

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, April 2, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers

Meeting Location

El Cerrito City Hall

10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

Greg Lyman – Mayor

Mayor Pro Tem Janet Abelson
Councilmember Jan Bridges

Councilmember Rebecca Benassini
Councilmember Mark Friedman

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Abelson, Benassini, Bridges, Friedman and Mayor Lyman all present.

7:00 p.m.

CONVENE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Lyman convened the regular City Council meeting at 7:01 p.m.

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OR OBSERVATION OF MOMENT OF SILENCE** was led by Councilmember Benassini.
2. **COUNCIL / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

Mayor Pro Tem Abelson represented the League of California Cities today at a meeting held in Sacramento regarding the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Department of Education nutrition programs for low income students. Many schools no longer offer summer school and this impacts the ability to provide the state-run free lunch program for kids. Earth Day in El Cerrito will be celebrated on April 20, 2013 in the morning. Mayor Pro Tem Abelson encouraged those interested in signing up for a work party to register on the City's website. A free lunch at the Community Center follows the work parties.

Additionally, there are several public hearings scheduled throughout the nine Bay Area counties on the One Bay Area Plan - the Climate Action Plan for Land Use and Transportation in the Bay Area (Plan). The Plan was developed after passage of Assembly Bill 32 and Senate Bill 375. There will be a hearing on the Plan in Contra Costa County on April 17, 2013 at the Contra Costa Transportation Authority, 2999 Oak Road in Walnut Creek at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend and comment. Additionally, there is also a hearing on the Environmental Impact Report at the Marriot Hotel in Walnut Creek. More information is available from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission website, <http://www.mtc.ca.gov/>.

Mayor Lyman stated that that a neighborhood watch meeting sponsored by the Crime Prevention Commission was held at Canyon Trail Clubhouse over the weekend. National Night Out is August 6 this year. On April 11, 2013, Recyclemore/West County Waste Management Authority will be conducting a public hearing on the Final Environmental Impact Report for the plastic bag ban. The City is offering several new small business workshops and entrepreneur training. More information is available on the City's website or by contacting Dwayne Dalman at 215-4362. Residents interested in serving on the Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury can contact Theresa Ramos at 925-957-5638. On April 20 from 11-2 at the Craneway Conference Center in Richmond, the Ed Fund has organized a luncheon to honor several West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) teachers. The cost is \$45 per person. More information is posted on the Ed Fund website, www.tinyurl.com/edfund2013. On June 14 at 7:00 p.m. the El Cerrito Library will be celebrating its 100th birthday.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Todd Groves, West Contra Costa Unified School District Board of Education Director, provided an update on local WCCUSD activities including an update on Portola Middle School and an upcoming WCCUSD Strategic Plan Town Hall scheduled in May at El Cerrito High School.

Nicholas Arzio, El Cerrito, discussed the placement of two parking stalls near the corner of Fairmount and Kearney Streets. Mr. Arzio asked that the City reconsider the placement of the two parking spots because he believes they are too short and impact a disabled access ramp.

Al Miller, El Cerrito, invited all to attend Stege Sanitary District's 100th Anniversary Celebration on May 18, 2013 from 1 to 4 at the Stege District office located at 7500 Schmidt Lane.

4. PRESENTATIONS

Planned Parenthood Health Center at El Cerrito Plaza

Planned Parenthood El Cerrito will express its appreciation to the City Council for its support in bringing the health center to El Cerrito Plaza and present information on the impact Planned Parenthood's presence has had on the community.

Presenters: Debbie Bamberger, Nurse Practitioner and Chris Sorensen, Former Board Chair, Planned Parenthood El Cerrito.

Action: Presentation heard.

5. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR – Item Nos. 5A through 5G

Moved, seconded (Friedman/Benassini) and carried unanimously to adopt Consent Calendar Item Nos. 5A through 5G in one motion as indicated below.

A. Minutes for Approval

Approve the March 19, 2013 Special City Council and Regular City Council meeting minutes.

