



MEMO

September 12, 2016

TO: Transportation, Water, and Infrastructure Committee
Supervisor Candace Andersen, District II, Chair
Supervisor Mary N. Piepho, District III, Vice Chair

FROM: Jason Chen, Senior Civil Engineer, Special Districts

SUBJECT: **Report on PG&E, Cities and County Street Light Coordination Meetings**

REFERRAL HISTORY

During the December 7, 2015 TWIC meeting, County Public Works staff was directed to report the result of the survey.

REFERRAL UPDATE

Background:

The Letter of Understanding (LOU), dated February 2008, between PG&E and County, states the commitment of PG&E for open communication and responsive service levels and actions in resolving issues related to street light performance. A way to keep communication channels open was by conducting regular discussions at Street Light Coordination meetings with the County, its constituent, Cities and Towns. However, in 2015 there was a change in the frequency of these meetings at the request of PG&E due to low participation of Cities staff.

Continuing the effort initiated in May 2008, the County Public Works Department, PG&E, and Cities met in January, March, and April 2015. There were no meetings held in July and October as County prepared to reach out to Cities staff for their feedback. Since reporting to TWIC on December 7, 2015 there have been no meetings in 2016.

The PG&E, Cities, and County Street Light Coordination meetings allowed communication among those present to address issues related to street light maintenance, operations, increased efficiencies and LED conversions, and rates.

Because of the generally low City attendance at the meetings, County Public Works assembled a survey to cities which was reviewed by PG&E. The goal of this survey was to determine if Cities and the County would like to continue to meet and discuss street light issues and if so, to determine the best way to conduct the meetings, who should attend, how

often should meetings be held, identify topics to discuss that would be of value, etc.

County Public Works staff developed a 10 question survey that listed choice answers and

also the opportunity to add a choice statement per question, listed as "Other" (see attached). County Public Works sent the survey to identified representatives of the 19 cities in the County by email in mid-March and requested a response by the end of March. County Public Works received survey responses from 15 cities.

Survey Results:

A total of 15 cities responded to the survey. In almost all of the questions the participant cities could vote for one or more answers. The survey tally shows that the majority (13) preferred to continue with On-site meetings. The majority (9) also preferred PG&E Street Light Coordination meetings to be held quarterly with varied locations such as agency or PG&E offices considering non rush hours as well as the importance to have technical presentations. See Charts 1, 2 and 3.

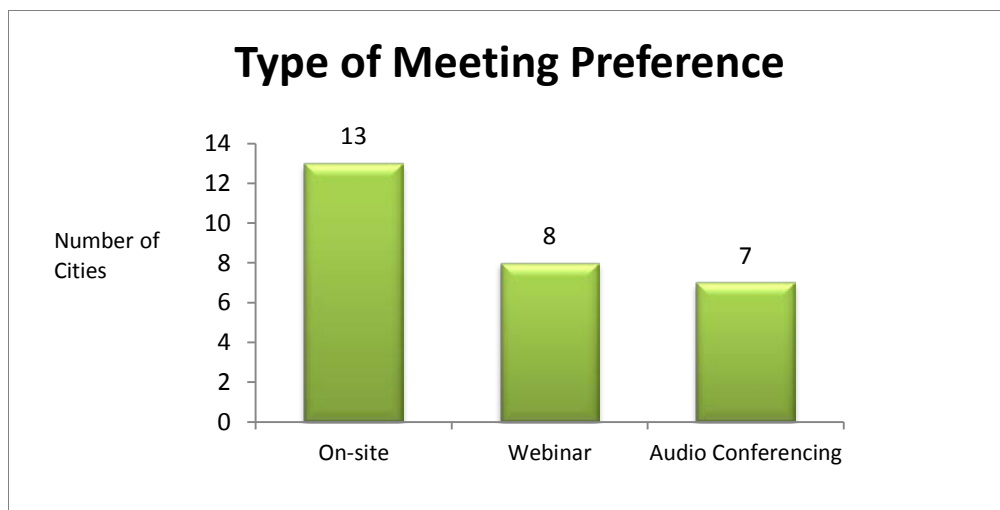


Chart 1 (Question 3)

