



Staff Liaison
Claire Coleman | 510-215-4323
ccoleman@elcerrito.gov

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AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING OF THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY BOARD (FAB)

Tuesday, June 04, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

City Hall, Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530

This Meeting Place is Wheelchair Accessible

CONVENE REGULAR MEETING

- 1. ROLL CALL** – Chair David Carvel; Vice-Chair Michael McDougall; Members Janos Szlatenyi, Justin Van Zerber, Kimberly White. Youth Member Clive Watson-Lamprey Singer.
- 2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**
Remarks are typically limited to three minutes per person, and may be on anything within the subject matter jurisdiction of the body. Remarks on non-agenda items will be heard first. Remarks on agenda items will be heard at the time the item is discussed.
- 3. COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISONS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS (5 min.)**
Staff and/or Councilmembers may report Council policies, priorities and significant actions taken by the City Council, and/or on matters of general interest to the FAB.
- 4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (5 min.) (Attachment)**
Consider a motion to adopt the minutes for the FAB meeting held on May 26, 2026.
- 5. REVIEW OF DRAFT FY 2026-27 AND FY 2027-28 BIENNIAL BUDGET**
Review the draft budget book presented to Council on June 2, 2026. Consider making a recommendation to the City Council for the meeting on June 16, 2026.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (5 min.)

- Discussion of FAB Workplan
- Discussion of Internal Service Fund (ISF) policy
- Purchasing Ordinance, updates as available
- Service Delivery Study, updates as available
- Pool, updates as available
 - Special meeting when appropriate to discuss funding
- Review investment policy

7. ADJOURNMENT

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Staff Liaison, 510-215-4323. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the members regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at <https://www.elcerrito.gov/105/Financial-Advisory-Board>.



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AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING OF THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY BOARD (FAB)

Tuesday, May 26, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

City Hall, Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530

This Meeting Place is Wheelchair Accessible

6: CONVENE REGULAR MEETING

- 1. ROLL CALL** – Chair David Carvel; Vice-Chair Michael McDougall; Members Janos Szlatenyi, Justin Van Zerber, Kimberly White. Youth Member Clive Watson-Lamprey Singer.
Chair Carvel called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.
Present: Chair Carvel; Vice-Chair McDougall; Members Szlatenyi, Van Zerber, and White.
Absent: Youth Member Watson-Lamprey Singer
- 2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**
Remarks are typically limited to three minutes per person, and may be on anything within the subject matter jurisdiction of the body. Remarks on non-agenda items will be heard first. Remarks on agenda items will be heard at the time the item is discussed.
No members of the public provided public comment.
- 3. COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISONS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS (5 min.)**
Staff and/or Councilmembers may report Council policies, priorities and significant actions taken by the City Council, and/or on matters of general interest to the FAB.
Councilmember Motoyama provided a report on the districting process, including an explanation of the timeline, the threat of litigation, an explanation of the Safe Harbor provision, and the July 21 deadline.

Staff provided a brief update on the interim audit and the status of the Citywide Service Delivery Study.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (5 min.) (Attachment)

Consider a motion to adopt the minutes for the FAB meeting held on May 7, 2026.

Motion/Second: Motion by Vice-Chair McDougall to approve the minutes from the May 7, 2026, FAB meeting. Seconded by Member Szlatenyi.

Ayes: Chair Carvel; Vice-Chair McDougall; Members Szlatenyi, White, and Van Zerber.

Noes: None

Absent: Youth Member Watson-Lamprey Singer

5. REVIEW OF CITY COUNCIL BUDGET DISCUSSION

Review the City Council meeting and materials for the FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 Biennial Budget Study Session held on May 19, 2026.

No Action Taken

6. REVIEW OF DRAFT FY 2026-27 AND FY 2027-28 BIENNIAL BUDGET

Review the draft budget book published on May 22, 2026. Consider making a recommendation to the City Council for the meeting on June 2, 2026.

Public Comment: Damon Robinson from El Cerrito provided public comment regarding safety in El Cerrito and concerns about non-operational cameras.

Recommendation 1: The Financial Advisory Board supports the budget's direction towards Internal Service Fund Planning, for deferred maintenance, vehicles, equipment, and capital needs; and recommends that future budgets show planned contributions, uses, and unfunded needs.

Moved/Second: Vice Chair McDougall/Member Szlatenyi

Ayes: Chair Carvel, Vice Chair McDougall, Members Szlatenyi and Van Zerber

Noes: Member White

Absent: Youth Member Watson Lamprey-Singer

Recommendation 2: The FAB appreciates the direction that the Internal Service Fund process is going, and believes it is a significant improvement. In addition, the FAB recommends that the City Council request that staff return to the City Council with an ISF policy by December 2026 that includes contribution schedules, target balances, drawdown rules, and asset replacement schedules. The FAB requests the opportunity to review a draft before City Council adoption.

Moved/Second: Member White/Member Van Zerber

Ayes: Chair Carvel, Vice Chair McDougall, Members Szlatenyi, White and Van Zerber

Noes: None

Absent: Youth Member Watson Lamprey-Singer

Recommendation 3: The FAB recommends that the City Council direct staff to develop and adopt a fiscal sustainability key performance indicator framework that is regularly presented to the City Council for review.

