

**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, September 20, 2024 9:30 AM 1025 Escobar St. Conference Room A/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. Review and Approve the Meeting Record from the June 21, 2024, Meeting

There was a quorum to review and approve the Meeting Record from the June 21, 2024, Meeting. Motion to approve June 21, 2024, meeting minutes passed unanimously.

3. Consider Approving Amendments to the Green Empowerment Zone Bylaws that Allow for all Members of the Governing Board to Appoint an Alternate

A motion to approve the amendments to the Green Empowerment Zone Bylaws that allow for all Members of the Governing Board to appoint an alternate was made.

The committee unanimously approved amendments to the Green Empowerment Zone Bylaws that call for all Board Members to appoint an alternate.

There was no public comment.

4. Consider Confirming Four Small Business and Economic Development Directors Nominated by the Association of Bay Area Governments to the GEZ

A motion was made to confirm the representatives nominated by the Association of Bay Area Governments who will sit on the GEZ Board of Directors for the required 2-year term.

The Board of Directors voted unanimously to approve the representatives nominated by the Association of Bay Area Governments.

There was no public comment.

5. Consider Confirming Five Directors Representing Workforce Development and Public and Private Educational Entities Nominated by the Association of Bay Area Governments to the GEZ

A motion was made to confirm the representatives nominated by the Association of Bay Area Governments who will sit on the GEZ Board of Directors for the required 2-year term.

The Board of Directors voted unanimously to approve the representatives nominated by the Association of Bay Area Governments.

There was no public comment.

6. Consider Waiving the Requirement that the Representative of the California Energy Commission Reside Within the GEZ

Chair Gioia requested for the amendment to include all four (4) State agencies identified in the legislation, not just the California Energy Commission. These additional State agencies are California Air Resources Board, California Transportation Commission, California Workforce Development. Also Chair Gioia stated that additional language be added to the amendment stating that the representative does not need to reside within the Green Empowerment Zone to participate. This request was made to ensure that the representative from each State agency is an expert in the topics the GEZ will focus on.

Assemblymember Tim Grayson commented that the State agencies representatives for GEZ board be at least in proximity of the designated GEZ area if they can not find someone who resides within the boundary.

Chair Gioia made a motion to wave the requirements for the four (4) State agencies representatives to reside within the GEZ boundary.

The Board of Directors voted unanimously to approve the motion to waive the requirement that board members must reside within the designated GEZ boundary for the four (4) State agencies.

7. Receive Informational Presentation on Plan Bay Area 2050 and Priority Production Areas (Metropolitan Transportation Commission)

Ada Chan with the local planning team at MTC-ABAG presented on Priority Production Areas (PPAs) in Contra Costa County. In 2025-26, MTC-ABAG hopes to see the outcome of the strategic planning process which ended up in Plan Bay Area 2050 by evaluating the outcome of the four PPA areas that were funded. The Green Empowerment Zone was one of the funding groups to support MTC-ABAG's efforts. Seven PPA sites from Contra Costa County were included in the PPA program. Ada's request to the GEZ Board of Directors is to continue to be engaged with the PPA Pilot Program throughout the life of the pilot which is planned to finalize the efficacy of the PPA Pilot Program in 2026.

8. Receive Update on Contract to Retain UC Berkeley to Conduct Foundational Research, Support Stakeholder Engagement and Technical Assistance, and to Make Policy Recommendations to Support the Green Empowerment Zone (Jessie Hammerling, UC Labor Center)

Jessie Hammerling presented that additional staff (Will Toaspern) was added to the Labor Center team to assist specifically with work in Contra Costa. To initiate a kick-off for their work, they will be meeting with all GEZ cities' Economic Development staff on 10/2/24. UC Labor Center staff would also like to meet with each GEZ Board member. These meetings will allow the team to better understand the needs of each unique participant in the GEZ.

9. Receive Update on Filling Governing Board Seats as Identified in Green Empowerment Zone Legislation (Alyson Greenlee, Department of Conservation & Development)

The GEZ Board of Directors officially introduced themselves as this is the first meeting with a majority of the seats filled.

10. Public comment on items not on agenda.

No public comment.

11. Adjourn.