

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

CONCURRENT SPECIAL PLANNING COMMISSION AND REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING AUGUST 17, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.

City Council (in-person):
Mayor Paul Fadelli

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

Planning Commission (via Zoom):
Chair Leslie Mendez

Member Brendan Bloom · Member Greg Crump · Member Erin Gillett
Member Daniel Hamilton · Member Linda Klein · Member Joy Navarrete

Meeting Location:
(City Council and staff only - no public attendance)
Council Chambers, 10890 San Pablo Ave El Cerrito, CA 94530

Join Via Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/97341195745?pwd=QVlxSkhSQTgweCtEVmg0aGxrT3BiZz09>

Meeting ID: 973 4119 5745 Password: 873597
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.

This meeting is the first step in conducting "hybrid" City Council meetings, which will provide options for both in-person and remote participation. For the August 17, 2021 meeting, ONLY City Council and staff will be permitted to attend in person. Planning Commission members will participate via zoom, and members of the public will be able to participate remotely using any of the methods listed below. Beginning September 21, 2021 any interested individual will be able to attend City Council meetings in-person or participate via Zoom, unless changes in public health conditions prompt a return to remote-only meetings.

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 PLANNING COMMISSION AND REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
 Mayor Fadelli called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.
Council Present (in-person): Mayor Fadelli, Mayor Pro Tem Quinto (via zoom), Councilmember Abelson, Councilmember Motoyama, Councilmember Rudnick **Absent:** None
Planning Commission Present (via zoom): Chair Hamilton, Vice Chair Mendez, Member Bloom (arrived at 7:48), Member Gillett, Member Klein (arrived at 7:30), Member Navarrete **Absent:** Member Crump

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 the county health orders.

Councilmember Motoyama – requested the meeting adjourn in memory of Marlene George.

Mayor Pro Tem Quinto – announced attendance at the opening of the first marijuana dispensary in El Cerrito.

Mayor Fadelli - announced issuance of a Mayoral Certificate of Recognition in celebration of Theodore Crum's 100th birthday, and announced moving forward with the Committee on Aging recommendation to recognize centenarians in El Cerrito.

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 Kenneth Epley - Committee on Aging Chair, Cordell Hindler, and Dianne Brenner.

Oral Public Comments:

Betsy Dasher - spoke regarding the San Pablo Ave Specific Plan, height limits and affordable housing.

Buddy Akacic - commented on upcoming Committee on Aging meeting, senior seminar, and masks affecting sound.

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. Approval of Minutes

Action Proposed: Pass a motion to approve City Council Meeting minutes from June 15, June 22, and July 20, 2021.

Contact: Holly M. Charléty, City Clerk, City Management

Action: Approved minutes

B. Crime Prevention Committee Appointment

Action Proposed: Approve a Crime Prevention Committee recommendation to appoint William Cobb and Kathryn Fournier to the Crime Prevention Committee, effective August 17, 2021.

Contact: Scott Cliatt, Sergeant, Police Department

Action: Approved appointments

C. Construction Contract Award for Gladys Avenue, El Dorado Street, and B Street Improvement Project, City Project No. C3079, State Project No. LPPSB1L-5239(030)

Action Proposed: Adopt a resolution approving plans and specifications for the Gladys Avenue, El Dorado Street, and B Street Improvement Project, City Project No. C3079, State Project No. LPPSB1L-5239(030) (Project); rejecting the bid submitted by QA Constructors as non-responsive and accepting the other five (5) bids submitted for the Project; and authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract in the amount of \$424,850 with California Highway

Construction Group Inc. and to approve change orders in an amount not to exceed \$43,000 for the construction of the Project.

Contact: Ana Bernardes, Engineering Manager/Senior Engineer; Yvetteh Ortiz, Public Works Director/City Engineer, Public Works Department

Action: Approved Resolution 2021-43

D. El Cerrito del Norte Transit-Oriented Development Complete Streets Improvement Project - Subregional Transportation Mitigation Program (STMP) Cooperative Funding Agreement

Action Proposed: Adopt a resolution approving the Subregional Transportation Mitigation Program (STMP) Cooperative Funding Agreement (Agreement) between the West Contra Costa County Transportation Advisory Committee (WCCTAC) and the City of El Cerrito (City) for the El Cerrito del Norte Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Complete Streets Improvement Project and authorizing the City Manager to execute the Agreement.

