present a work plan at the January 2026 meeting.

## 5. RECEIVE Update on Filling of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee will be addressed once the 7 additional Governing Board seats are filled in at the next January meeting. The 7 seats will be filled by individuals with a background in community environmental justice. The Exec. Committee will be composed of chairs, two deputy chairs, and up to 7 other members of the Governing Board.

## 6. RECEIVE Update on SB227 and the Process for Filling Seven (7) Environmental and Environmental Justice Seats

The upcoming January meeting will be when applications are reviewed and voting on who to award seats to will occur. Desired applicants will range from across the green empowerment zone and come from various professions. A February meeting may be required to then vote on who will be placed on the Executive Committee. A special December meeting was mentioned but due to members constrained schedules, it was decided best not to pursue.

## 7. RECEIVE Update on Green Empowerment Zone Website and the TeamCalifornia Site Selectors' Conference

Contra Costa County and Golden Shovel launched the [Green Empowerment Zone](#) website in November 2025. An accelerated timeline began in August 2025, to meet the Governing Board's fall deadline. Golden Shovel offers content creation tools with their services. They will provide quick website updates and assist in managing social media accounts for the GEZ. Also, the Governing Board members can publish their own personal work and host webinars on the website that will be available underneath their individual profiles.

Committee members requested adding unincorporated community profiles as well and to ensure that each community profile is accurate. As the website evolves each individual community will be able to tailor their profiles to best represent them.

On November 5-7, Contra Costa County hosted the TeamCA Meet the Consultants Forum at the Concord Hilton. The County and East Bay EDA partnered to host a Northern Waterfront Bus Tour. A lookbook was developed and staff connected with site selectors to better understand how to promote the GEZ to national and international investors.

## 8. Adjourn

*The date for the next meeting of the Governing Board of the Green Empowerment Zone will be Friday, January 16, 2026.*

*Chair Gioia adjourned the meeting.*