Moved/Second: Member Szlatenyi/Chair Carvel
Ayes: Chair Carvel, Members Szlatenyi and White
Noes: Vice Chair McDougall, Member Van Zerber
Absent: Youth Member Watson Lamprey-Singer

Recommendation 4: The FAB supports maintaining the expanded CIP in the budget book and recommends that future budgets contain in the expanded direction.

Moved/Second: Vice Chair McDougall/Member Szlatenyi
Ayes: Chair Carvel, Vice Chair McDougall, Members Szlatenyi and Van Zerber
Noes: Member White
Absent: Youth Member Watson Lamprey-Singer

The FAB recognizes that the proposed General Fund budget is presented as balanced for both fiscal years and that the budget is generally organized around the City's strategic plan and priorities. The FAB recommends that the City Council adopt the proposed 2-year budget.

Moved/Second: Vice Chair McDougall/None
Motion Fails.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (5 min.)

- Discussion of Internal Service Fund (ISF) policy
- Purchasing Ordinance, updates as available
- Service Delivery Study, updates as available
- Pool, updates as available
 - Special meeting when appropriate to discuss funding
- Review investment policy

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Carvel adjourned the meeting at 8:35pm.

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Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the members regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at <https://www.elcerrito.gov/105/Financial-Advisory-Board>.

Unable to Attend June 4 FAB Meeting

From
Date
To
Cc



Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

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Board Members,

My apologies, but I will be unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Please do not reply-all or discuss this by email. I am submitting this as an individual communication for consideration during the noticed meeting.

I would like to ask the Board to consider taking a final position on the draft FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 budget before forwarding our comments to the City Council.

At our May 26 meeting, the FAB adopted several recommendations regarding Internal Service Funds, fiscal sustainability metrics, and continued expansion of the Capital Improvement Program section of the budget.

Chair Carvel did a good job outlining our shared understandings during Tuesdays city council meeting. Well done!

However, the motion recommending adoption of the budget did not receive a second and therefore failed without the Board expressing an overall position. I believe that, after the time and effort the Board has invested in reviewing the budget, it would be helpful to the City Council if the FAB provided a clear majority recommendation one way or the other.

Accordingly, I would ask the Board to consider:

1. A motion that the Financial Advisory Board recommends that the City Council adopt the draft FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 Biennial Budget.

If that motion fails,

2. A motion that the Financial Advisory Board recommends that the City Council ***not*** adopt the draft FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 Biennial Budget.

Either outcome would provide the Council with a clear understanding of the Board's position. Remaining silent leaves the Council to infer the Board's overall view despite the substantial work that has gone into the budget review process.

Thank you, and again, my apologies for missing the meeting.

Michael McDougall
Vice Chair, Financial Advisory Board

Public Comments

From Cordell [REDACTED]
Date Wed 6/3/2026 2:37 PM
To Claire Coleman <ccoleman@elcerrito.gov>

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

Hello Claire,

I am Submitting the Following Comments into the Record:

1. The Financial Advisory Board is Invited to the Contra Costa Mayors Conference on July 9th at 6:30 PM hosted by the City of San Pablo \$80.00 per person

RSVP is Required

2. World One Festival July 4th from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM at Cerrito Vista Park

Sincerely
Cordell

Public Testimony. FAB Items Not on the Agenda

From Ira Sharenow [REDACTED]
Date Thu 6/4/2026 7:19 AM
To Claire Coleman <ccoleman@elcerrito.gov>; Crystal Reams <CReams@elcerrito.gov>
Cc Gabe Quinto <GQuinto@elcerrito.gov>; Rebecca Saltzman <rsaltzman@elcerrito.gov>; Lisa Motoyama <LMotoyama@elcerrito.gov>; William Ktsanes <wktsanes@elcerrito.gov>

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Hi Claire,

I have been watching much of your El Cerrito budget presentations. You certainly have an authoritative manner. However, I feel that you are leaving a great deal out of your presentations. You have no downside analyses.

First and foremost is the Jarvis amendment, which might eliminate the Real Property Transfer Tax. Does El Cerrito have any contingency plan?

Then there is the potential for shocks to the economy, such as a recession or greater inflation. How will the city deal with those possibilities?

The plan was for Parcel C West to start moving forward in FY 2027. Is there a plan to give the developers a \$350,000 loan, as was the case for Parcel A South and Parcel C East?

Then there is the controversy relating to the Richmond Street bike lanes. There is an attempt to switch the grant money from east-west lanes to Richmond Street lanes. What is the status of that controversial attempt?

Will all contracts related to the library be canceled?

What would be the benefits of having El Cerrito workers work 40-hour weeks and spend less time going to networking conferences?

We need to hear more about the benefits of reducing the size of the bureaucracy, and perhaps having managers actually respond to community emails and calls.

As we know, the infrastructure is in very poor shape and is continuing to deteriorate. How much is being spent on sidewalk repairs? What is the status of the various sidewalk claims and lawsuits?

What is the status of El Cerrito's trees? Are there dead trees that present a fire risk not accounted for in the budget?

What are your assumptions for CalPERS wage growth versus what the reality has been?

How is the city addressing the lack of economic growth, and in particular the lack of new housing?

What sorts of raises are planned for management at the July council meeting?

There are probably many other issues that need to be discussed, but I will stop here.

Ira