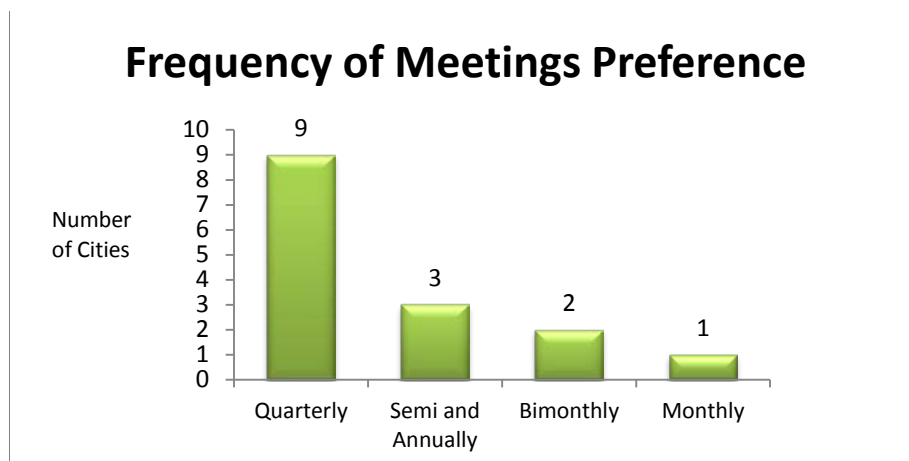


Chart 2 (Question 8)

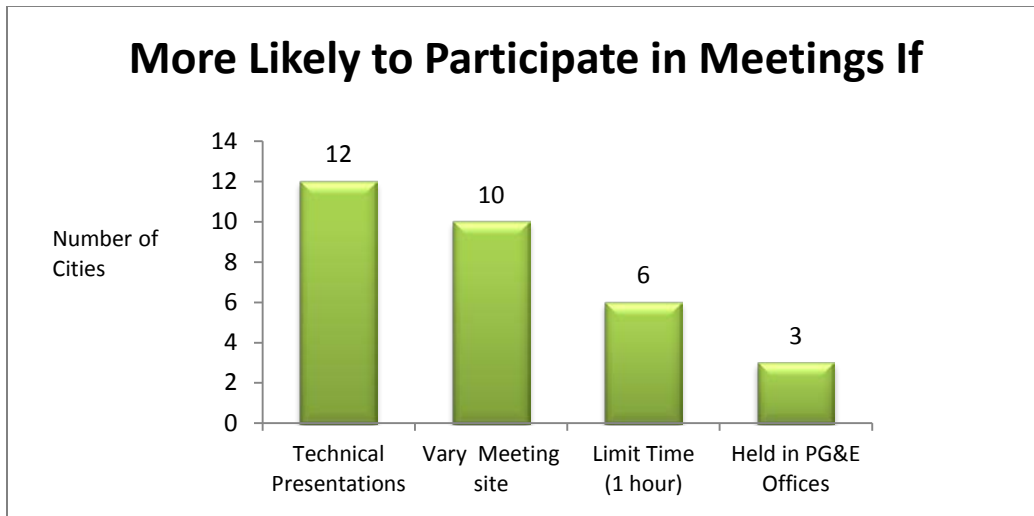


Chart 3 (Question 7)

The cities representatives indicated that there would be benefits in meeting with PG&E and other city representatives to discuss customer service issues, network and problem solve regional issues, learn about LED street light conversion rebate and loans, stay current on the latest technologies, better understand of PG&E services, help upgrading of lighting quality and levels, have input on PG&E costs, help improve system inventory including asset and maintenance history and reporting, and learn and receive feedback from other cities as some may have dealt with issues previously.

Other topics of interest to cities representatives include; LED conversion technology, Wire theft, Photo-cell controls technology, PG&E related maintenance plans, future projects affecting the cities, PG&E related maintenance plans, and changes in street light tariffs. See Chart 4.

