



AGENDA

**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING (not televised)
JANUARY 7, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.
Hillside Conference Room**

Meeting Location:
El Cerrito City Hall
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

Members:
Mayor Gregory B. Lyman

Mayor Pro Tem Paul Fadelli • Councilmember Janet Abelson
Councilmember Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto • Councilmember Gabriel Quinto

6:00 P.M. ROLL CALL - CONVENE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

1. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

All persons wishing to speak should sign up with the City Clerk. Remarks are typically limited to 3 minutes per person and to items on the special meeting agenda only.

2. COMMISSION INTERVIEWS, STATUS AND APPOINTMENTS

Action Proposed: Staff requests that City Council conduct interviews and, at the conclusion of interviews, confer with staff regarding the ongoing recruitments, any remaining vacancies, and the scheduling of further special meetings to conduct interviews (if applicable). Council may decide to make appointments at the conclusion of the meeting.

Contact: Holly M. Charl  ty, City Clerk, City Management

3. URBAN FOREST COMMITTEE REAPPOINTMENT

Proposed Action: Approve an Urban Forest Committee recommendation to reappoint Mary Torrusio and Robert Hrubes to the Urban Forest Committee, effective January 7, 2020.

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

4. ADJOURN 6:00 SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The City of El Cerrito serves, leads and supports our diverse community by providing exemplary and innovative services, public places and infrastructure, ensuring public safety and creating an economically and environmentally sustainable future.

- Copies of the agenda bills and other written documentation relating to items of business referred to on the agenda are on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the City Clerk, at the El Cerrito Library and posted on the City's website at www.el-cerrito.org prior to the meeting.
- In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk, 510-215-4305. 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).
- **The Deadline for agenda items and communications** is eight days prior to the next meeting by 12 noon, City Clerk's Office, 10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, CA. Tel: 510-215-4305 Fax: 510-215-4379, email cityclerk@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us
- IF YOU CHALLENGE A DECISION OF THE CITY COUNCIL IN COURT, YOU MAY BE LIMITED TO RAISING ONLY THOSE ISSUES YOU OR SOMEONE ELSE RAISED AT THE COUNCIL MEETING. ACTIONS CHALLENGING CITY COUNCIL DECISIONS SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE TIME LIMITATIONS CONTAINED IN CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE SECTION 1094.6.
- The City Council believes that late night meetings deter public participation, can affect the Council's decision-making ability, and can be a burden to staff. City Council Meetings shall be adjourned by 10:30 p.m., unless extended to a specific time determined by a majority of the Council.



AGENDA BILL

Agenda Item No. 2.

Date: January 7, 2020
To: El Cerrito City Council
From: Holly M. Charl  ty, City Clerk, City Management
Subject: Commission Interviews, Status And Appointments

ACTION PROPOSED

Staff requests that City Council conduct interviews and, at the conclusion of interviews, confer with staff regarding the ongoing recruitments, any remaining vacancies, and the scheduling of further special meetings to conduct interviews (if applicable). Council may decide to make appointments at the conclusion of the meeting.

INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

Interviews scheduled are as follows:

6:00	Norman La Force (Incumbant)	Park & Recreation Commission
6:15	Brenden Bloom (Incumbant)	Planning Commission Design Review Board
6:30	Dorothy Herzberg	Arts & Culture Commission
6:45	Ruth Cazden (Incumbant)	Arts & Culture Commission
7:00	George Gager (Incumbant)	Arts & Culture Commission
7:15	Gyanendra Singh	Design Review Board Planning Commission
7:30	Richard Aslin	Planning Commission
7:45	Matt Kelly (Incumbant)	Citizen Street Oversight Committee
8:00	Dick Patterson (Incumbant)	Financial Advisory Board
8:15	Erica Hennes	Design Review Board

Interviews that have been previously conducted and are still under consideration for appointment are as follows:

Ann Wiens	Arts & Culture Commission	Interviewed 10/16/2019
Thomas Minter	Design Review Board	Interviewed 12/17/2019

BACKGROUND /ANALYSIS

Annually by December 31st, the city is required to post and publish a notice to residents listing all existing vacancies, as well as any terms that will expire in the upcoming year. This information was published and posted by the deadline, and staff has been actively advertising opportunities to apply. Any appointments made for term expirations would be effective as of March 1, 2020. Any appointments made for existing vacancies would be effective as of the date of action.

City staff continues to publicize board, commission and committee vacancies as they occur. Vacancies are published on the City's website and in the West County Times, and posted at City Hall, the Community Center and Library. Staff is also utilizing social media outlets to increase awareness and opportunities for citizens to participate by attending meetings and/or serving on a board, commission or committee.

STRATEGIC PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

This section is not applicable to this agenda item.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

This section is not applicable to this agenda item.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

This section is not applicable to this agenda item.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

The city has meet the publication and posting requirements of the Maddy Act, Government Code section 54970.

Reviewed by:



Holly Charléty, City Clerk

Attachments:

Application(s) on file with the City Clerk's Office.

