



**ALAMEDA
MUNICIPAL POWER**

A Department of the City of Alameda

The Flash

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BUILDING AN ENERGY SYSTEM FOR THE FUTURE

by Mary Sutter, President of Alameda's Public Utilities Board

A CHAMPION OF INNOVATION

Alameda has championed innovation since 1887, when the city formed its own public electric utility to power 13 streetlights. Our community was a pioneer in the new world of electricity – we developed a 90-kW generating station only five years after the first commercial energy station was established by Thomas Edison in 1882.

As we plan for the future of energy in Alameda today, we can look back to Alameda Municipal Power's (AMP) beginnings for inspiration.

A KEY OPPORTUNITY

With recent advances in solar energy, battery storage, and "smart" electrical devices, there is no doubt our city's energy needs have evolved greatly

over the past 129 years.

Still, one thing remains the same from 1887 to today: Alameda seizes opportunities to embrace technology for the benefit of the community.

Today, the planned redevelopment of Site A at Alameda Point, the former naval air station, presents a key opportunity for our community-owned utility to create the electrical system that we need for the future.



So, how can redevelopment of an old naval air station prepare us for our future energy needs? Site A provides us with a place to integrate new

technologies in areas such as solar energy and battery storage. Plus, we'll be able to incorporate intelligent electronic devices that can help restore power faster than the methods used currently.

CREATING A MICROGRID

AMP is now in the planning stages of a project to use these technologies to create a "microgrid," which is an innovative system that produces local energy independent from the statewide electric grid. Our utility will take its place among other visionary agencies throughout the nation that are preparing for the future by developing local energy systems.

As technology evolves, we must build for tomorrow's energy needs.

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AMP'S NEW ONLINE REBATE PROGRAM

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**SPOTLIGHT ON UNDERGROUNDING:
CLEARING THE SKY**



About 50 percent of Alameda is currently served by underground power lines. Are you interested in the city's program to move more of the city's overhead power lines underground? Here's what you need to know:

NEW DISTRICT NOMINATION BOARD

The City of Alameda's new undergrounding program is the focus of a new District Nomination Board. The board is composed of four members of the public and one member from the Public Works Department.

In the coming months, the board will make recommendations for which neighborhoods in the city will be next for undergrounding power lines and equipment. These recommendations will go to a Technical Advisory Committee for evaluation before going to the City Council for approval.

TOWN HALLS AND SURVEYS ARE COMING

AMP, which administers the city's undergrounding program, plans to start construction in fiscal year 2018, after the public process is complete and areas have been chosen. A survey and town hall meeting will be planned to provide the public with opportunities to comment on the recommended districts.

Find board meeting information and other undergrounding updates at www.alamedamp.com/undergrounding.

**IT'S YOUR UTILITY:
PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD NEWS**



In June, the Public Utilities Board approved AMP's balanced budget of approximately \$64 million for fiscal year (FY) 2017. Major projects for FY 2017 include installation of advanced meters and initial development of a community solar program. In a separate announcement on June 21, Fitch affirmed that AMP has an A+ bond rating.

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The microgrid project will help us make good decisions for our city's future energy needs and foster economic development. Our work with new energy technologies won't stop at Site A. We intend to transfer the knowledge we gain from this project to modernize the way we provide energy across the island.

STAYING RESILIENT

In addition, the city will be able to apply what it learns in this project in its plans to stay resilient in the case of a natural disaster. Since microgrids are independent energy systems, they can be useful to cities if the state electric grid shuts down in an emergency.

As a utility owned by its customers, AMP strongly encourages the public to help plan for tomorrow. Share your view of the future of energy in our community: attend a Public Utilities Board meeting in person or email the Board at pub@alamedamp.com. As an owner of Alameda's 129-year-old municipal utility, you have the power to help the community become stronger through innovation. 🌱

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The FLASH is published as a service to the customer-owners of Alameda Municipal Power. Readers are invited to submit ideas, suggestions, comments, or questions by writing to the editor at Alameda Municipal Power P.O. Box 11, Alameda, CA 94501-0263 or by email to haley@alamedamp.com

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