

City of Piedmont
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

DATE: March 19, 2018

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Paul Benoit, City Administrator

SUBJECT: Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing enrollment of the City of Piedmont's Municipal Electrical Accounts in the Brilliant 100 Plan Offered by East Bay Community Energy

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution (Attachment A, page 3) authorizing enrollment of the City of Piedmont's municipal electrical accounts in the Brilliant 100 Plan offered by East Bay Community Energy.

BACKGROUND:

During its regular meeting on February 5, 2018, the City Council received a presentation from Shawn Marshall, a representative of East Bay Community Energy (EBCE). The presentation included how EBCE will procure and provide energy to customers in Piedmont and throughout the agency's entire jurisdiction as well as the process and schedule for the conversion of electrical power procurement and supply from Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) to EBCE.

Ms. Marshall's presentation and a subsequent presentation by Dan Lieberman of EBCE at the Climate Action Open House included information the two plans EBCE customers will choose from. The first is the Bright Choice, which will have lower carbon intensity than PG&E and offer lower rates than PG&E. The second is the Brilliant 100, which will offer 100% carbon free energy at price parity with PG&E. After hearing the presentation, the City Council expressed interest in opting all accounts for City owned facilities (municipal accounts) into the 100% carbon-free Brilliant 100 electrical service and directed staff to return with the appropriate documentation to opt in to that plan. Council also discussed whether to take action to opt in all Piedmont residents to the Brilliant 100 program, but deferred action on that matter until additional information from EBCE was received.

Based on data collected by staff for the 2015 greenhouse gas emissions inventory, adopting this resolution to authorize purchasing Brilliant 100 electrical service would save approximately 112 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions in the first year. Should the Council choose to take no action on this resolution, municipal electrical accounts would be enrolled in the Bright Choice plan, which offers a lower carbon footprint and a lower rate than PG&E. The Bright Choice plan would save approximately 95.2 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions in the first year.

Opting the municipal accounts into Brilliant 100 will also give an opportunity for the City to continue providing leadership in the efforts to reduce the Piedmont community's carbon footprint.

ATTACHMENT:

- A Page 3 Resolution authorizing enrollment of the City of Piedmont's Municipal Electrical Accounts in the Brilliant 100 Plan offered by EBCE.

By: Mira Hahn, Assistant Planner

RESOLUTION _____**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ENROLLMENT OF THE CITY OF PIEDMONT'S MUNICIPAL ELECTRICAL ACCOUNTS IN THE BRILLIANT 100 PLAN OFFERED BY EAST BAY COMMUNITY ENERGY**

WHEREAS, the City of Piedmont General Plan includes a Sustainability Policy which identifies energy consumption as a way in which the City can reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) and meet its intent to be a sustainable community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Piedmont Climate Action Plan, adopted by City Council in 2010, outlines a course of action for the City Government and community to reduce GHG emissions by 15% below 2005 baseline levels by 2020, and Building Energy Measure 1.1, which identifies the installation of “cost-effective renewable energy systems on all City buildings and purchase remaining electricity from renewable sources” to reduce Energy Use in City Facilities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Piedmont Climate Action Plan 2.0, which will be considered for adoption at the March 19, 2018 meeting has set a new goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40% from the 2005 baseline levels by 2030, as well as a goal to “Acquire 100% renewable electricity and install rooftop solar PV and other types of solar energy systems” by 2030; and

WHEREAS, on November 21, 2016, the City of Piedmont City Council adopted Ordinance 796 N.S. authorizing Piedmont’s participation in Alameda County’s Community Choice Energy program, now known as East Bay Community Energy (EBCE); and

WHEREAS, EBCE will offer two choices to its customers to enroll in; the Bright Choice, which will have lower carbon intensity than PG&E and offer lower rates than PG&E and the Brilliant 100, which will offer 100% clean energy at price parity with PG&E; and

WHEREAS, based on the City of Piedmont’s 2015 Municipal Greenhouse Gas Inventory, should the City of Piedmont enroll in the Brilliant 100 plan, a reduction of 112 metric tons of GHG emissions would be expected in the first year; and

WHEREAS, enrollment in the Brilliant 100 plan for municipal electrical accounts will be a significant step toward meeting our municipal GHG reduction goals at no additional cost to taxpayers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council directs the enrollment of City of Piedmont municipal electrical accounts in the Brilliant 100 plan as offered by East Bay Community Energy.

[END OF DOCUMENT]