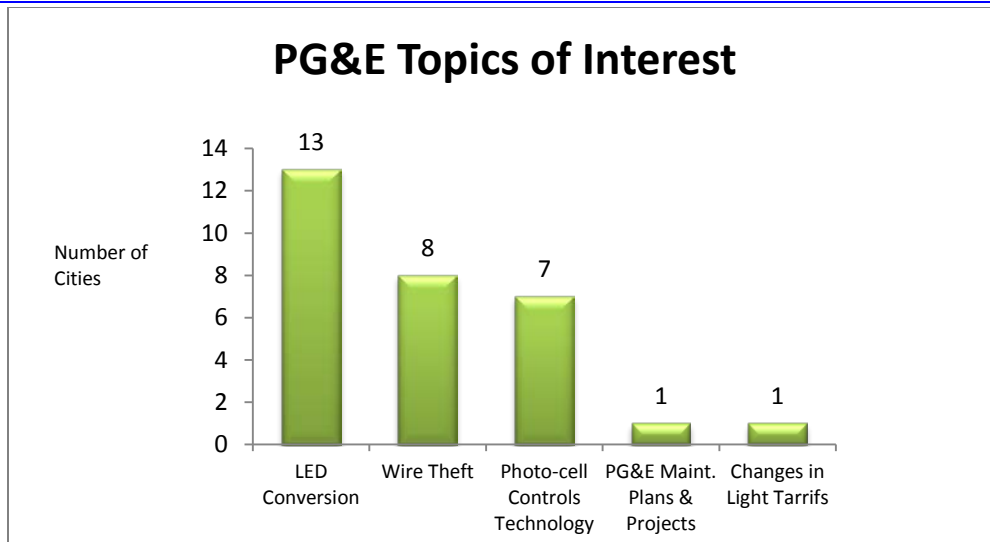


Chart 4 (Question 1)

Cities representatives also mentioned they would benefit from learning about specific PG&E services such as; street light inventory review, fixture and pole repair (cleaning and painting), fixture and pole cleaning, single billing, status or regular and EC 90-day outages, trimming around street light poles and fixtures and upgrading non-traditional street lights to LED similar to park and parking lot lights. See Chart 5.

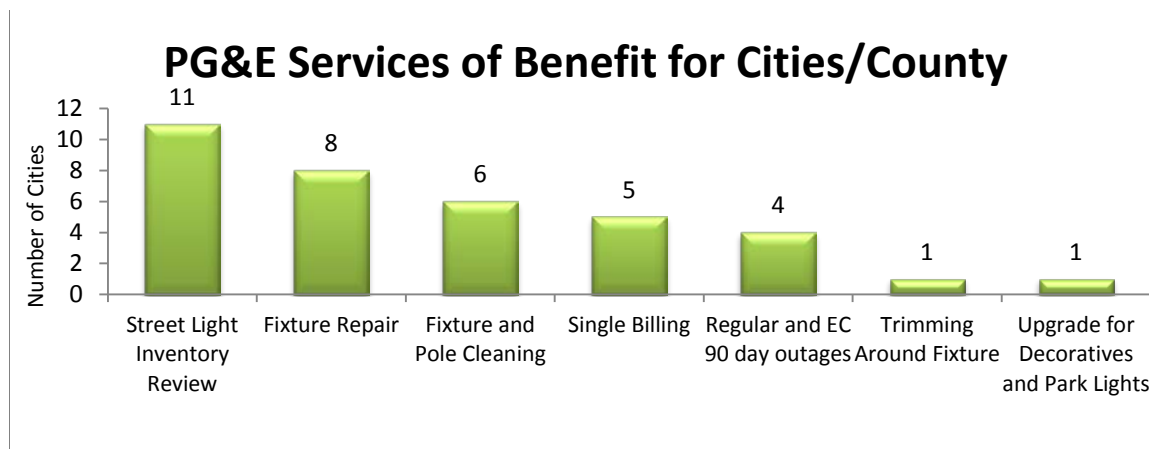


Chart 5 (Question 2)

In past years during Street Light Coordination meetings, Cities and County representatives discussed many PG&E Services topics. Based on responses to Question 5, the topics found of most interest about specific PG&E services among Cities and County staff are ranked below:

- Maintenance and tracking systems (10)
- Pole knockdowns (9)
- Standard maintenance cycles (9)
- Burn out lamps replacements (9)
- Painting of street light poles (8)

- Repair of routine outages (7)
- Repair of non-routine outages (7)
- Repair of non-burnout outages (7)
- Replacement of deteriorated facilities (6)
- New product choices - cobra heads (6)
- Decorative street lights (6)
- Group lamp replacements (5)
- Streamlined processes (5)
- Tree trimming around fixture (1)
- Park lights owned and maintained by PG&E (1)

Information updates from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is also a topic that many cities representatives find of interest, specifically about rates for energy usage, rebates, legislation approvals, emerging technologies and tariffs since the decisions they make affect the work that PG&E is funded to do. See Chart 6.

