

**Association of Bay Area Governments
ABAG Administrative Committee**

July 11, 2025

Agenda Item 7b

**Contract for Services - Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) Statewide Home
Energy Score Program: Energy Council (StopWaste) (\$9,900,000)**

Subject:

Authorization to Enter into a Contract with Energy Council (StopWaste) in an Amount Not to Exceed \$9,900,000 to Support the Development and Implementation of the Bay Area Regional Energy Network's (BayREN) new Statewide Home Energy Score Program (Home Energy Score California) through December 31, 2027.

Background:

Since 2013, the Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) has implemented a portfolio of energy efficiency programs across the region. The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) serves as the program administrator and lead agency for a 10-member unincorporated association of local government entities. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), in Decision (D.) 12-11-015, first authorized funding for BayREN. On July 3, 2023, the CPUC issued D.23-06-055, which, among other things, approved BayREN's strategic business plan for eight years (2024-2031) and four-year program portfolio for 2024-2027, with an accompanying budget of approximately \$157 million.

In addition, the CPUC authorized BayREN, as the lead program administrator, to administer the first non-Investor-Owned Utility (IOU) statewide program. They granted an additional budget of \$9,900,000 to administer this program through the same period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2027, pending approval of BayREN's advice letter submitted to the CPUC requesting authorization to develop and implement the Home Energy Score California program. BayREN's advice letter was accepted by the CPUC on November 4, 2024.

The existing BayREN Home Energy Score program, currently operating as a regional program within the nine counties, will transition statewide once all contracts and agreements are in place with all four IOU's and with the third-party implementer for the program. The anticipated launch is January 1, 2026.

Energy Council is a joint powers authority comprised of fifteen Alameda County Jurisdictions (Member Agencies). Energy Council is staffed by StopWaste, a public agency governed by the Alameda County Waste Management Authority, the Alameda County Source Reduction and Recycling Board, and the Energy Council. As such, all interactions between ABAG and Energy Council within this agreement shall be conducted by StopWaste staff on behalf of Energy Council. BayREN currently contracts with StopWaste to implement the regional program, and in transitioning statewide, StopWaste will continue as the implementer, given their expertise and familiarity, delivering the offering.

The Home Energy Score California program is an expansion of the successful Home Energy Score program implemented in the nine Bay Area Counties. To date, more than 30,000 scores have been approved in the Bay Area, which represents approximately 1.7% of the single-family housing stock. Additionally, more than \$6.4 million in incentives have been paid out to help homeowners cover the cost of obtaining a score.

By expanding statewide, the Home Energy Score California program will provide a far greater number of homeowners with the knowledge and motivation needed to make energy efficiency investments in the residential sector, therefore driving demand, innovation, and workforce growth in the energy efficiency market across the state.

The primary value-add of the program is making available a standard home energy label throughout the state utilizing the Department of Energy (DOE) Home Energy Score tool as a baseline. Scores will be able to be conducted on any single-family home within the territory of California's Investor-Owned Utilities (IOUs).

DOE's Home Energy Score program operates under a partnership model. Local and national Partner organizations implement the program by training and mentoring Home Energy Score Assessors and performing quality assurance requirements. StopWaste, through funding from BayREN, acts as the DOE Partner for the Bay Area Home Energy Score program and will continue to do so for Home Energy Score California.

Issues:

None identified.

Recommendations:

Requests ABAG Administrative Committee approval to authorize the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, or designee, to enter into a contract with Energy Council (StopWaste) to support the development and implementation of the new Home Energy Score California program through December 31, 2027, in an amount not to exceed \$9,900,000.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and Small Business Enterprise Status
- Attachment B: Request for ABAG Administrative Committee Approval



Andrew B. Fremier

Attachment A

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and Small Business Enterprise Status

	Firm Name	Role on Project	DBE*	If DBE Yes,	SBE**	If SBE Yes,
			Yes / No	List #	Yes / No	List #
Prime Contractor	Energy Council (StopWaste)	Program Lead	No		No	

*Denotes certification by the California Unified Certification Program (CUCP).

**Denotes certification by the State of California.

Request for Committee Approval

Summary of Proposed Contract Amendment

Work Item No.: 1721 (NFSN TBD), pending fully executed agreement

Consultant: Energy Council (StopWaste)
Oakland, CA

Work Project Title: BayREN Statewide Home Energy Score Program (Home Energy Score California)

Purpose of Project: Support the Development and Implementation of the new Home Energy Score California program through December 31, 2027.

Brief Scope of Work: StopWaste will support the development and implementation of the statewide Home Energy Score California program.

Project Cost Not to Exceed: \$9,900,000

Funding Source: Investor-Owned Utilities (IOU) (ratepayer funds) as directed by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)

Fiscal Impact: Funds programmed in Fiscal Years 2025-2026; 2026-2027; 2027-2028 Budgets

Motion by Committee: Requests ABAG Administrative Committee approval to authorize the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, or designee, to enter into a contract with Energy Council (StopWaste) for the new Home Energy Score California program through December 31, 2027, in an amount not to exceed \$9,900,000.

ABAG Administrative
Committee:

Belia Ramos, President

Approved: July 11, 2025