



**POWERING OUR COMMUNITY'S FUTURE**



# Stakeholder Engagement and Public Input Report

**FEBRUARY 2023**

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# Report Summary

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In early October 2022, CPS Energy launched the Powering Our Community's Future initiative as part of its generation planning process. The initiative was designed to inform and encourage customers to take part in the decisions we need to make for our community. Powering Our Community's Future featured events and engagement tools aimed at gathering public input and feedback on customer preferences related to generation planning objectives and portfolio options. The information gathered was provided to our Board of Trustees to inform their decision-making. In January 2023, our Board reached its decision on how we will power our community through the end of the decade.

CPS Energy worked with its Rate Advisory Committee (RAC) to identify the types of power generation resources and portfolios to be added over the next several years. The planning considered aging power plants, the future of coal-powered units, the utility's role in San Antonio's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP), and the projected population growth expected for Greater San Antonio.

This report includes an overview of the RAC recommendation, Powering Our Community's Future stakeholder engagement strategy, tactics, and public feedback gathered through the engagement process, including the results of our generation planning survey. The report also contains a snapshot of media coverage, an overview of events held, and our Board's decision.

*To read verbatim customer comments, view the supporting document: Powering the Community's Future, Public Comments.*



# Rate Advisory Committee Recommendation

*CPS Energy's Rate Advisory Committee (RAC) is made up of 21 members comprised of 11 appointees by the CPS Energy Board of Trustees, including Mayoral appointees and 10 City Council appointees.*

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Members of the RAC began discussing generation planning efforts in April 2022. Members devoted their time to understanding and providing thoughtful input and perspectives regarding generation planning.

In August 2022, RAC members selected their top three objective preferences and top one-generation preference as they relate to powering the future of our community during a dot plot exercise. The exercise served as the structure for the generation planning survey launched in late September.

The RAC worked to identify types of power generation resources and portfolios to be added over the next several years and reviewed scenario results that looked at system reliability, customer affordability, environmental sustainability, and other factors. The committee also studied nine different portfolios, each with a diverse set of technologies, to serve the expected energy demand of the growing community -- over 50 data sets were analyzed as well as different market scenarios such as extreme weather and conservation.

In December 2022, RAC members voted to recommend Portfolio 2, which includes gas, solar, wind and storage. Their recommendation was shared with the CPS Energy Board of Trustees during their December board meeting.

# Stakeholder Engagement

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## STRATEGY

The Powering Our Community's Future engagement strategy focused on continuous awareness and dialogue with the community. Engagement outreach concentrated on promotional efforts that reached the general public and key stakeholder groups.

Communication toolkits, that included materials stakeholders could easily share with their networks, were digitally distributed to reach customers through diverse methods of communication. Engagement and promotional tools that supported public input opportunities were available in English and Spanish in print and digital formats. Through the engagement process, CPS Energy hosted four open house sessions, a virtual town hall, a webinar with commercial account holders, and two employee town halls.

CPS Energy also took part in a community town hall hosted by a local environmental group and a City Council District 10 community meeting. Public comment opportunities at CPS Energy Board of Trustees and Rate Advisory Committee meetings welcomed 91 speakers during this process.

**CPS Energy reached and engaged customers through over 600,000 touch points. The CPS Energy Path Forward webpage was visited over 18,000 times, social media impressions reached nearly 58,000, and over 541,970 impressions were reached through paid media.**

*A **touch point** is a point of contact or engagement between a business and a customer whether it be person-to-person, through a website, or any form of communication.*