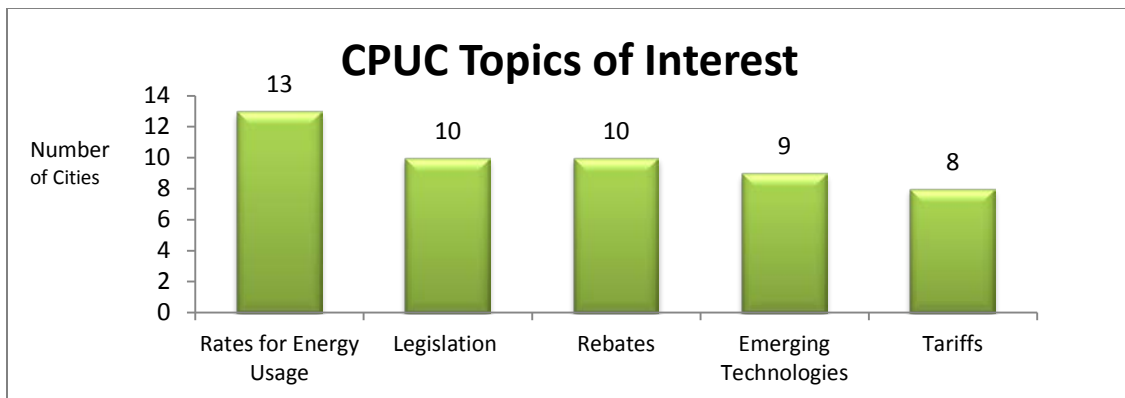


Chart 6 (Question 4)

Conclusion:

PG&E and County staff agree the survey shows cities that want to continue the Street Light Coordination meetings. These meetings would be held quarterly, include presentations, and be conducted at various rotating governmental locations. Meeting locations and topics would be decided at the end of each meeting for the next meeting. Meeting participants can use the survey results as suggestions for meeting topics.

County will coordinate with PG&E to resume the Street Light Coordination meetings starting in early 2017.

RECOMMENDATION

ACCEPT this status report on the street light coordination survey.

FISCAL IMPACT

No impact on the general fund. All costs for street lights are funded by County Service Area L-100 or Community Facilities District 2010-1.

JD:JC:nt

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Enclosures:

- Survey Questionnaire Emailed to Cities Contacts
- Cities Survey Contacts
- Survey Questions Tallied

C: Members, Board of Supervisors
D. Twa, CAO
B. Balbas, Deputy Public Works Director
W. Lai, Assistant Public Works Director, Engineering Services
J. Cunningham, Department of Conservation and Development
T. Guarino, Pacific Gas & Electric

City/County Street Light Survey

I am writing to you because we are surveying all of the 19 cities in the County about the City/County PG&E Street Light Coordination Meetings.

The goal of this survey is to determine if Cities and the County should continue to meet to discuss street light issues and if so, to determine how to best to conduct the meetings, who should attend, how often should meetings be held, identifying topics to discuss, would another format, e.g. an annual street light symposium, be of value, and more. Your input is greatly appreciated.

When PG&E was recently ready to roll out the LED replacement project, a meeting held in March 2015 at Public Works was well attended by the Cities. Quarterly street light coordination meetings have been attended by City staff but at lower levels of participation. Questions have surfaced as to the need to have the meetings, the frequency and format of the meetings, and the topics discussed at the meetings.

The attached survey includes questions have been designed in order to address the PG&E City/County Street Light Coordination meetings. At the end of the survey, there is space to add any thoughts or suggestions from your City.

Below, please find the questions to respond to by **March 24, 2016**:

1) What topics would you like to learn more about via the City/County street light coordination meetings (mark as many items as you wish)?

- a) LED conversion technology
 - b) Photo-cell controls technology
 - c) Wire theft
 - d) Other (please describe)
-

2) Which of these PG&E services are of interest to you (mark as many items as you wish)?

- a) Regular and EC 90 day outages
 - b) Single Billing
 - c) Street Light Inventory Review
 - d) Fixture Repair
 - e) Fixture and Pole Cleaning
 - f) Other (please describe)
-

3) What type of street light coordination meetings would you prefer?

- a) On-site meetings
- b) Webinar meetings
- c) Audio conferencing (phone only)

4) California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) decisions affect the work that PG&E is funded to do and other issues related to street lighting. What types of CPUC updates would be of value to you (mark as many topics as you like)?

