

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

NOVEMBER 16, 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://us06web.zoom.us/j/88156721012?pwd=Y2puY3ZRNXFVbkQrL0hLcDVMZ2VXUT09>

Meeting ID: 881 5672 1012 Password: 992836
or Dial in: 1-408-638-0968

The City Council may continue to meet by teleconference, consistent with the Brown Act as amended by AB 361 (2021). Under the amended rules, the City will not provide a physical location for members of the public to participate in the teleconference 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 **2:30 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 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Fadelli called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

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

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OR OBSERVATION OF A MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. TELECONFERENCE AND PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS

3. 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 current vaccine availability and the continuance of teleconferencing; encouraged everyone to celebrate upcoming holidays safely; announced the upcoming San Pablo Avenue Development and Complete Streets Virtual Open House. In the spirit of upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, she thanked the City Council for their leadership, the staff for their dedication, and the community for their patience and compassion.

Mayor Fadelli - reported his attendance at the El Cerrito High School Home Coming Parade, El Cerrito Lion's Club and Boy Scouts' Veterans Day ceremony, a block party at St. Peter's Church, and a meeting with West County School Board Trustee, Leslie Reckler. Additionally received a presentation at the County Mayors Conference from the Racial Justice Task Force, which named El Cerrito Police Department as the best contributor to its survey on racial disparity in the criminal justice system.

4. 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), Cordell Hinder, Jose Castrejon (Public Safety Management Association and Police Employees Association), Sandra Chapek, Robert De la Campa, Steve Bonini, Joe Grupalo, Larry Carr, Brenda Navellier, Lisa Hirayama, Blair Akey, Lance Maples, Shawn Maples, Donal Crumpacker, Cheryl Mosby, and Peter Statton; and presentation item #6A from Tomi Nagia-Rothe, Miguel Gravelle Izaguirre, Robin Mitchell, Max Ferer, Leslie Adams, John Stashik, and Neil Tsutsui.

Oral Public Comments:

Larry Carr - requested rescinding decision on changes affecting medical rates for retirees.

Indy Rishi Singh - commented on mental health and wellbeing, position on Human Relations Commission, and challenges regarding interactions with city staff.

Buddy Akacic - requested opportunity for 8th grade presentation on climate change.

Joe Grupalo - commented on concern for recent changes affecting medical rates for retirees.

Dave Gibson - commented on concern for recent changes affecting medical rates for retirees.

Lance Maples - commented on concern for recent changes affecting medical rates for retirees, and staff leaving city services.

5. 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 Abelson/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. Proclamation Recognizing Sean Bennett

Action Proposed: Pass a motion to approve a proclamation recognizing Sean Bennett for his outstanding performance in the Tour de France 2021.

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

Action: Approved proclamation

B. 2nd Reading and Adoption of an ordinance of the City of El Cerrito regarding Accessory Dwelling Unit Regulations

1st Reading 11/2/2021

Action Proposed: Pass a motion to waive the second reading and adopt Ordinance 2021-03 to repeal and replace Section 19.20.190 (Accessory Dwelling Units); add Section 19.20.195 (Junior Accessory Dwelling Units); and approve amendments to Section 19.46.030 (Residential Use Classifications), Chapter 19.47 (Terms and Definitions), and Section 19.24.040 (Required Off-Street Parking Spaces) of the El Cerrito Municipal Code.

Contact: Sean Moss, Planning Manager; Diego Romero, Assistant Planner, Community Development Department
Action: Adopted Ordinance 2021-03

- C. **2nd Reading and Adoption of an ordinance of the City of El Cerrito Amended Regulations Requiring Foodware to be Reusable or Compostable and Prohibiting the Use, Distribution, or Sale of Plastic Straws and Plastic Stirrers**
1st Reading 11/2/2021

Action Proposed: Pass a motion to waive the second reading and adopt Ordinance 2021-04 amending Chapter 8.24 (Foodware Regulations) of the El Cerrito Municipal Code.

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

Action: Adopted Ordinance 2021-04

6. PRESENTATIONS

A. Sogorea Te' Land Trust

Action Proposed: Receive and file a presentation by the Sogorea Te' Land Trust

Contact: Corrina Gould, Director, Sogorea Te' Land Trust

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 Tomi Nagai-Rothe, Miguel Gravelle Izaguirre, Robin Mitchell, Max Fefer, Leslie Adams, John Stashik, and Neil Tsutsui.

Oral Public Comments:

John Qua - spoke in support of deepening relationships and ways to support the work of the trust including shuumi (gift) payments.

Tomi Nagai-Rothe - spoke in support of the City paying shuumi.

Indy Rishi Singh - commented on conflict and interactions with city staff, and cultural makeup of voters.

Jessie Papalia - spoke in support of the City paying shuumi.

Allison Cooper - spoke in support of the City paying shuumi, rematriation and matching commitments made by the City of Albany.

Howdy Goudey – urged the Council to put equity and inclusion into action and move forward with meaningful changes.

Elli Nagai-Rothe - spoke in support of City paying shuumi and rematriation.