# Summary of Touch Points

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- Four open house AM & PM sessions: 59
- Commercial Customers Webinar: 47
- Community Town Hall: 35
- CoSA Council District Community Event: 60
- Virtual Town Hall: 3,515
- SA Chamber Infrastructure Committee and Public Policy Council Meeting: 20
- Suburban City Summit: 22
- Social Media Impressions: 57,961
- Path Forward Webpage: 18,783+
- Paid Media Impressions: 541,970+
- Media News Coverage: 10+
- Toolkit Distribution Shares: 50+
- HOA and Neighborhood Alliances: 409
- University & Colleges Outreach: 6
- Flyers @ CPS Energy Customer Service Centers: 4
- Employee Communications: 3,100+
- Influencer Marketing Impressions: 22,155
- CEO ENGAGE Newsletter: 8,900
- Online Community Calendars: 6
- Community Engagement Outreach: 123
- BoT Meetings Since Feb. Resolution: 9
  - Public Input Speakers: 58
- RAC meetings: 16
  - Public Input Speakers: 33
- Municipal Utilities Committee Updates: 4
- Survey: 1,268 participants

# Stakeholder Engagement

## OVERVIEW OF EVENTS

Event	Host	Date	Location	Attendees
<b>Public Events</b>				
Open Houses (AM & PM)	CPS Energy	Oct. 6	CPS Energy Headquarters	35
People Powered Town Hall	Public Citizen	Nov. 15	Woodlawn Pointe Community Center	Approx. 35
District 10 Community Event	District 10	Nov. 21	Tool Yard	Approx. 60
Open Houses (AM & PM)	CPS Energy	Dec. 1	CPS Energy Headquarters	24
Virtual Town Hall	CPS Energy	Dec. 8	Virtual	3,515
<b>CPS Energy Internal Events (non-public)</b>				
CPS Energy Employee Town Hall	CPS Energy	Sept. 13	Virtual	1,038
Webinar w/Commercial Account Holders	CPS Energy	Oct. 27	Virtual	47
Suburban City Summit	CPS Energy	Oct. 28	Hybrid	22
CPS Energy Employee Town Hall	CPS Energy	Nov. 29	Virtual	723

# Survey Results

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## ABOUT THE SURVEY

The generation planning survey was launched on September 30, 2022 and remained active through December 9, 2022. The survey was comprised of three questions that mirrored a dot plot exercise conducted by the Rate Advisory Committee (RAC) in August 2022.

Like RAC members, customers were asked to select their top three objective preferences and top generation preference as they relate to powering the future of our community. A third question allowed customers the option to share additional comments or feedback (*question 3 comments are available in the Public Comments supporting document*).

The survey was available online to all customers in English and Spanish and could be accessed on the Powering Our Community's Future webpage and on digital and printed informational materials via a QR code.

