



# Citizens Advisory Committee

## Monthly Meeting Notes

### November 13, 2019 Meeting

- On Wednesday, November 13, 2019 the CAC held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting.
  - CEO Paula Gold-Williams discussed the state of the utility as the year comes to an end. She shared pride for the utility's workforce and the stellar job they do, specifically noting the immense pride she feels for CPS Energy retirees. Having recently met a retiree who was one of the first female to work for CPS Energy, this made an incredible impression on her and we must continue to serve our community building on this legacy.
  - She continued by reviewing the past year, with the utility having started the year conservatively, with approx. 7,000 MW of capacity that requires preventative maintenance, etc. – being frugal to contain costs maximizing our revenues to invest back into the system. These efforts and our diverse generation assets have provided reliable power and tremendous value for our customers. Meanwhile, there is movement toward increasing renewables in our generation portfolio as CPS Energy continues to execute its **FlexiblePath** and **FlexPOWER** Bundle strategies by continuing the many power reliability initiatives across the system.
  - The utility does have a challenge in getting enough information out to the public. We continue efforts to develop proper responses to information requests and questions from the public.
  - Ms. Gold-Williams noted that have not declared a rate increase but continue to look very hard at the numbers. We cannot always count on wholesale sales or that there will be sufficient capacity on the ERCOT grid.
  - Time of Use rates are currently being explored and there will be continued discussion on the feasibility of customer adoption.
  - Following Ms. Gold-Williams comments, a briefing on the GRIDEX exercise to follow was given by Shanna Ramirez, Interim Vice President of Integrated Security. This is a training opportunity for CPS Energy and community stakeholders to test their emergency incident response plans; this exercise satisfies several compliance requirements and tests our ability to execute collaboratively across the enterprise and outside emergency responders. Possible emergency scenarios could be cyber threats or physical attacks. Utilities across the country will be participating with outside agencies that would be involved in a real-life scenario.

- Following the briefing, CAC members joined the GRIDEX exercise in progress at the La Villita Building which will take place for a 2-day period.

### **December 3, 2019 Meeting**

- On Wednesday, December 3, 2019 the CAC held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting.
  - Considered the new Executive Board members
    - New Executive Committee Members selected were:
      - David Walter, Chair
      - Luisa Casso, Chair-Elect
      - Bill Day, Vice Chair
      - Robert Romero, Immediate Past Chair
  - Following the regular order of business, the CAC Annual Holiday Meeting began. The group included CPS Energy staff, CAC members and a guest.

### **January 15, 2020 Meeting**

- On Wednesday, January 15, 2020 the CAC held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting.

Basileo Rocha, Midtown Substation Project Manager described the area the substation would be serving which includes the north central community and the midtown regional center identified in the SA Tomorrow plan. This is an area of increasing density. This substation will increase capacity in the northern downtown area to support residential and commercial growth and strengthen reliability. He reviewed the site and noted that (3) substation transformers will be looped into the existing 138 kV transmission line.

- The strategic site is located at 2215 Belknap Place
- The site is 2.1 acres in size
- A strategic purchase option exists on this property
- Target powering date is Jan. 2023
- An open house was held to gain public input on September 19<sup>th</sup>

Further, Mr. Rocha described this substation will utilize Gas Insulated Substation (GIS) technology to fit the substation on this site and a decorative wall will be constructed for enhanced aesthetics. Neighborhood association feedback topics included lighting, noise, spatial buffer, shifting site into neighboring property, vegetation wall, alternative sites, a dog park (pocket park) and radio interference. Additional community feedback and in collaboration with Councilman Trevino and HEB resulted in:

- Adjustments made in the HEB parking lot
- Moving substation equipment further from homes, creating a spatial buffer
- Additional community outreach efforts continue throughout the construction process

March 2020 is targeted for Board of Trustee approval of project & property purchase.

The project team was seeking a resolution from the CAC in support for this project.

Kevin Matula, Manager, Local Government Relations presented the results of the 2019 CAC Survey. Its purpose is to seek input from the CAC on effectiveness of the committee, CEO and staff effectiveness and the areas of interest for 2020. Some highlights were:

- 93% of respondents felt that CEO/Senior Leadership/Staff is engaged with the CAC
- 93% of respondents felt that CAC meeting format/topics are conducive to helping understand CPS's mission and vision

Results also indicated that CAC members engage with the community, share information and interact with elected officials and their constituencies at varying levels. Data received through the survey also provided members the opportunity to share topics of interest for the 2020 program development effort.