



***A Blast from the Past!** Remember when the power plant on the Chula Vista Bayfront was [demolished](#) in 2013 to make way for the Chula Vista Bayfront Master Plan? Read on to learn the latest energy policy decision that will affect you and future generations of Chula Vistans.*

Dear Northwest Chula Vista Neighbors and Friends,

Hopefully, this newsletter finds you relaxed, happy, and enjoying this beautiful Chula Vista summer.

You can stop reading at this point and skip to the next section of this newsletter if you'd prefer to keep it light...

I wanted to call your attention to an item on [next Tuesday's council agenda](#) that is probably **the biggest and most consequential vote that I will make as your councilperson.**

It has flown under the radar, as it were, because it is a complicated subject. So I am going to try to state this as simply as I can: **I am very worried that we may be rushing into a complex and risky situation. And we haven't asked our constituents to weigh in.**

Here is a [link](#) to the San Diego Union Tribune's commentary about **Community Choice Aggregation.**

Chula Vista has a proud and beautiful history of being an environmental leader. We are making a [difference](#).

Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for other cities in the county. Or the state.

The State of California issued a mandate (SB100) to utility companies that electricity MUST come from 100% renewable sources by 2045. The mandate is phased-in, 44% renewable by 2024, 52% renewable by 2027, 60% renewable by 2030, and 100% greenhouse gas-free by 2045.

We are very proud of California for issuing this achievable climate mandate – 100% renewable energy by 2045. It will make a big difference for our planet. Jobs are being created in the Green Economy up and down the state. SDG&E is ahead of its goals, which cannot be said for other utility companies.

With the California State mandate, **the burden, risk, and responsibility of conforming to state climate goals is on the utility companies and their private investors.**

Last year, the city of San Diego challenged SDG&E to achieve 100% renewable energy **by 2035, 10 years early.** SDG&E turned the tables and challenged the city of San Diego to achieve that goal, and to take on the burden of buying electricity for its residents and businesses through Community Choice Aggregation.

Due to this potential shakeup of local electricity rules and governance, Chula Vista hired a consultant to study whether our city should form or join a group of other government agencies to form a Community Choice Aggregation entity. We wanted to understand if we should take on the responsibility of forecasting and buying energy contracts for all customers in our city limits – and use our local utility, SDG&E, for transmission only.

SDG&E's renewable portfolio is expected to be 46% in 2021 and 60% by 2030, **meeting the state's renewable energy mandates.**

It is clear that SDG&E could be more aggressive and invest in more renewable resources if they wanted to meet San Diego's challenge to achieve 100% renewable ten years earlier than the 2045 deadline.

That being said, I believe that for Chula Vista, the risks in forming a Community Choice Aggregation partnership are enormous. The city's study identified a **possible 2% savings** on the electricity portion of an average customer's utility bill. However, according to the study, roughly two-thirds of a customer's bill would be for transmission, collected and managed by SDG&E.

Should the City of Chula Vista take on this risk? We cannot 100% insulate our General Fund from this risk.

I very strongly believe that there is no need to rush this decision. The cost to exit and reverse course once a decision is made will be great.

Our community deserves a robust debate on this subject.

The Chula Vista City Council will vote on Tuesday, September 10, on the terms of a partnership with the City of San Diego to purchase electricity for all residential and business customers.

If you would like to weigh in on this subject, please email me and all councilmembers and the mayor. Please encourage our local news stations and print media to weigh in on this monumental decision.

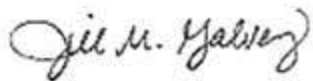
You can read the feasibility study our city paid for [here](#). You can read the staff report [here](#). You can watch council comments and debate on the subject [here](#) (item #15) and [here](#). You can read the staff report for item #12 on Tuesday, September 10th's council meeting [here](#).

You can read the San Diego Union Tribune article about our last vote [here](#). Note a correction: San Diego has not agreed to absorb the costs of setting up the JPA – they would be reimbursed by Chula Vista and other ratepayers.

This is a far-reaching decision that, in my opinion, should not be decided by a simple 3-2 majority of your city council on Tuesday, September 10th.

Thank you for your consideration.

Warm regards,



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Si desea recibir este boletín en español, responda a este correo electrónico y solicite la versión en español.

•••• Happening in September ••••

Happy Labor Day, *Monday, September 2nd*

National Grandparents' Day, *Sunday, September 8th*

LGBTQ+ Day, *Saturday, September 14th*

Mexican Independence Day, *Monday, September 16th (celebrations begin on September 15th)*

Veteran's Advisory Commission Meeting, *Wednesday, September 18th, 6pm
Chula Vista Police Department Community Room*

Chula Vista Police Department Shoes and Socks Give-Away, *Saturday, September 21st*

Join our CVPD School Resource Officers and help with monetary donations to provide new shoes and socks for 500 local boys and girls. Click here for more information.