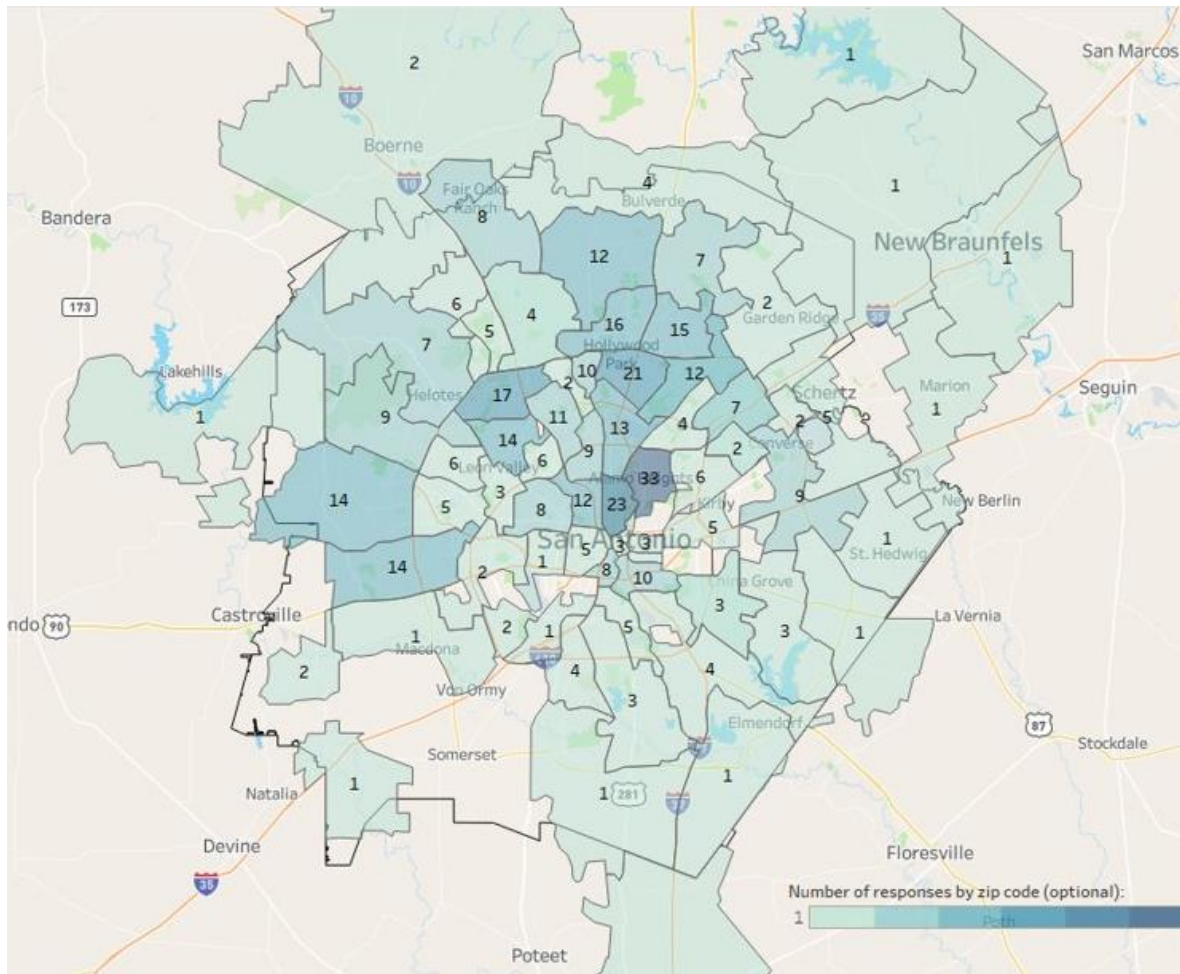
**1,268 customers responded to at least one question on the survey.**





