

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

CONCURRENT SPECIAL MEETING OF THE EL CERRITO PUBLIC FINANCING AUTHORITY, EMPLOYEE PENSION TRUST BOARD, AND REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL JUNE 15, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.

Members:

Mayor Paul Fadelli

Mayor Pro Tem Gabe Quinto · Councilmember Janet Abelson Councilmember Lisa
Motoyama · Councilmember Tessa Rudnick

Join Via Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/94922424132?pwd=VkJhTHNOSjNVU0FwSDZXUFlxcGxoUT09>

Meeting ID: 949 2242 4132 Password: 929722
or Dial in: 1-408-638-0968

Pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20, teleconference restrictions of the Brown Act have been suspended, as well as the requirement to provide a physical location for members of the public to participate in the meeting.

Members of the public can watch or listen to City Council meetings as follows:

1. Cable T.V. Broadcast on KCRT Channel 28
2. Radio Broadcast on FM 88.1 Or 97.7
3. Livestream Online at www.el-cerrito.org/CouncilMeetingMaterials
4. Via Zoom using the meeting information listed above.

Each period for public comment will be announced. Public Comments may be submitted one of two ways:

- Via Zoom using the “Raise Hand” icon to request to speak. If joining by phone, dial *9 to "raise your hand", and when prompted by the host, *6 to unmute/mute.
- Via email to cityclerk@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us. Email must contain in the subject line **Public Comments – Not on the Agenda or Public Comments – agenda item #.**

To ensure City Council receives your written comments prior to taking action, they must be received by **4:00 p.m. the day of the meeting**. All written comments received by this deadline will be provided to the City Council and posted online in advance of the meeting. Comments received after the deadline will be provided to the City Council and included with supplemental materials **after the meeting**. **No written comments will be read into the record.**

7:00 P.M. ROLL CALL – CONVENE CONCURRENT SPECIAL MEETING OF THE EL CERRITO PUBLIC FINANCING AUTHORITY, EMPLOYEE PENSION TRUST BOARD, AND REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Fadelli called the meeting to order at 07:00 PM.

Present: Mayor Fadelli, Mayor Pro Tem Quinto, Councilmember Abelson, Councilmember Motoyama, Councilmember Rudnick **Absent:** None

1. TELECONFERENCE AND PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS

2. COUNCIL/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Reports of closed session, commission appointments and informational reports on matters of general interest which are announced by the City Council and staff.

City Manager Pinkos - provided an update on health orders, vaccines, and reopening plans for city facilities.

Police Chief Keith - provided an update on region and city response to illegal fireworks.

Councilmember Rudnick - provided an update on the Council budget ad- hoc committee.

Councilmember Motoyama - reported meeting with Community Development staff and a new El Cerrito business, Footlocker.

Mayor Fadelli - reported attendance at the Contra Costa County Election Community Engagement group; shared the budget recommendations submitted by the Financial Advisory Board (FAB).

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Remarks are typically limited to 3 minutes per person. The Mayor may reduce the time limit per speaker depending upon the number of speakers and may limit the total time for public comment to facilitate the completion of business on the agenda. Comments regarding non-agenda, presentation and consent calendar items will be heard first. Comments related to items appearing on the Public Hearing or Policy Matter portions of the Agenda will be heard prior to the City Council taking action on each item.

All written comments submitted prior to and during the meeting were posted online as supplemental materials and incorporated into the official meeting record. Written public comments for matters not on the agenda were received from Cordell Hindler.

Oral Public Comments:

Ira Sharenow - commented on municipal code authorities and responsibilities.

Chris Hurst - introduced as the new West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) superintendent.

Indy Rishi Singh - spoke on emotional well-being, mental health, discrimination

in community and senior services.

Diana Cantu-Reyna - spoke of disappointment with process for public engagement at council meeting, and against library cuts.

Anna Ghosh - spoke against cuts to library hours.

Stephanie Lu - commented on meeting being inaccessible, and connection and empathy for the community.

Charles Taylor- spoke against cuts to library hours.

Debra Saunders - requested publication of the S&P report and long-term rating, commented on use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for business, not city expenses.

Tim Laidman - spoke against cuts to library hours; in favor of cutting police vehicles, FAB recommendations, management compensation and need for additional budget details.

Cathy Hanville - spoke regarding Measure X support, pride month, identifying pronouns, and re-voting on library.

Nadine Cohen- spoke against cuts to library hours.

Kimberly White - requested a rework of the budget, commented on lack of accountability and transparency.

Miguel Gravelle- spoke against cuts to library hours.

Ruby McDonald - commented on budget not meeting auditor's requests, support for other funding sources for library and volunteer service.

Justin Chang - commented on community meeting held by Councilmember Rudnick and concern about reserve levels.

Jim Dolgonas - spoke against cuts to library hours.

Rayah James - spoke against cuts to library hours, importance of senior services, lack of transparency and agreement with FAB recommendations.

4. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR

All items on the consent calendar shall be acted upon in one motion, unless a member of the City Council or staff request separate consideration.

Moved/Seconded: Councilmember Rudnick/Councilmember Motoyama

Action: Approved the Consent Calendar as indicated below. **Ayes:** Mayor Fadelli, Mayor Pro Tem Quinto, Councilmember Abelson, Councilmember Motoyama, Councilmember Rudnick **Noes:** None

A. National Night Out Proclamation

Action Proposed: Approve a proclamation calling upon all residents of the City of El Cerrito to participate in “National Night Out” on Tuesday, August 3, 2021.

Contact: Lt. Jose Delatorre, Administrative Services Division, Police Department

Action: Approved Proclamation

B. Consider a Letter of Support for Measure X Funding to support the Contra Costa County Community Crisis Initiative

Action Proposed: Pass a motion authorizing the Mayor to sign a letter in support of Measure X funding to support the Contra Costa County Community Crisis Initiative.

Contact: Karen Pinkos, City Manager, City Management

Action: Approved letter

C. Agreement with A Plus Tree Inc. for Tree Pruning and Removal Services

Action Proposed: Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with A Plus Tree Inc. for tree pruning and removal services in City parks and streets, in an amount not to exceed \$34,000 in Fiscal Year 2020-21 and \$34,000 in Fiscal Year 2021-22.

Contact: Stephen Prée, Environmental Programs Manager, Public Works Department; Will Provost, Operations and Environmental Services Division Manager; Yvetteh Ortiz, Public Works Director/City Engineer

Action: Approved Resolution 2021-31

D. Amendment to the Agreement with Rubicon Landscape Corporation for Parks and Landscape Maintenance Services

Action Proposed: Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an Amendment to the Agreement with Rubicon Landscape Corporation for parks and landscape maintenance services, extending the agreement term from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 with a total annual compensation not to exceed \$134,416 in Fiscal Year 2021-22.

Contact: Will Provost, Operations & Environmental Services Division Manager, Public Works Department; Yvetteh Ortiz, Public Works Director/City Engineer

Action: Approved Resolution 2021-32

E. Agreement with Mobile Fleetcare, Inc. for Fleet Maintenance and Repair Services

Exempt from CEQA review pursuant to section 15378(b)(2)

Action Proposed: Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Mobile Fleetcare, Inc. in an annual amount not to exceed \$143,100 in Fiscal Year 2021-22 to provide fleet maintenance and repair services for a period of three years, with the option to annually extend the contract for three years thereafter, contingent upon funding being appropriated by the City Council in future City budgets.

Contact: Will Provost, Operations and Environmental Services Division Manager, Public Works Department; Yvetteh Ortiz, Public Works Director/City Engineer

Action: Approved Resolution 2021-33

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. Citizens Street Oversight Committee Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2019-20

Action Proposed: Receive and file the Citizens Street Oversight Committee Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2019-20 to City Council and Citizens of El Cerrito.

Contact: Vanessa Hill, Committee Chair, Citizens Street Oversight Committee; Yvetteh Ortiz, Public Works Director/City Engineer, Public Works Department

Action: Received and filed

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

7. POLICY MATTERS

A. CITY COUNCIL/PUBLIC FINANCING AUTHORITY/EMPLOYEE PENSION TRUST BOARD

Approval of the City's Fiscal Year 2021-22 Proposed Budget and Spending Authority by Fund for the City, Employee Pension Board and Public Financing Authority and Approval of the FY 2021-22 Annual Gann Appropriation Limit.

Action Proposed: Staff requests that the City Council 1) Adopt a City Council resolution authorizing Fiscal Year 2021-22 spending authority by fund for the City of El Cerrito; 2) Adopt a El Cerrito Public Financing Authority resolution authorizing Fiscal Year 2021-22 spending authority by fund; 3) Adopt a El Cerrito Employee Pension Board resolution authorizing Fiscal Year 2021-22 spending authority by fund; and 4) Adopt a City Council resolution approving the calculation and establishing the FY 2021-22 annual Gann Appropriation Limit.

Contact: Karen Pinkos, City Manager, City Management; Mark R. Rasiah, Finance Director/City Treasurer, Finance Department

Presentation and Discussion: Financial Advisory Board (FAB) Chair, Dick Patterson, provided the basis for the FAB recommendations of a \$1 general fund surplus that does not rely on the ARPA funds, options to generate such funds, and program and service reductions with impacts on residents.

Presenters and staff responded to comments and questions raised by members of the council regarding additional cuts needed to achieve a \$1 million dollar surplus, use of ARPA funds, placement of library hours in budget, funding for library hours, funding a 115 trust, measure H funds, 4th of July events, senior services, telecommunication expenses, senior foundation to raise funds for senior services, consolidation of midtown facility, impact of eliminated positions in Public works, illegal dumping and graffiti abatement response, mixed stream recycling, grant funding, Hillside Natural Area trees and weed abatement costs, police vehicles, communication costs, police dispatch, and options for budget modifications.

