

# MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA HABRA

ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING 5:30 P.M.

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Monday, August 21, 2023

**ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING 5:30 P.M.:** Cancelled

**REGULAR MEETING 6:30 P.M.:**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Gomez called the Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of La Habra to order at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chamber, located at 100 East La Habra Boulevard, La Habra, California.

Mayor Gomez announced Councilmember Simonian would participate virtually due to a medical emergency that prevents him from attending in person.

**INVOCATION:** City Attorney Jones

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Councilmember Medrano

**COUNCILMEMBERS/DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Mayor Gomez  
Mayor Pro Tem Nigsarian  
Councilmember Espinoza  
Councilmember Medrano  
Councilmember Simonian (via telephone)

**COUNCILMEMBERS/DIRECTORS ABSENT:** NONE

**OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT:** City Manager Sadro  
City Attorney Jones  
City Clerk Barone  
Management Analyst II Hurt  
Assistant City Clerk Lopez

**CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT:** None.

**PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS:**

1. RECOGNITION OF THE CANDELARIA FAMILY AS THE 2023 RESIDENTIAL BEAUTIFICATION AWARD RECIPIENT

Mayor Gomez, City Council, and Beautification Committee Member Otero presented the Candelaria Family with a yard sign and Certificate of Recognition.

2. PROCLAIM SEPTEMBER 2023 AS "HUNGER ACTION MONTH" IN THE CITY OF LA HABRA

Mayor Gomez and the City Council presented Second Harvest CEO Claudia Keller with the proclamation.

Mayor Gomez and the City Council presented a special proclamation to Director of Human Resources Balderrama upon her retirement. City Council thanked Director of Human Resources Balderrama for her service to the City of La Habra and wished her the best on her retirement.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Moved by Councilmember Medrano, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Nigsarian, and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0) TO APPROVE CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS 1 THROUGH 7.

Said motion CARRIED by the following vote:

AYES: Mayor Gomez, Mayor Pro Tem Nigsarian,  
Councilmember Espinoza, Councilmember Medrano, Councilmember Simonian  
NOES: NONE  
ABSTAIN: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE

1. PROCEDURAL WAIVER: Waive reading in full of resolutions and ordinances and approval and adoption of same by reading title only.
2. APPROVE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA HABRA MEETING MINUTES

That the City Council approve the City Council of the City of La Habra Meeting Minutes of August 7, 2023.

3. APPROVE ISSUANCE OF A PURCHASE ORDER TO SURE-CLOSE, INC. FOR PURCHASE OF FOOD WASTE PAILS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$56,270, AND A PURCHASE ORDER TO THE WALKING MAN, INC. FOR DELIVERY OF FOOD WASTE PAILS AND FLYERS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$10,250

That the City Council:

- A. Authorize staff to issue a purchase order to Sure-Close, Inc. in the amount of \$56,270 for the purchase of 12,600 food waste pails; and,
- B. Authorize staff to issue a purchase order to The Walking Man, Inc. in the amount of \$10,250 to deliver food waste pails and informational materials to La Habra households.

4. APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 3 WITH WEST COAST ARBORISTS, INC. FOR TREE MAINTENANCE SERVICES

That the City Council:

- A. Approve and authorize the City Manager to execute Amendment No. 3 to the City's tree maintenance agreement with West Coast Arborists, Inc.; and,
- B. Authorize the City Manager to modify the existing purchase order with West Coast Arborists, Inc. from the current annual amount of \$333,147.87 to the proposed annual amount of \$343,142.31, to provide for a three percent (3.0%) increase in costs for tree maintenance services.

5. CITY OF LA HABRA PROPOSED RESPONSE TO THE JUNE 12, 2023, ORANGE COUNTY GRAND JURY REPORT TITLED: "WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD' ARE CITIES RESPONSIBLY MANAGING THE INTEGRATION OF GROUP HOMES?"

That the City Council receive and file the report and direct staff to send the response letter to the Orange County Grand Jury.