1. Commission Matrix

Previously Interviewed

Interview Scheduled

Commission Vacancies/Application Status

AM = Attending Meetings

* = Upcoming Vacancies

Advisory Body (Current Vacancies)	CC Mosquito & Vector Control (1)	Arts & Culture Commission (2*)	Citizen Street Oversight Committee (1*)	Committee on Aging (3)	Crime Prev. Committee (11)	Design Review Board (1)	Economic Dev. Committee (7)	Financial Advisory Board (1*)	Human Relations Commission (1*)	Park & Recreation Commission (1/1*)	Planning Commission (2*)	Urban Forest Committee (4*/8)	Date Application Received	Notes/Status	Council Interview Date
Pending Applicants															
Ramsey AlQaisi					AM								10/8/2019	No meetings attended	
Richard Aslin											X		5/16/2019	12/17/19 - Confirmed still interested	1/7/2020 7:30 p.m.
Brendan Bloom						X					X		11/25/2019	Current PC Member seeking second term	1/7/2020 6:15 pm
Ruth Cazden		X											12/9/2019	Current ACC Member seeking second term	1/7/2020 6:45 pm
Allison Cooper						X							11/14/2019	12/18 - DRB Applicant withdrew	12/17/2019 6:15 pm
Viviona Dhillon							AM					AM	11/12/2019	1 EDC meeting attended, no UFC	
George Gager		X			AM								12/11/2019	Current ACC Member seeking second term. Also EDC & Tenant Protection member; 1 CPC meeting attended	1/7/2020 7:00 p.m.
Erica Hennes						X	AM						12/19/2019		1/7/2020 8:15 p.m.
Dorothy Herzberg		X		AM	AM								12/3/2019	2 CPC meetings attended	1/7/2020 6:30 pm
Robert Hrubes												X	12/4/2019	Current Member seeking second term UFC Vote 12/9, Council 1/7	
Matt Kelly			X										12/18/2019	Current Member seeking second term	1/7/2020 7:45 pm
Norman LaForce										X			11/21/2019	Current PRC Member seeking second term	1/7/2020 6:00 pm
Kirsten Meder							AM					AM	8/13/2019	1 UFC meeting attended, no EDC	
Thomas Minter						X	AM						10/21/2019	Interviewed for DRB	12/17/2019 6:30 pm

Last Revised 12/19/2019

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Previously Interviewed

Interview Scheduled

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Pending Applicants															
Dick Patterson								X					12/18/2019	Current Member seeking second term	1/7/2020 8:00 pm
Susan Russell												AM	4/15/2019	1 UFC meeting attended	
Frederick Shaw				AM	AM								4/22/2019	1 COA meeting attended, no CPC	
Mark Sifling							AM					AM	10/16/2019	1 EDC meeting attended, 1 UFC meeting attended	
Gyanendra Singh						X					X		12/16/2019		1/7/2020 7:15 p.m.
Mary Torrusio												X	12/2/2019	Current Member seeking second term UFC Vote 12/9, Council 1/7	
David Van Etten				AM			AM						7/16/2019	2 COA meetings attended, no EDC	
Anne Wiens		X											9/30/2019	Interviewed but not appointed, still interested	10/16/2019
Bruce Yow				AM									12/10/2019	Current member of CSC and CPC, appointed to CCTA CAC	



AGENDA BILL

Agenda Item No. 3.

Date: January 7, 2020
To: El Cerrito City Council
From: Stephen Prée, Environmental Programs Manager/City Arborist; Will Provost, Acting Operations + Environmental Services Manager; Yvetteh Ortiz, Public Works Director/City Engineer, Public Works Department
Subject: Urban Forest Committee Reappointment

ACTION PROPOSED

Approve an Urban Forest Committee recommendation to reappoint Mary Torrusio and Robert Hrubes to the Urban Forest Committee, effective January 7, 2020.

BACKGROUND

In November 2019, the City received applications for reappointment to the Urban Forest Committee (UFC) from Mary Torrusio and from Robert Hrubes. At its December 9, 2019 Regular Meeting, the UFC voted unanimously to recommend to the City Council that Ms. Torrusio and Dr. Hrubes be reappointed to the UFC.

ANALYSIS

Ms. Torrusio has resided in El Cerrito for six years and has been serving on the UFC since August 2015, currently serving as Chair. Her efforts have helped the UFC realize its education and outreach goals with her service on ad-hoc subcommittees and by staffing information tables during community events including Arbor Week, Earth Day, Fourth of July, and the City's Centennial celebration. Ms. Torrusio received her master's degree in English and Communication from St. Louis University and she has worked as an environmental educator.

Dr. Hrubes, a resident of El Cerrito for thirty years, has served on the UFC since December 2015 and is currently the Vice-Chair. He has demonstrated his commitment to serving the community through his UFC membership and his active participation in UFC meetings, where he made the initial motion to update the name of the "Tree Committee" to the "Urban Forest Committee". He has also staffed UFC information tables during various Citywide events. Dr. Hrubes received his Ph.D. in Wildland Resources Management from the University of California, Berkeley, and holds a Master's of Arts in Economics and a Master's of Science in Resource Systems Management. He is a Registered Professional Forester, and is the Forest Stewardship Council's Lead Auditor.

If the City Council approves this recommendation, the number of UFC members will be five out of a possible membership total of fifteen.

STRATEGIC PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

The work of the UFC members helps the City achieve Goal C of the El Cerrito Strategic Plan, which is to “Deepen a sense of place and community identity”, and Goal F, which is to “Foster environmental sustainability citywide.”

As stated in its enabling Resolution 2007-96, the UFC was established to assist the City in its “stewardship of its urban forest, including establishing a citywide commitment to a healthy, growing forest, and creating a coordinated, high quality forestry management program.”

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

This section is not applicable to this agenda item.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

This section is not applicable to this agenda item.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

This section is not applicable to this agenda item.

Reviewed by:



Holly Charléty, City Clerk

Attachments:

Application(s) on file with the City Clerk.