Angel, Rosa

From: McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2026 1:29 PM
To: Campos, Sandra; Angel, Rosa
Cc: Acevedo, Gloria; Robles, Sandra
Subject: FW: Incorrect information in the Budget Workshop last evening

From: Cynthia Cannady
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2026 1:26 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse <correspondence@cityofpasadena.net>
Cc: Reyes, David <davidreyes@cityofpasadena.net>; Chaimowitz, Lynne <lchaimowitz@cityofpasadena.net>; Gordo, Victor <vgordo@cityofpasadena.net>; Hampton, Tyron <thampton@cityofpasadena.net>; Masuda, Gene <gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net>; Lyon, Jason <jlyon@cityofpasadena.net>; Cole, Rick <rcole@cityofpasadena.net>; Jones, Justin <justinjones@cityofpasadena.net>; Madison, Steve <smadison@cityofpasadena.net>; Rivas, Jessica <jerivas@cityofpasadena.net>
Subject: Fwd: Incorrect information in the Budget Workshop last evening

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For joint meeting of Finance and Council today,

Dear Councilmembers,
The "mistake" of asserting that every item in the draft PWP CIP budget is a cost driven by the transition to carbon free electric power is not isolated. In December, PWP submitted a project list with estimated cost to the Council for the budget workshop. The $ number for the carbon free goal was bizarrely high and I questioned the estimate. See below Asst General Lynne Chaimovitz' Dec, 2 , 2025 response in which she acknowledged that the cost estimate was for the entire CIP budget, not the costs associated with the transition to carbon free resources. She stated:

"about the $800+ million over five years: that's indeed the total the Council approved for the entire power-side CIP. In hindsight, I realize that number wasn't necessary for the particular context being discussed. I'll definitely take a look at how to correct or clarify that going forward."

Her candor wasn't exactly an apology but it seemed like it was on the right track. But the same mistake showing up again in the CIP PWP draft budget is worrisome and should be explicitly corrected. Clarity on this issue is essential for public acceptance of the goal of transitioning to carbon free electric power.

The battle against the transition from fossil fuels in its early stages in Pasadena centered around the twin themes of achievability and affordability. The expert study showed that the goal is achievable. The misinformation about affordability continues with the threat of yet more rate increases supposedly to fulfill the OSP.

Clearly, the path to the goal involves a number of avenues, including sound infrastructure. But as we walk along that path in good faith, let's stay fact based and objective.

Cynthia Cannady

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Chaimowitz, Lynne** <lchaimowitz@cityofpasadena.net>
Date: Tue, Dec 2, 2025 at 1:31 PM
Subject: Re: Incorrect information in the Budget Workshop last evening
To: Cynthia Cannady , Takeguchi, Stacie <stakeguchi@cityofpasadena.net>
Cc: Reyes, David <davidreyes@cityofpasadena.net>, PASADENA 100 Steering Committee Committee , Nguyen, Kelly <kellynguyen@cityofpasadena.net>, Hawkesworth, Matthew <mhawkesworth@cityofpasadena.net>

Hi Cynthia,

Thanks for reaching out. To provide clarity and context. To start off, I want the clarify the comments on " it wasn't our document" was not intended to deflect. I specifically was charged to contribute and review and it is our job to implement Council direction and provide accurate information. I hope the information below can help walk you through the thought process for the inclusion, but I understand your point of view.

First, regarding the consolidated statement about the 125 MW figure for local solar and storage: that number was actually pulled from the FY26-30 Capital Improvement Program. Specifically, it included 25 MW of storage for the Glenarm Battery Energy Storage System and 100 MW for the Broadway Energy Storage System. So those costs and plans were already included in our CIP to meet the storage goals, but no additional solar was adopted in any plans, earlier this year, which is why that number wasn't reflected. Also, just to note, the Optimized Strategic Plan (OSP) hasn't been adopted by Council yet. Nevertheless, it should have been 2 separate bullet points.

Second, about the $800+ million over five years: that's indeed the total the Council approved for the entire power-side CIP. In hindsight, I realize that number wasn't necessary for the particular context being discussed. I'll definitely take a look at how to correct or clarify that going forward.

Let me know if you have any other questions, and thank you for bringing these points to my attention. I was pleased to see that Council and PWP remain steadfast in the alignment on the working together towards the carbon-free future.

Best,
Lynne

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From: Cynthia Cannady
Sent: Tuesday, December 2, 2025 10:18:43 AM
To: Chaimowitz, Lynne <lchaimowitz@cityofpasadena.net>; Takeguchi, Stacie <stakeguchi@cityofpasadena.net>
Cc: Reyes, David <davidreyes@cityofpasadena.net>; PASADENA 100 Steering Committee Committee ; Nguyen, Kelly <kellynguyen@cityofpasadena.net>; Hawkesworth, Matthew <mhawkesworth@cityofpasadena.net>
Subject: Incorrect information in the Budget Workshop last evening

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Dear PWP (Stacie and Lynne),
As we discussed yesterday evening at the budget workshop, there were two significant errors on the handout. I am following up to ask you to correct these errors because they may cause some confusion.

1. The information on page 15 of the handout about the anticipated cost of the transition to carbon free electric power is incorrect. You said that you were not aware of the factual basis for the $800m number. The range given by E3 was $40-80m per year, and that included the fallacious cost paid by private parties to install solar on their properties. So even the high end of an inflated and fallacious estimate given by the consultants was about half of the number that was cited.

You said, Lynne, that you did not know where the number came from or who created it. You said perhaps it was for the entire PWP CIP budget through 2030. Obviously, that would be incorrect. As we have discussed more than once in the TAP, and you agreed, it would be inaccurate to attribute deferred distribution grid maintenance to the transition to carbon free electric power since those capital expenditures are necessary even if we got our electricity from burning piles of coal right here in Pasadena.

Carelessness about the cost of our city's transition to clean electric power is to be avoided because the criteria for budget prioritization include cost.

The reality is that by installing solar and storage on public property we invest in assets that will save $ for the city budget and for customers, in addition to their value as climate change and air quality mitigation. And as we know, E3 did not model the cost of business as usual, nor did they take the Social Cost of Carbon metric into account, despite PASADENA 100's request. The cost of inaction in the face of climate catastrophe is huge: See this article in Nature, The Mortality Cost of Carbon.

Unfortunately, inflated or non-transparent cost data has been an issue in the STAG for the IRP and in the TAP for the OSP. I do believe that this is no longer acceptable, so I must assume that this inflated number was just an oversight.

2. The MW numbers for solar and storage on page 14 are incorrect. The additional solar needed is 70 MW. Additional storage is 100 MW.

Lynne, you told me that you did not provide this information and did not prepare the document, but could you please make sure that whoever is working on this corrects this information.

Cynthia Cannady

Chairperson, PASADENA 100