Action: Approved minutes.

B. Annual Landscape and Lighting Assessment Report

Adopt a resolution directing NBS Local Government Solutions (NBS) to prepare and file the annual Landscape and Lighting Assessment District No. 1988-1 report for fiscal year 2013-14.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2013-12.

C. Annual Parcel Assessment for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program (NPDES)

Adopt a resolution establishing the annual NPDES assessment Equivalent Runoff Unit rate at the current rate of \$38.00 and direct the Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District to adopt Stormwater Utility Area levies based on this amount.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2013-13.

D. 2010 and 2011 Growth Management Program Compliance Checklist

Adopt a resolution approving the Calendar Year 2010 and 2011 Growth Management Program (GMP) Compliance Checklist for allocation of Fiscal Years 2011-12 and 2012-13 Local Street Maintenance and Improvement Funds from Measure J by the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA).

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2013-14.

E. Professional Services Agreement with Avila Project Management

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to the consultant services agreement between the City of El Cerrito and Avila Project Management for project management services in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 bringing the total contract to an amount not to exceed \$75,000.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2013-15.

F. 2012 General Plan Annual Progress Report

Receive and file the General Plan Annual Progress Report.

Action: Received and filed.

G. Proclamation in Recognition of National Service, Community and Volunteer Day

Authorize Mayor Lyman to join other mayors and public officials nationwide in registering support for the Mayors Day of Recognition of National Service and approve a proclamation proclaiming April 9, 2013 as National Service, Community and Volunteer Recognition Day in the City of El Cerrito and encourage all residents to recognize the positive impact of service in our city, to thank those who serve and to find ways to give back to their communities.

Action: Approved proclamation.

6. PUBLIC HEARING

Amend El Cerrito Municipal Code Section 19.35.020, Temporary Uses

Conduct a public hearing and upon conclusion, introduce by title, waive any further reading and approve an ordinance amending El Cerrito Municipal Code Section 19.35.020, Temporary Uses, to allow greater flexibility for entertainment, recreational and leisure venues, particularly in the form of special events.

Presenter: Noel Ibalio, Senior Planner.

Mayor Lyman opened the public hearing. No speakers.

Moved, seconded (Benassini/Friedman) and carried unanimously to close the public hearing.

Action: Moved, seconded (Abelson/Bridges) and carried unanimously to approve by title and waive any further reading of an ordinance amending El Cerrito Municipal Code Section 19.35.020, Temporary Uses, to allow greater flexibility for entertainment, recreational and leisure venues, particularly in the form of special events. *Second reading is scheduled for April 16, 2013.*

7. POLICY MATTERS

A. Adoption of the City of El Cerrito Strategic Plan 2013–2017

Adopt a resolution adopting the Strategic Plan for the City for the years 2013–2017.

Presenters: Karen Pinkos, Assistant City Manager and Suzanne Iarla, Community Outreach Specialist.

Speakers: Tom Panas, El Cerrito, thanked staff and Ms. Hetrick for all the work that has been done on the Strategic Plan. Mr. Panas said that the Strategic Plan should make a stronger statement about public facilities by stating that the City should start construction on a new lifelong learning center and new public safety facility within the next five years. Mr. Panas also asked that the Strategic Plan be revised to include specific language regarding the need for an historic resources ordinance, a survey of historic resources and historic preservation.

Joanne Rubio, El Sobrante, commented on Goal C of the Strategic Plan. Ms. Rubio urged the City Council to support the review and development of an historic resources ordinance and survey as a strategy for furthering Goal C: Deepen a sense of place and community identity.

John Stashik, El Cerrito, stated that the City has a rich heritage and urged the City Council to prepare an inventory and protect the City's historic resources and heritage.