Contact: Yvetteh Ortiz, Public Works Director/City Engineer, Public Works Department

Action: Approved Resolution 2021-44

5. PRESENTATIONS

**A. CITY COUNCIL/PLANNING COMMISSION ITEM
Access Planning for Transit-Oriented Development at the El Cerrito Plaza Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) Station – Study Session**

Action Proposed: Receive presentations from City staff, Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) staff, and consultants regarding the Berkeley-El Cerrito Corridor Access Plan, mobility improvements and parking components of the proposed Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) project at the El Cerrito Plaza BART station, and provide feedback regarding TOD access strategies, including the on-street parking management component.

Contact: Melanie Mintz, Community Development Director, Community Development Department; Yvetteh Ortiz, Public Works Director, Public Works Department

Presentation and Discussion: Presenters and staff responded to comments and questions raised by members of the council regarding street parking revenues, line bike and micro mobility options, strategies around using app-based services, parameters of regional access study, timed shuttle up and down the El Cerrito Hills, equity and racial diversity in public input process, impact on Del Norte station with reduced parking at Plaza station, impacts on service and increase in remote work, parking alternatives such as stacking, plans for conducting an updated parking study, timing and alignment of components of parking studies and development design, parking

pricing strategy in residential areas, revenue projections for on-street parking program options, designated library parking,

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 Dan Schulman, Al Miller, and Michael Fischer.

Oral Public Comments

Dan Cloak - commented on maximizing housing, reducing the demand for parking, and a managed parking plan.

Rebecca Bennassini - spoke in favor of focusing on on-street parking options and inclusion of a library in the development.

Tom Panas - spoke in support of transit-oriented development, San Pablo Avenue specific plan and strategic plan, and in moving forward on the project.

Howdy Goudey - spoke in support of reduced parking, increasing walking and biking access to the station, and mobility improvements.

Laura Maurer - spoke in support of further studies to use existing street parking near the station and near zero parking at the station.

Michael Fisher - spoke in support of the project and best opportunity for a new library in El Cerrito.

Betsy Bashor - commented on looking at lowering the height limit in the San Pablo specific plan and a broader corridor access study on parking.

Steve Price - commented on experience biking from El Cerrito neighborhoods to the BART station and options.

Linda Cain - commented on charging for on-street parking, effect on residential homes and accessibility for senior residents.

Rose Vekony - spoke in favor of reducing parking and sustainable alternatives, and limitation of parking per household.

Amy Smolens - commented on reliance on plaza parking, and multi-city alternatives for biking solutions.

Jeff Levin - spoke in support of the project, minimizing replacement parking, expanding access plans, alternatives to driving, and a parking plan.

Fred Bialy - commented on studies on use of disability spaces.

Action: Received and filed

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

7. POLICY MATTERS

A. FY 2020-21 General Fund Budget Update for June 2021

Action Proposed: Receive and file an update on City General Fund revenues and expenses for FY 2020-21 through June 2021.

Contact: Mark R. Rasiah, Finance Director/City Treasurer, Finance Department

Presentation and Discussion: Presenters and staff responded to comments and questions raised by members of the council regarding clarification that American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds are not included and use of ARPA funds.

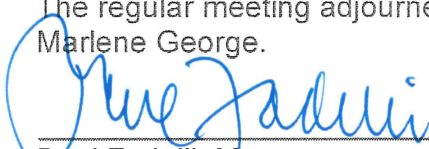
Action: Received and filed

8. CITY COUNCIL LOCAL & REGIONAL LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS

Mayor and City Council communications regarding local and regional liaison assignments and committee reports.

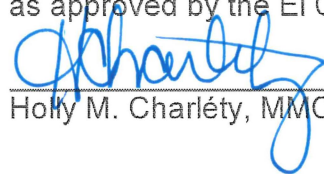
9. ADJOURN CONCURRENT SPECIAL PLANNING COMMISSION AND REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The regular meeting adjourned at 10:56 PM in memory of El Cerrito resident, Marlene George.



Paul Fadelli, Mayor

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the concurrent City Council/Planning Commission meeting of August 17, 2021 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council.



Holly M. Charléty, MMC, City Clerk