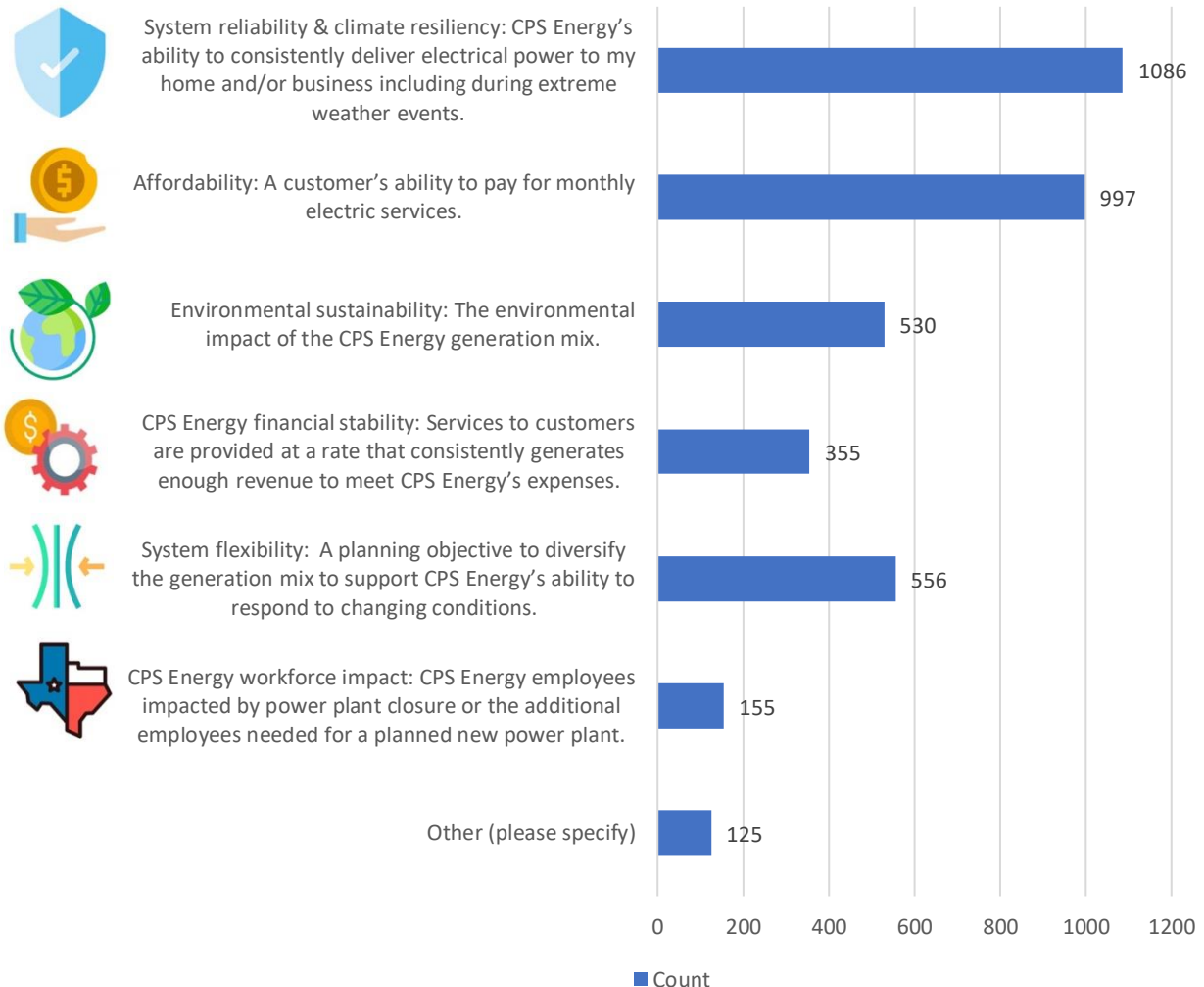
## PARTICIPATION BY ZIPCODE

Survey participants had the **option** to record their zip code before completing the survey, **292 out of the 1,268 survey participants responded**. Participation by zip code is depicted below via a heatmap.



## SURVEY QUESTION 1

Please select **three** objectives listed below that are important to you in how CPS Energy powers our community now and in the future.