Action: Moved, seconded (Friedman/Benassini) and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 2013–16 with the following amendments to strategies associated with Goals C and F in the Strategic Plan:

1) Goal C: Deepen a sense of place and community identity.

a) The strategy, "Encourage use of alternative modes of transportation to connect people and create a sense of community" was amended on the floor to read, "Encourage use of alternative modes of transportation to the single occupancy vehicle to connect people and create a sense of community" and transferred to Goal F: Environmental Sustainability. Councilmember Benassini suggested that this strategy could also be placed under Goal E: Ensure the public's health and safety. *The City Council agreed that certain strategies relate to multiple goals.*

b) Mayor Lyman and Mayor Pro Tem Abelson suggested and the City Council agreed by consensus to change the strategy, "Encourage use of alternative modes of transportation" to "Encourage dense business nodes to minimize or eliminate automobile traffic."

c) The strategy, "Review current policies on historic preservation and determine whether updates are required" was amended on the floor to read "Review and update current policies on historic preservation of historic and cultural resources and determine whether updates are required."

2) Goal F: Foster environmental sustainability citywide.

The strategy, "Encourage use of alternative modes of transportation to the single occupancy vehicle" was added to Goal F by consensus of the City Council.

3) The City Council also eliminated the word, "beautiful" from the vision statement. The vision statement now reads as follows: "The ~~beautiful~~ City of El Cerrito is a safe, connected, and environmentally focused Bay Area destination with vibrant neighborhoods, businesses and public places, and diverse cultural, educational and recreational opportunities for people of all ages."

B. San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan Update and Professional Services Agreement Amendment

Receive an update on the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan and adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to amend the professional services agreement with Moore Iacofano Goltsman, Inc. (MIG), in an amount not to exceed \$422,000 to complete the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan, Complete Streets Plan and Programmatic Environmental Impact Report.

Presenter: Melanie Mintz, Environmental Services Manager, Daniel Iacofano, Principal and Mukul Malhotra, Principal, MIG.

Speaker: Tom Panas, El Cerrito, stated that he was gratified to learn that the Specific Plan would be overhauled to include a stronger focus on "Place Making." Mr. Panas also stated that a goal of the Plan should be that the final outcome reflects the historic nature of San Pablo Avenue and that the traffic analysis contained in the document needs correction.

Action: Moved, seconded (Benassini/Abelson) and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 2013-17.

C. Term Sheet for the West Contra Costa Integrated Waste Management Authority (RecycleMore) Post-Collection Services Agreement

Approve a recommendation advising Mayor Lyman to vote on the City Council's endorsement of the Term Sheet memorializing the deal points of an agreement between RecycleMore and Republic Services, Inc. at the April 11, 2013 meeting of the RecycleMore Board of Directors.

Action: Moved, seconded (Friedman/Bridges) and carried unanimously to approve the recommendation to endorse the term sheet and allow the Mayor to have the flexibility to adjust to any amendments or changes that may occur prior to negotiating a final approval.

8. COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS/LIAISON REPORTS

A. Mayor Lyman reported that he attended the East Bay Division of the League of California Cities meeting on March 28, 2013. Dan Borenstein, (*a reporter with the Contra Costa Times*) delivered a presentation on pension reform. Mayor Lyman asked the City Manager to research and report on the City's unfunded liability. Mayor Lyman also reported on his attendance at a recent West County Mayors meeting on the same day. The City of San Pablo has formed an economic development corporation to take care of its redevelopment issues. The West County Mayors received a presentation on homeless services provided by Saffron Strand, which offers services to homeless individuals that are re-entering the workforce. The West Contra Costa County Mayors also discussed the upcoming expiration of many regional appointments that are made by the Contra Costa County Mayors Conference. There is a significant shortage of representatives from West Contra Costa County. Mayor Lyman encouraged councilmembers to volunteer for these positions. Existing terms expire on June 30, 2013. The Mayors Conference is expected to vote on appointments at an upcoming meeting.

B. Mayor Pro Tem Abelson reported that the Environmental Quality Committee (EQC) co-sponsored a recent showing of the film, *Rising Waters* at the Cerrito Theater. Attendance was good. Break-out sessions followed at Nong Thon Restaurant. The public also provided comments on the One Bay Area Plan. Mayor Pro Tem Abelson thanked everyone involved, particularly Environmental Analyst, Garth Schultz for his efforts. This event provided a great opportunity to showcase El Cerrito within the community and to neighboring cities.