- a) Legislation (for example, AB 719)
 - b) Rebates
 - c) Tariffs
 - d) Rates for energy usage
 - e) Emerging technologies
 - f) Other (please describe)
-

5) PG&E street light services have been discussed at City/County Coordination meetings. Please help us know which topics are of interest to your City. (Mark as many items as you wish.)

- a) Burnout Lamp Replacements
 - b) Group Lamp Replacements
 - c) Standard Maintenance Cycles
 - d) Replacement of Deteriorated Facilities
 - e) Streamlined Processes
 - f) New Product Choices – cobra heads
 - g) Decorative Street Lights
 - h) Maintenance and Tracking systems
 - i) Repair of Routine Outages
 - j) Repair of Non-Burnout Outages
 - k) Knockdowns
 - l) Painting of Street Light Poles
 - m) Other (please describe)
-

6) How do you envision the street light coordination meetings helping to address improvements in street lighting in your City?

7) Would City staff be more likely to participate in meetings if they were (mark as many responses as you wish)

- a) Limited to one hour in duration
 - b) Held in various locations around the County (City offices, corporation yards)
 - c) Held at PG&E offices (Detroit St. in Concord)
 - d) To include technical presentations (e.g. on luminaires, control facilities, support arms, service wiring, poles or posts, foundations, underground/overhead wiring)
 - e) Other (please describe)
-

8) How often would City staff attend City/County street light coordination meetings?

- a) Monthly
- b) Bimonthly
- c) Quarterly
- d) Semi-annually
- e) Annually

9) Future Meetings of City/County Street Light Personnel

- a) Would another format, e.g. an annual City/County street light symposium, be of value? (circle one) YES NO
- b) Does your City prefer to address street light issues via one on one meetings with PG&E customer service staff? (circle one) YES NO

10) Please add any suggestions or comments that will assist the Cities, PG&E and the County on street light related matters.

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Cities Survey Contacts

Survey Sent To

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779-6950

CITY OF BRENTWOOD
Public Works Director
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CITY OF CLAYTON
City Engineer
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CITY OF CONCORD
Public Works Director
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671-3231

TOWN OF DANVILLE
Development Services Director
Steve Lake
314-3319

TOWN OF DISCOVERY BAY
Landscape and Facilities Manager
Brian Miller

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CITY OF OAKLEY
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Survey Returned By

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CITY OF OAKLEY
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Survey Sent To

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Public Works Director/City Engineer
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671-5265

CITY OF RICHMOND
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256-3586

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CITY OF SAN RAMON
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CITY OF WALNUT CREEK
Public Works Manager
Rich Payne
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City/County Street Light Survey Tally

- 1) What topics would you like to learn more about via the City/County street light coordination meetings (mark as many items as you wish)?
 - a) LED conversion technology (13)
 - b) Photo-cell controls technology (7)
 - c) Wire theft (8)
 - d) Other (please describe)
 - * PG&E related maintenance plans, future projects affecting the city. (Walnut Creek)
 - * Changes in street light tariffs. (El Cerrito)

- 2) Which of these PG&E services are of interest to you (mark as many items as you wish)?
 - a) Regular and EC 90 day outages (4)
 - b) Single Billing (5)
 - c) Street Light Inventory Review (11)
 - d) Fixture Repair (8)
 - e) Fixture and Pole Cleaning (6)
 - f) Other (please describe)
 - * Trimming around the fixture. (Pleasant Hill)
 - * PG&E upgrading remaining street lights – decorative and park lights. They currently do not have an application for an approved tariff. (Richmond)

- 3) What type of street light coordination meetings would you prefer?
 - a) On-site meetings (13)
 - b) Webinar meetings (13)
 - c) Audio conferencing (phone only) (20)

- 4) California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) decisions affect the work that PG&E is funded to do and other issues related to street lighting. What types of CPUC updates would be of value to you (mark as many topics as you like)?
 - a) Legislation (for example, AB 719) (10)
 - b) Rebates (10)
 - c) Tariffs (8)
 - d) Rates for energy usage (13)
 - e) Emerging technologies (9)
 - f) Other (please describe)
 - * A regular CPUC update is very important (El Cerrito)

- 5) PG&E street light services have been discussed at City/County Coordination meetings. Please help us know which topics are of interest to your City. (Mark as many items as you wish.)

