



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.

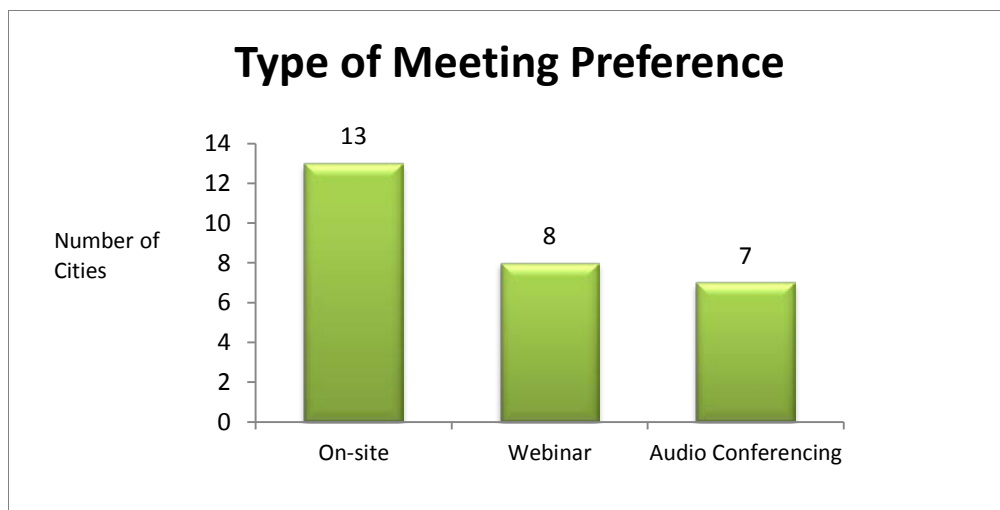


Chart 1 (Question 3)

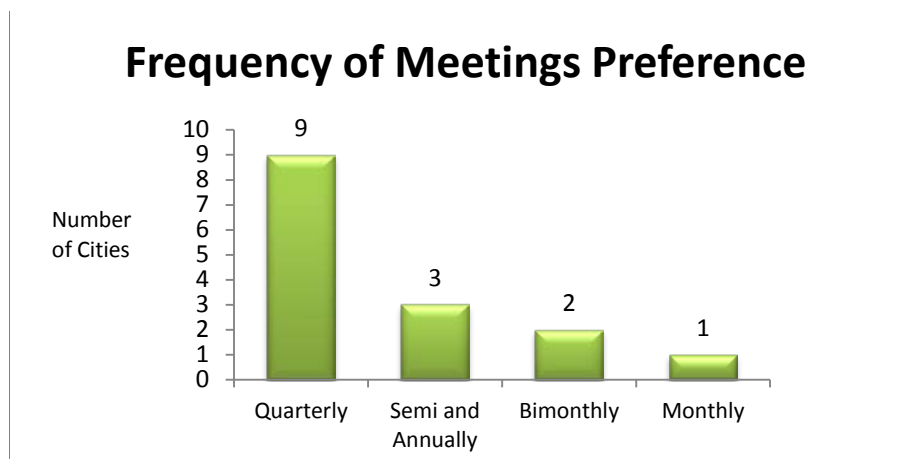


Chart 2 (Question 8)

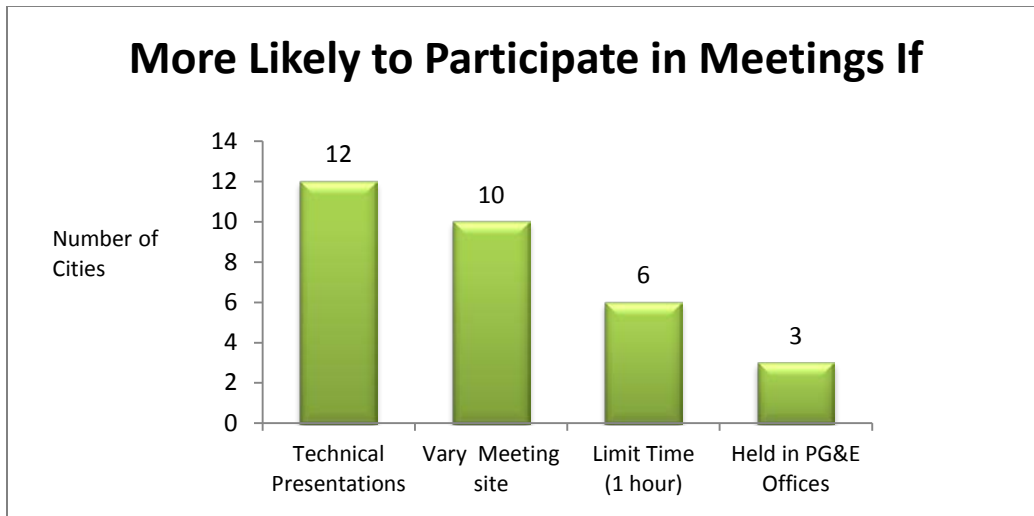


Chart 3 (Question 7)

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.