The Committee on Aging previewed and discussed the Healthcare Movie. The Committee would like to sponsor a viewing of the film. Mayor Pro Tem Abelson also attended the East Bay Division of League of California Cities meeting in which Daniel Borenstein, a reporter with the Contra Costa Times, spoke about pension reform. The presentation provoked a very lively interaction. Mr. Borenstein made a lot of points about his own position and Mayor Pro Tem Abelson stated that she was interested in El Cerrito specifically.

C. Councilmember Benassini reported that the Planning Commission discussed the temporary use ordinance and provided comments. A member of the EQC also came to the meeting and gave a report on what the Committee has done in terms of public outreach.

D. Councilmember Bridges reported that the Parks and Recreation Commission met on March 27, 2013 and voted to approve a temporary pop-up garden. The Commission also received an update from Public Works Director Jerry Bradshaw regarding the status of infrastructure problems at Huber Park, specifically water problems at the top of Park Street. Boulder fill provides a temporary fix. The issue has not been completely resolved however the lack of water this winter has helped. The Commission also received an update on the remainder of Measure WW grant funds. There is \$550,000 remaining; no recommendations were made by the Commission about the funds. Bill Driscoll, Maintenance Engineering Manager, gave an update on irrigation issues at Canyon Trail Park. Director Jones provided an update on the lack of progress on the joint use facilities and field agreement with the School District. Soccer is continuing to pay \$48.00 per hour on Sundays for the soccer field. Councilmember Bridges noted that City Manager Hanin will be meeting with WCCUSD Superintendent Harter during the week and announced that there will be a joint City Council/WCCUSD Board of Education meeting on May 7, 2013. Councilmember Bridges encouraged field users to attend the meeting if issues are not resolved.

E. Councilmember Friedman invited the public to attend the reception with local artist Dug Waggoner on April 6, 2013 from 1-3 p.m. in the City Hall Art Gallery.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Item No. 7(A) Adoption of the City of El Cerrito Strategic Plan 2013–2017

1. Comments regarding historical resources – *Submitted by Tom Panas.*
2. Additional comments regarding the Strategic Plan – *Submitted by Tom Panas.*
3. Comment regarding historic preservation – *Submitted by Brenda Navellier.*
4. Comments urging language regarding walkability, pedestrian uses, density and local business – *Submitted by Tess Taylor.*
5. Powerpoint presentation – *Submitted by Suzanne Iarla, Administrative Analyst.*

Item No. 7(B) San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan Update and Professional Services Agreement Amendment

6. Powerpoint presentation – *Submitted by Melanie Mintz, Environmental Services Manager*

Item No. 7(C) Term Sheet for the West Contra Costa Integrated Waste Management Authority (RecycleMore) Post-Collection Services Agreement

7. Powerpoint presentation – *Submitted by Garth Schultz, Environmental Analyst.*

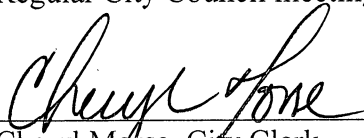
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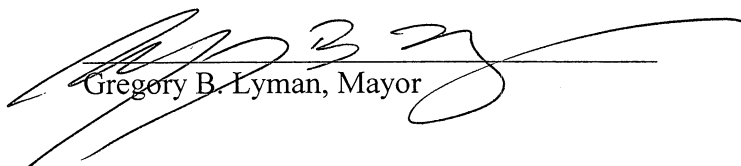
8. Public Works Department Detailed Traffic Order – *Submitted by Nicholas Arzio.*

9. ADJOURNED REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING at 9:22 p.m.

A meeting of the Municipal Services Corporation followed immediately upon adjournment of this regular City Council meeting.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of April 2, 2013 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council.


Cheryl Morse, City Clerk


Gregory B. Lyman, Mayor