Council recessed at 10:04 PM and reconvened at 10:10 PM.

Public Comments:

All written comments submitted prior to and during the meeting were posted online as supplemental materials and incorporated into the official meeting record. Written public comments for this item were received from Laila Carroll, Charles Taylor, Cordell Hindler, Erin Everett, Karen Anderson, Clem & John Underhill, Al Miller, Deborah Long, Patricia Shaw, Nancy Allen, Michael Fischer, Susannah Snider, Peter Smith, Diana Rodrigues, Jim Dolgonas, Linda Moss, Sue Hansen, Ruth Robinson, Rebecca Sutton, Dick Patterson, Alison Sanders, Felicia Vargas, Gary & Jean Pokorny, Michael Fischer, Alice W. Clark, Angelo Claudio, Jan Woo, Glen Shannon, Natalie Slama, Eric Luttrell, Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto, Erik Jekabson, Barry Koops, Rick Franklin, Leslie D. Adams, Claire Boudreaux, and Karen Platt.

Moved/Seconded: Councilmember Rudnick/Mayor Fadelli

Action: Passed a motion to restore library hours and moving to a non-department division of the budget. **Ayes:** Mayor Fadelli, Mayor Pro Tem Quinto, Councilmember Abelson, Councilmember Rudnick **Noes:** Councilmember Motoyama

Oral Public Comments:

Ira Sharenow, Michal Fischer, Jacob Klein, Linda M., Sherry Drobner, Howdy Goudey, Linda Cain, Al Miller, Kathryn Levenson, Dan Schulman, and Kimberly White - spoke in support of restoring library hours

Moved/Seconded: Councilmember Motoyama/Mayor Pro Tem Quinto

Action: Passed a motion to establish a Section 115 trust to pay pension obligations, funded by cuts so as to not have an additional impact on the

General Fund. **Ayes:** Mayor Fadelli, Mayor Pro Tem Quinto, Councilmember Abelson, Councilmember Motoyama, Councilmember Rudnick **Noes:** None

Oral Public Comments:

Debra Saunders - spoke in support but suggested waiting to setup up until a sizable amount of funds have been set aside.

Ira Sharenow - suggested how to achieve cuts to fund the trust.

Howdy Goudey - spoke in support of creating the trust, the amount of unfunded liability and other increases in budget.

William Ktsanes - spoke in support of creating the fund when funds set aside and need for receiving a menu of choices for cuts.

Moved/Seconded: Mayor Fadelli/Councilmember Motoyama

Action: Passed a motion to reduce the police vehicle purchases by \$50 thousand dollars. **Ayes:** Mayor Fadelli, Mayor Pro Tem Quinto, Councilmember Abelson, Councilmember Motoyama, Councilmember Rudnick **Noes:** None

Oral Public Comments:

Rebecca Sutton, Indy Rishi Singh, Sherry Drobner, Linda Cain, and Ira Sharenow - spoke in support of reducing police vehicle purchases.

Moved/Seconded: Councilmember Abelson/Mayor Pro Tem Quinto

Action: Failed motion to extend the meeting to 11:30 PM. **Ayes:** Councilmember Abelson, Mayor Fadelli **Noes:** Mayor Pro Tem Quinto, Councilmember Motoyama, Councilmember Rudnick

B. Management and Confidential Employees Resolution

Action Proposed: Adopt a resolution modifying salaries, benefits, and conditions of employment for Management and Confidential Employees.

Contact: Alexandra Orologas, Assistant City Manager, City Management

Action: Item continued to the June 22, 2021 special City Council meeting.

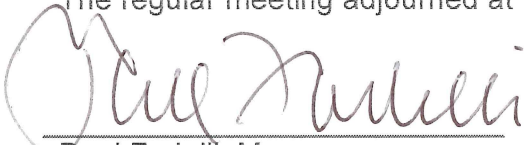
8. CITY COUNCIL LOCAL & REGIONAL LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS *Mayor and City Council communications regarding local and regional liaison assignments and committee reports.*

Mayor Pro Tem Quinto - reported Marin Clean Energy (MCE) funding available to customers who need assistance to pay bill.

9. ADJOURN CONCURRENT SPECIAL MEETING OF THE EL CERRITO PUBLIC FINANCING AUTHORITY, EMPLOYEE PENSION TRUST BOARD,

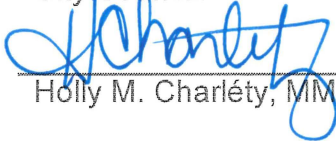
AND REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

The regular meeting adjourned at 10:58 PM



Paul Fadelli, Mayor

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular City Council meeting of June 15, 2021 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council.



Holly M. Charléty, MMC, City Clerk