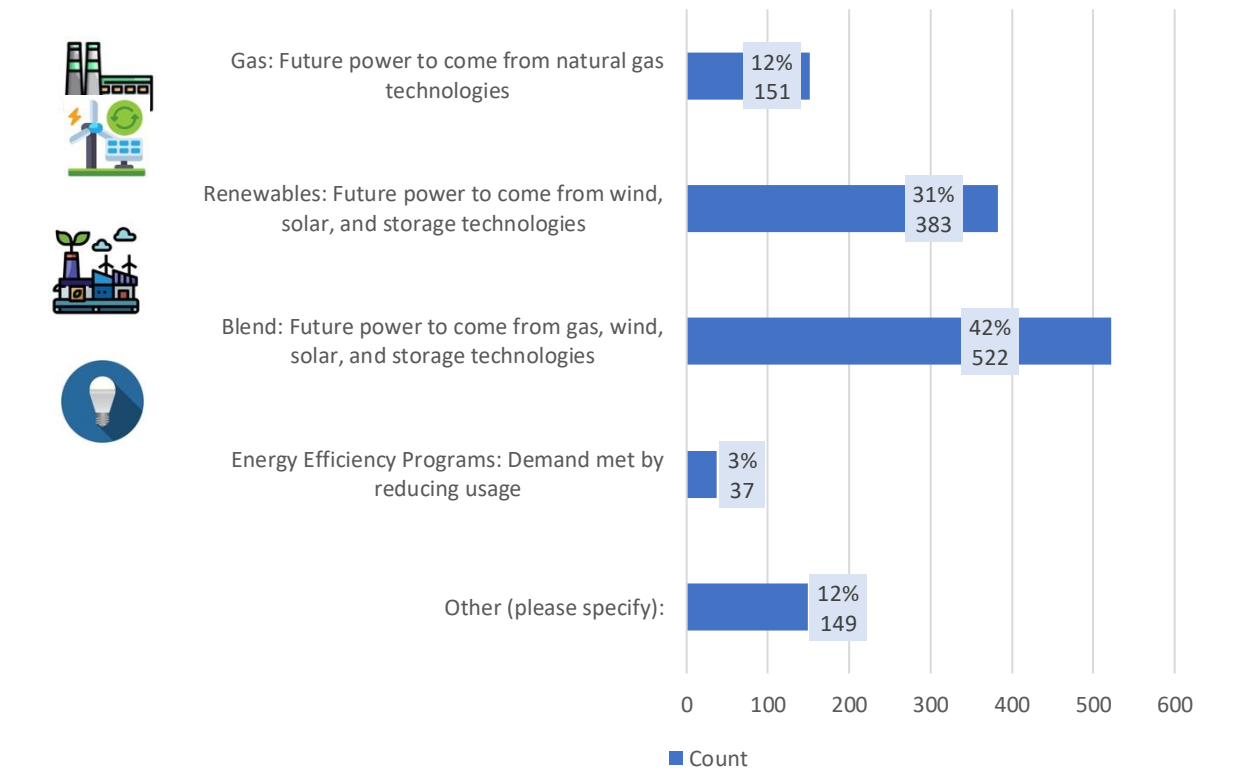
## BREAKDOWN OF RESULTS BY RANK

Total  
Responses

<b>System Reliability &amp; Climate Resiliency</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>1086</b>
<b>Affordability</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>997</b>
<b>System Flexibility</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>556</b>
Environmental Sustainability	14%	530
Financial Stability	9%	355
Workforce Impact	4%	155
Other	3%	12

## SURVEY QUESTION 2

What is your primary preference for how CPS Energy will make power in the future?



## BREAKDOWN OF RESULTS BY RANK

Total  
Responses

<b>Blend</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>522</b>
Renewables	31%	383
Gas	12%	151
Other	12%	149
Energy Efficiency Programs	3%	37

# Media Coverage Snapshot

[Apr. 4, 2022: San Antonio Report](#)

[Jun. 6, 2022: San Antonio Report](#)

[Oct. 5, 2022: WOAI News 4](#)

[Oct. 5, 2022: KSAT News](#)

[Oct. 18, 2022: San Antonio Express-News](#)

[Oct. 25, 2022: San Antonio Report](#)

[Nov. 27, 2022: San Antonio Report](#)

[Dec. 7, 2022: KSAT News](#)

[Dec. 8, 2022: San Antonio Report](#)

[Dec. 8, 2022: KENS 5](#)

[Dec. 8, 2022: Telemundo](#)

[Dec. 8, 2022: WOAI News 4](#)

[Dec. 12, 2022: San Antonio Express-News](#)



# CPS Energy Board Vote

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During a special meeting on January 23, 2023, the CPS Energy Board of Trustees voted to approve a plan for powering the San Antonio community through 2030. The generation planning portfolio chosen was Portfolio 2, a blend of gas, solar, wind and energy storage. The blended generation mix will accelerate progress towards carbon neutrality by shifting away from coal.

The generation planning process considered replacing aging plants and the continued use of coal while meeting the city's climate goals, maintaining reliability and remaining competitively priced in the nation's fastest growing city.

The Board's decision followed input from the community and the Rate Advisory Committee (RAC). To read the full press release, [click here](#).