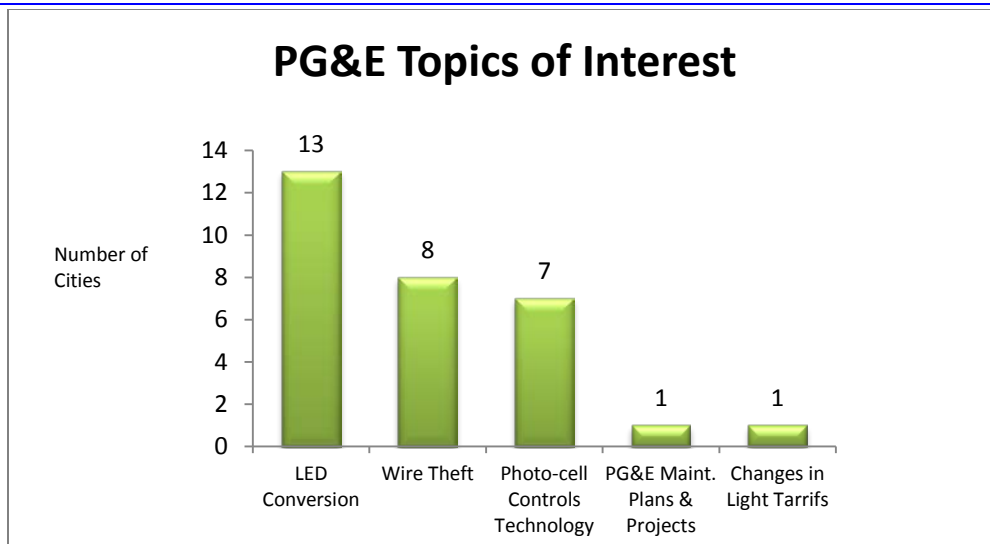


Chart 4 (Question 1)

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.

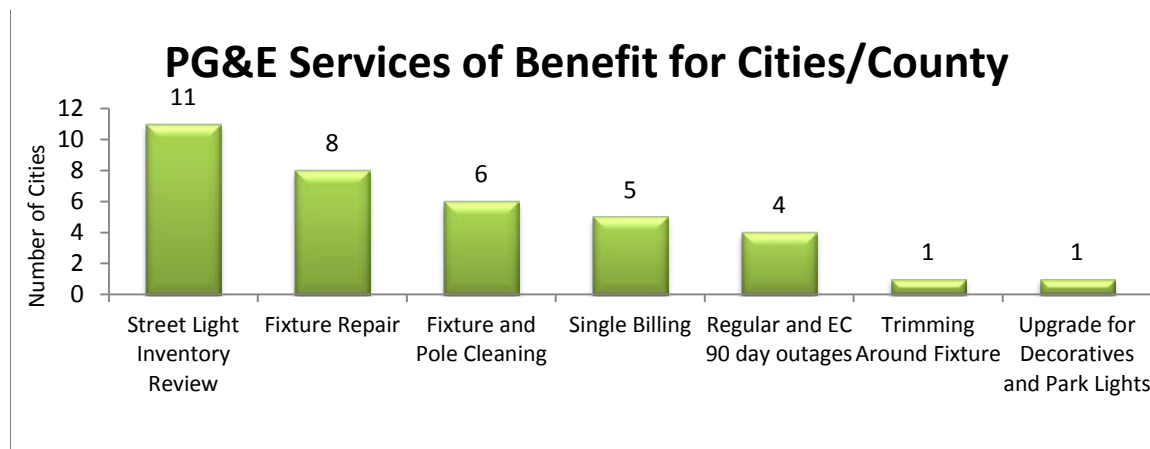


Chart 5 (Question 2)

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.

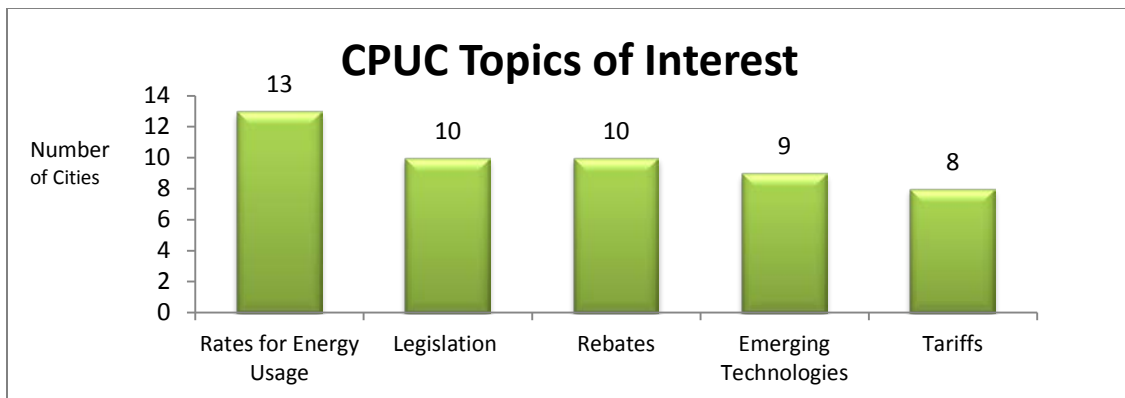


Chart 6 (Question 4)

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