Coastal Cleanup Day, *Saturday, September 21st, 9am – 12pm*

Sponsored by I Love a Clean San Diego. Chula Vista volunteers meet at Chula Vista Marina View Park on J Street and Chula Vista Bayside Park. Click [here](#) to register or for more information.

Oktoberfest Fun, *Saturday, September 21st, 2:30pm/3:30pm/4:30pm, Tavern at the Vogue, 230 Third Avenue*

Celebrate the first day of Oktoberfest at Chula Vista's [newest eatery, Tavern at the Vogue](#). Pretzel eating contest at 2:30pm, stein-holding contest at 3:30pm, Oktoberfest costume contest 4:30pm. For more details, click [here](#).

Fall Equinox, *Monday, September 23rd*

42nd Annual Bonita Melodrama, *Sept. 25-28, 7:30pm at the Sweetwater Community Church Theater, 5305 Sweetwater Rd, Bonita*

San Diego County's longest running theatrical production, featuring local actors and Bonita history. "Green Heroes and the White Dove" by Max Branscomb, Produced by Kerie Muller and Dolly Engen. *Tickets are \$12 or Children pay your age! Call (619)850-7126 for information, or see this event on Facebook by clicking [here](#).*

Onstage Playhouse, "Carrie the Musical", September 27th – November 3rd,
291 Third Avenue

An edgy musical based on the scary novel by Stephen King. Tickets are \$22-\$25. Click [here](#) for more information.

SBCS Change Their Lives Gala, Saturday, September 28th

Benefitting the Mi Escuelita Preschool, 24/7 Domestic Violence Support Team, and Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing services. Click [here](#) for more information.

Fall Break for Sweetwater Union High School District 7-12 students

Sept. 23 – Oct. 8 (school resumes Oct. 9)

Fall Break for Chula Vista Elementary School District K-6 students

Sept. 23 – Oct 7 (school resumes Oct. 8)

NOTE: Chula Vista's Parks & Recreation Department has intersession camps available. Click [here](#) for more details.

Rosh Hashana, Sunday, September 30th

••• Happening in October •••

Covered California's Open Enrollment for Healthcare Coverage, October 1st for re-enrollment, October 15th for new coverage. Click [here](#) for more information.

Chula Vista Police Activities League Pingo Night, Saturday, October 12th,
4:30pm – 8:30pm, Montevalle Recreation Center, 840 Duncan Ranch Road, Chula Vista

Play up to 8 rounds of “Pingo” (bingo), enjoy light appetizers and beverages, and enjoy this fun fundraising event for our Police Activities League. Great prizes include designer handbags and more! Tickets \$45 - \$55. Click [here](#) for more information.

Christmas in October, *locations and times communicated privately*

Honor the late [Councilmember Patty Davis](#), a co-founder of this beautiful event that brings volunteers together to improve the lives of the elderly, disabled, and veteran homeowners by making repairs, installing appliances, and beautifying properties. Call Ms. Emerald Randolph at (619)669-0538 to volunteer or donate.

Beautify Chula Vista, *Saturday, October 19th, 8:30am – noon, Memorial Park and other locations*

Projects for this year’s volunteer event includes trash pickup throughout the bike path along Hwy 54, seed planting on E Street, and graffiti abatement from E to L on Broadway. For more details and registration for individuals or groups, click [here](#). All volunteers must register prior to the event.

Villains in the Village, *Saturday, October 19th, 5pm-9pm, Third Avenue*

This fun event features costumed entertainers, spooky treats, live music and more! Sponsored by the Third Avenue Village Association. Click [here](#) for more information.

•••• Recent Council Items of Interest ••••

Council voted (3-2) 8/13/19 to direct the **city to join the city of San Diego** in the creation of a partnership to **purchase electricity on behalf of our residents** and businesses. To watch the discussion or read more, click [here](#).

Council voted (5-0) 8/13/19 to allocate up to **\$1.13 million for sidewalk repairs** using horizontal slicing technology. Horizontal concrete slicing is a better alternative than asphalt patches. The city surveyed sidewalks last year and has an inventory of the sidewalks needing repair. You can report sidewalks in need of repair at seeclickfix.com.