- a) Burnout Lamp Replacements (8)
- b) Group Lamp Replacements (5)
- c) Standard Maintenance Cycles (9)
- d) Replacement of Deteriorated Facilities (7)
- e) Streamlined Processes (5)
- f) New Product Choices – cobra heads (6)
- g) Decorative Street Lights (6)
- h) Maintenance and Tracking systems (10)
- i) Repair of Routine Outages (7)
- j) Repair of Non-Burnout Outages (7)
- k) Knockdowns (9)
- l) Painting of Street Light Poles (8)
- m) Other (please describe)

- * Tree trimming away from the fixture. Since these are resident's trees, why doesn't P.G.&E. notify the resident that it is their responsibility to trim their trees instead of telling them to contact the City? A simple door hanger would save time and numerous phone calls. (Pleasant Hill)

- * Park lights owned and maintained by PG&E. (Richmond)

6) How do you envision the street light coordination meetings helping to address improvements in street lighting in your City?

- * Ability to network and problem solve regional issues (Walnut Creek)
- * I think important since this is a large part of funds from L&L and the more efficient and better tracked L&L can be used elsewhere (Pittsburg)
- * I rarely attend. I personally don't think they are needed. (Martinez)
- * Better response to our customers by knowing what PG&E is doing. Better coordination with conflicting projects that may affect outcomes. Discussion of future programs and changes at PG&E. (Danville)
- * LED street light conversion rebate and loans (Brentwood)
- * Networking to solve problems or concerns that others might have already dealt with. (Pleasant Hill)
- * Staying current on the latest technologies and rebate programs; Maintaining good working relationships with PG&E and neighboring agencies. (Concord)
- * Request improved services from PG&E & information sharing. (Richmond)
- * PG&E could serve as a contractor resource or bulk buyer for cities and let this be known at meetings. (Lafayette)
- * By providing service and information to residents. (Moraga)
- * Better understanding of PG&E services. (Orinda)
- * Major upgrade of LED projects. (Oakley)
- * Help upgrading lighting quality and levels, control PG&E costs, system inventory including asset and maintenance history and reporting, learn from others. (El Cerrito)
- * Stream line process for reporting and repairs, in addition, finding out new PG&E policies and procedures, including new upcoming projects and programs. (San Ramon)

- 7) Would City staff be more likely to participate in meetings if they were (mark as many responses as you wish)
- a) Limited to one hour in duration (6)
 - b) Held in various locations around the County (City offices, corporation yards) (10)
 - c) Held at PG&E offices (Detroit St. in Concord) (3)
 - d) To include technical presentations (e.g. on luminaires, control facilities, support arms, service wiring, poles or posts, foundations, underground/overhead wiring) (12)
 - e) Other (please describe)
 - * May depend on how often the group meets and the topics. (Pittsburg)
 - * Hold meetings in Martinez or during a time that doesn't put people on the road during rush hour, because getting from West County to Central County (Concord/ Walnut Creek) during rush hour can be quite time consuming. Up to 2 hour meeting is fine. (El Cerrito)
- 8) How often would City staff attend City/County street light coordination meetings?
- a) Monthly (1)
 - b) Bimonthly (2)
 - c) Quarterly (9)
 - d) Semi-annually (3)
 - e) Annually (3)
- 9) Future Meetings of City/County Street Light Personnel
- a) Would another format, e.g. an annual City/County street light symposium, be of value? (circle one) YES (7) NO (5) OTHER (1)
 - b) Does your City prefer to address street light issues via one on one meetings with PG&E customer service staff? (circle one) YES (7) NO (1) OTHER (4)
- 10) Please add any suggestions or comments that will assist the Cities, PG&E and the County on street light related matters.
- * Having these meetings were very helpful in that they provided a forum for City Staff to discuss issues with other Cities. They help gain perspective in learning of the challenges that other Cities experiencing related to Streetlights and PG&E. (Walnut Creek)
 - * We need an easier way to get GIS information about our street lights. While the "BRIO" Excel Spreadsheets are OK, importing GIS information directly would be better. (Danville)
 - * We just completed our L.E.D. Conversions so a life expectancy and maintenance topic could be helpful. (Pleasant Hill)
 - * Meeting annually seems about reasonable for streetlight coordination for Lafayette. We just do not have that many PG&E-owned streetlights. (Lafayette)

* Can PG&E provide a GIS map or something similar to show where all streetlights are and a map of when things were given maintenance. Maybe an updated map each quarter. And maybe a base map that we can import into our system. (El Cerrito)

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