Sherry Drobner - commented on other similar efforts in the past and support of the City paying shuumi.

Nick Brooks - spoke in support of the City paying shuumi. Yari

Greaney - spoke in support of the City paying shuumi.

Sarah Klaurer - spoke in support of the City paying shuumi and rematriation.

Vanessa Warheit - commented on personal support and support of City paying shuumi.

Miguel Gravelle - commented on land acknowledgement not being sufficient and support of City paying shuumi.

Action: Received and filed.

B. Economic Development Committee Work Plan

Action Proposed: Receive and file a presentation from the Economic Development Committee on their Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Work Plan.

Contact: Jean Shrem, Chair, and Rachel Melby, Vice-Chair, Economic Development Committee; Aissia Ashoori, Community Development Department, Community Development Analyst

Presentation and Discussion: Presenters and staff responded to comments and questions raised by members of the council regarding gap analysis, new business opportunities, timing for launch of new website, and outreach to restaurants.

Oral Public Comments:

Ira Sharenow - spoke in favor of pickleball courts and a dedicated website.

Sherry Drobner - commented on organization and regulations regarding popups.

Indy Rishi Singh - suggested a public input option on the new website and committee hosting a think tank.

Action: Received and filed.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Ordinance Amending Chapter 8.12 of the City of El Cerrito Municipal Code "Collection and Disposal of Waste Stream" to Implement Mandatory Organic Waste Reduction Programs in compliance with Senate Bill 1383

Exempt from CEQA review pursuant to Section 15308. Notice published 11/6/2021

Action Proposed: Conduct a public hearing, and upon conclusion, introduce by title and waive any further reading of an Ordinance amending Chapter 8.12 "Collection and Disposal of Waste Stream" of the El Cerrito Municipal Code to implement mandatory organic waste reduction programs in compliance with Senate Bill 1383.

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

Presentation and Discussion: Presenters and staff responded to comments and questions raised by members of the council regarding pet waste, green hydrogen, member agencies on RecycleMore Joint Powers Authority, memorandum of understanding with RecycleMore, aligning the color of El Cerrito recycling bins, amount of increased needs for staff and funding to support the program, use of California Waste Solutions services, level of impacts to residents, process for bin inspections, and required amount of procurement for organics.

Public Hearing: Mayor Fadelli opened the public hearing.

Oral Public Comments:

Linda Cain - spoke in support of the ordinance, the importance of moving forward, the recent foodware ordinance changes and global warming.

Moved/Seconded: Councilmember Abelson/Mayor Pro Tem Quinto

Action: Closed the public hearing. **Ayes:** Mayor Fadelli, Mayor Pro Tem Quinto, Councilmember Abelson, Councilmember Motoyama, Councilmember Rudnick **Noes:** None

Moved/Seconded: Councilmember Rudnick/Councilmember Abelson

Action: Introduced by title and waived further reading of Ordinance 2021-05. **Ayes:** Mayor Fadelli, Mayor Pro Tem Quinto, Councilmember Abelson, Councilmember Motoyama, Councilmember Rudnick **Noes:** None

8. **POLICY MATTERS**

A. **Adoption of Vehicle Miles Traveled Thresholds of Significance for California Environmental Quality Act Transportation Analyses**

Action Proposed: Approve a resolution adopting Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) thresholds of significance and local criteria for purposes of analyzing transportation impacts under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Contact: Sean Moss, Planning Manager; Diego Romero, Assistant Planner, Community Development Department

Presentation and Discussion: Presenters and staff responded to comments and questions raised by members of the council regarding the inclusion of a multimodal level of service analysis, what neighboring jurisdictions are doing, the uniqueness of adoption in El Cerrito, and CEQA transportation analysis.

Oral Public Comments:

Howdy Goudey - spoke in support of approval, nada action missing subtleties related to greenhouse gas emissions and thresholds of significance for upcoming Specific Plan update.

Denise Sangster - commented on the negative implications of adoption regarding increasing distances traveled to work.

Moved/Seconded: Councilmember Motoyama/Councilmember Abelson
Action: Approved Resolution 2021-61. **Ayes:** Mayor Fadelli, Mayor Pro Tem Quinto, Councilmember Abelson, Councilmember Motoyama, Councilmember Rudnick **Noes:** None

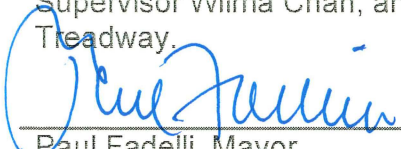
9. **CITY COUNCIL LOCAL & REGIONAL LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS**

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

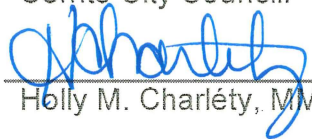
Councilmember Rudnick - reported on attendance at RecycleMore meeting.

10. **ADJOURN REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

The regular meeting adjourned at 10:08 PM in memory of Alameda County Supervisor Wilma Chan, and El Cerrito Resident and journalist Chris Treadway.


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 November 16, 2021 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council.


Holly M. Charléty, MMC, City Clerk