Council met jointly 8/1/19 with the **Growth Management Oversight Commission (GMOC)** to review the Fiscal Year 2018 Annual Report. The GMOC was established in 1991 to assure that as new development and revitalization occurs, public facilities, services and infrastructure will exist or be provided to match the needs created by growth. The GMOC meets twice a month. *Thank you to GMOC members Duane Hooker (chair), Ray Alatorre, Rodney Caudillo, Max Zaker, Gloria Juarez, T. Michael Lengyel, and Andrew Strong. There are two vacancies on the GMOC. Click [here](#) to learn more.*

The recommendations of the GMOC were as follows:

Police

1. That the City Council direct the City Manager to prioritize the City's annual budget with the objective of **increasing staffing levels** per capita to be consistent with the County's median staffing levels per capita.
2. That the City Council direct the City Manager to support the Police Department to aggressively **expand a new officer recruitment campaign**, providing it with the proper tools, technology and resources to aid in the process of recruiting new police officers.

Libraries

1. That the City Council direct the City Manager to **prioritize Libraries, right below public safety**, with the objective of increasing the amount of materials and staffing to meet the state average, based on the most recent data available.
2. That the City Council direct the City Manager to allocate a portion of any surplus from future budgets to **supplement the library materials budget**. The amount should be at least as much as the fees collected in any given year for processing passport applications.

The next city council meeting is Tuesday, September 10th, at 5pm, Chula Vista City Council Chambers, 276 4th Avenue. Council meetings are generally the first four Tuesdays of the month. This month, there are only two council meetings: **September 10th and September 24th**. Agendas are posted the Thursday prior to each meeting. *To view the agenda, click [here](#).*

City council meetings can be viewed live on television on Cox Cable channel 24 (only in Chula Vista) or AT&T U-Verse channel 99 (anywhere in the county), via live-streaming on your computer, tablet, or smart phone.

•••• Good News/Bad News ••••

Cannabis News: There will soon be two permitted retail cannabis storefronts and one permitted delivery service per council district. The city's consultant has completed interviews and business plan reviews and scored the many applicants. Secondary background investigations are being conducted by the Chula Vista Police Department. Meanwhile, illegal cannabis storefronts are being criminally investigated and prosecuted. *More information about the legal permitted applicants and process can be found [here](#). To report an illegal cannabis location in District 2, click [here](#).*

Marie Calendars has closed its restaurant and pie shop at 330 F Street in Chula Vista. The company announced [bankruptcy](#) in August. They had been leasing 330 F Street from the [Floit Company](#), who bought the property two years ago. For many Chula Vistans, Thanksgiving won't be the same without Marie Calendars' pies.

The RV Park on the Chula Vista Bayfront is moving to E Street and Bay Boulevard! The Port of San Diego granted a 66-year lease to Sun Chula Vista Bayfront RV, LLC, for its Costa Vista RV Resort. Construction on the \$55 million project which includes 246 sites, pools, gym, sauna, playground, and more should begin this month. This move was negotiated as part of the Chula Vista Bayfront Master Plan. *Click [here](#) to read more about the RV Park. Click [here](#) to stay engaged in Chula Vista Bayfront news.*

Impressive New Art Mural on the Bayshore Bikeway, the 24-mile loop around San Diego Bay dedicated to bicyclists and pedestrians. In Chula Vista, 11 artisans came from across the region to paint "Art Through History," on a large retaining wall along the Bayshore Bikeway, just north of L Street and west of Highway 5. You have to walk or bike to see it... *Click [here](#) to see photos in the UT article en Español. In Imperial Beach, the [public works building](#) was decorated with murals along the Bayshore Bikeway. More public art along the bay can be seen [here](#). Read more about the Bayshore Bikeway [here](#).*

•••• Tell Me More About ••••

Affordable Housing. A link to affordable rental housing complexes, County voucher rental assistance programs, independent living facilities, and landlord/tenant resources can be found on the city's website [here](#).

New building projects in the city. Click [here](#) to see an interactive map from the Planning Department that has a marker on major projects, conditional use permits and design review plans in Chula Vista. You can copy the permit number and then click [here](#) to get more details about the project.

•••• Get Ready For ••••

The Chula Vista Starlight Parade, Saturday, December 7th! The deadline to submit applications for participant consideration has passed, but the parade committee will **extend the opportunity for floats and marching bands** for another couple of weeks. Click [here](#) if you would like to make a personal donation to help cover costs of the event. Click [here](#) to see sponsorship opportunities, apply to be a vendor, or read more.

•••• Jobs, Jobs, Jobs ••••

Click [here](#) to see a list of current job openings with the city of Chula Vista.

Click [here](#) to bid on projects with the city.

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Thank you for the opportunity to serve you on the Chula Vista City Council. Your thoughts and questions are always welcome!

Warm regards,

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