standardized report of  
city boards & commissions

# aDVISORY bOARD NAME:

# Sustainable Energy ADVSIORY BOARD (SEAB)

## MISSION AND DUTIES OF THE ADVISORY BOARD

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|  | What are the Mission and Duties of the Advisory Board, as established by the Municipal Code?  The Sustainable Energy Advisory Board (SEAB) was established by the San Diego City Council to serve as an advisory board to the Mayor, City Council and (formerly) City Manager on energy policy and future energy needs for the metropolitan San Diego area and to assist the City’s attainment of its energy independence and renewable energy goals. The duties and functions of SEAB are described in section 26.04 of the San Diego Municipal Code. |

## ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE ADVISORY BOARD

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|  | Please write a brief summary of the actions taken by the Advisory Board that year.  This is a summary of background actions and key actions taken in the July 2018 to April 2019 period.  For the last two years, SEAB’s focus has been on these three goal areas with special emphasis and attention on assisting the City to evaluate strategies for achieving the goal of 100% renewable energy on the city-wide electrical grid by 2035. This has included reviewing both the CCA Feasibility Study and the alternate approach offered by SDG&E. SEAB’s comment letter on the CCA Feasibility Study was submitted to the Mayor and City Council in late November 2017. SEAB’s comment letter on the alternative proposal presented by SDG&E was submitted to the Mayor and City Council on May 15, 2018.  SEAB provided Guiding Principles for the Feasibility Study for Community Choice Aggregation proposal based on working group recommendations and public stakeholder input and testimony. Neither these guiding principles nor any other SEAB recommendations on the subject of Community Choice Aggregation reflect the input or recommendations of SDG&E, which has refrained from participating in discussions on this subject in compliance with the Community Choice Code of Conduct that has been adopted by the California Public Utilities Commission.  The City engaged Willdan Financial Services to prepare a feasibility study for a community choice aggregate. Based on the positive outcome of the CCA feasibility study for the City of San Diego, city staff commissioned development of a CCA Business Plan in 2018. The consulting firm, MRW, was retained to develop the CCA Business Plan. SEAB received the Business Plan in late October 2018 and MRW joined our November meeting telephonically to give a brief presentation of the plan and respond to Board questions. SEAB voted to be on record as supporting formation of community choice provided that further attention is given to certain issues in the implementation plan as specified in a January 3, 2019 letter to the Mayor and City Council.  In July, Andy Hoskinsen, of the Centre for Sustainable Energy, gave a presentation to SEAB on California’s Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Project and Sustainability staff member Lorie Cosio-Azar made a presentation on the status of the proposed Municipal Energy Strategy.  In August, Michael Favaloro of the Public Utilities Department gave a presentation on Pure Water and the Water/Energy Nexus. SEAB was dark in September because several board members planned to attend the Global Climate Summit in San Francisco.  In October the Board discussed suggestions for operating procedures from Sustainability Department staff and accepted those suggestions not in conflict with the adopted SEAB General Operating Procedures. Priorities for future presentations and the 2019 work plan were discussed.  Cody Hooven, Chief Sustainability Officer for the City of San Diego and Mark Fulmer, of MRW, presented the CCA Business Plan in November and the Board took action as described above. SEAB scheduled a presentation on Socioeconomic Equity in November but the speaker from the Greenlining Institute was not able to attend.  While the December meeting did not achieve a quorum for action items, Board members present received presentations by SDGE representatives on their Energy Storage projects and proposed plans under review by the CPUC. The Office of the Mayor Director for Boards and Commissions, Joel Day presented information on City review of recommendations by the City Auditor and discussed the experience and efficacy of SEAB with Board members present who urged the Mayor and City Council not to consolidate the SEAB with other Boards due to the dilution of attention to energy goals which are major components of the City’s Climate Action Plan. |

## ADVISORY BOARD MEETINGS

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|  | What were the number of Advisory Board meetings and what were the issues discussed?  Eleven meetings were held. Please see #2. on the issues discussed. |

## MEETING CANCELATIONS

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|  | What were the number of meetings cancelled and what was the reasoning?  One meeting was adjourned. Most of the members had scheduling conflicts. |

## AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITIES

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|  | What are the number of vacant positions on the Advisory Board?  There are four vacant positions, the SDG&E seat has been appointed, pending confirmation by Council. |

## EXPIRED MEMBERSHIP

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|  | What are the number of members serving on expired terms?  There are seven members serving on expired terms; reappointments, pending confirmation by Council. |

## CONCERNS OR SUGGESTIONS TO BRING TO THE COUNCIL

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|  | Do you have any suggestions or concerns that you would like to bring to the Council’s attention?   1. Municipal Code Provision Recommendations   Portions of the Municipal Code Section 26.04 should be updated. SEAB adopted recommendations in May 2015 which were provided to the Mayor, City Council Environment Committee and the City Attorney. SEAB Chairperson forwarded a marked-up copy of the relevant section of the San Diego Municipal Code to the Mayor and City Council by letter dated May 15, 2017. SEAB respectfully requests that section 26.04 of the Municipal Code governing SEAB be updated. Section (c) "Duties and Functions" at subitem (8) should reflect that SEAB will "Coordinate energy planning activities with the new City Sustainability Department."   1. SEAB Membership   SEAB currently has three open board seats, one seat is pending confirmation by Council, which we would like the Mayor and City Council to fill. In addition, all current Board seat terms are expired as of March 2018, pending confirmation of reappointments, and current members continue to serve and have indicated their interest in continuing to serve on the Board.  San Diego Municipal Code currently defines SEAB membership as follows:   1. San Diego Regional Energy Office (SANDAG) 2. San Diego Gas & Electric Company 3. Environmental Advocate 4. Labor Organization 5. Solar Power System Manufacturer or Installer 6. Building Industry 7. Chamber of Commerce/Business Community   In addition, there are two regular at-large members and two at-large alternate members.  We recommend expanding the current board membership by two seats. One additional seat should be designated for Cleantech San Diego and another board seat should be designated for a Communities of Concern representative/advocate.  The Municipal Code recommendations we have provided update the first seat to indicate the practice of designating that seat from the Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE) since the San Diego Regional Energy Office no longer exists. Hanna Grene, of CSE, accepted a new position with another organization in October. We have been informed that CSE has designated a new representative for Mayoral nomination.  The position for a Solar Power System Manufacturer or Installer was vacated in March 2017 with the resignation of John Bumgarner, who also served as SEAB Chair. We understand that at least one qualified individual has expressed interest in serving in this seat.    SDG&E’s representative resigned in January 2019 because she has a new position in the same organization. A new presentative has been appointed, pending confirmation. Labor Organization’s representative also resigned in March 2019 because he has a new position in a different organization.  It is our understanding that the City Council can make appointments to these seats and expired seats if the Mayor does not appoint within 45 days of the expiration of those terms or vacancy in a seat. |
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## ASSISTANCE TO THE BOARD

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|  | Please provide an estimate of the City staff hours assisting in administering the Board.  12 hours a month. |

## VOLUNTEER HOURS

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|  | Please provide an estimate of the volunteer hours by commissioners.  5 hours a month. |

# advisory board activites

Please provide 4-5 pictures of the Advisory Board Activities

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| PDF Files | Title of Activity | Date of Event |
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