6. CITY OF LA HABRA PROPOSED RESPONSES TO THE 2022-2023 ORANGE COUNTY GRAND JURY REPORT TITLED: "HISTORIC RAIN, YET DROUGHT REMAINS"

That the City Council receive and file the report and direct staff to send the response letter to the Orange County Grand Jury.

7. WARRANTS: APPROVE NOS. 00140231 THROUGH 00140410 TOTALING \$4,120,425.71

That the City Council approve Nos.00140231 through 00140410 totaling \$4,120,425.71.

**CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS REMOVED FOR SEPARATE DISCUSSION:** None.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

1. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER A PROPOSED SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE 2019-2020 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT COVID-19 (CDBG-CV) ACTION PLAN

Councilmember Simonian recused himself from City Council discussion and vote for this item due to a conflict of interest regarding the proximity of his residence to the Old Reservoir Park project.

Housing Specialist Louie presented the staff report.

Mayor Gomez opened the public hearing at 6:47 p.m. There was no public testimony.

There was no City Council discussion

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Nigsarian, seconded by Councilmember Medrano, and CARRIED (4-0) THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE A SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT- CORONAVIRUS (CDBG-CV) 2019-2020 ACTION PLAN.

Said motion CARRIED by the following vote:

AYES: Mayor Gomez, Mayor Pro Tem Nigsarian,  
Councilmember Espinoza, Councilmember Medrano  
NOES: NONE  
ABSTAIN: Councilmember Simonian  
ABSENT: NONE

**CONSIDERATION ITEMS:**

1. APPROVE AMENDMENTS #3 AND #4 TO THE FIRE SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LA HABRA AND THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

City Manager Sadro presented the staff report.

City Council discussion included: alternative options than the one proposed to provide fire services to La Habra residents; number of fire stations in similar jurisdictions to the City of La Habra; effects to response times due to closing Fire Station No. 193; effects in negotiations if the City proposed to close Fire Station No. 194; fire services negotiations that took place in 2005; fiscal impacts to the City of La Habra due to the new costs for services by Los Angeles County Fire Department; costs increases across the United States; top quality services provided by the Los Angeles County Fire Department; effects of the expiration of Tax Measure T; and possible proposal of tax measure to include public safety services.

Mayor Gomez opened the public testimony at 7:10 p.m.

Michelle Bernier, La Habra resident, spoke.

Jeff Bernier, La Habra resident, spoke.

City Manager Sadro answered questions received during public comment.

Mayor Gomez closed the public testimony 7:16 p.m.

Mayor Gomez recognized Larry Romaine for his work during the 2005 fire services negotiations.

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Nigsarian, Seconded by Councilmember Medrano, AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0) THAT THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AMENDMENTS #3 AND #4 TO THE AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF LA HABRA AND THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Said motion CARRIED by the following vote:

AYES: Mayor Gomez, Mayor Pro Tem Nigsarian,  
Councilmember Espinoza, Councilmember Medrano, Councilmember Simonian  
NOES: NONE  
ABSTAIN: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE

2. CONSIDER RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES - AGREEMENT NUMBER 46000XXXXX, AND APPROVE A SUB-GRANTEE AGREEMENT WITH THE COYOTE VILLAGE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION FOR THE COYOTE CREEK AND IMPERIAL CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Deputy Director of Public Works/City Engineer Mendoza presented the staff report.

City Attorney Jones left the dais at 7:31 p.m. He returned to the dais at 7:32 p.m.

There was no City Council discussion.

Mayor Gomez opened public testimony at 7:37 p.m. There was no public testimony.

Councilmember Medrano thanked Senator Newman for securing the project funds.

Moved by Councilmember Medrano, Seconded by Councilmember Espinoza, AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0) THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

- A. Approve and adopt **Resolution No. 6126** authorizing the City Manager to execute Funding Agreement Number 46000xxxxx between the City of La Habra, as grantee, and the California Department of Water Resources ("DWR") to receive \$8.5 million in state funding to repair the damaged private underground storm channel located at the Coyote Village Homeowners Association; and,
- B. Approve and authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement between the City of La Habra and the Coyote Village Homeowners Association, as sub-grantee, that authorizes the City to apply State grant funding to pay for authorized contractors, selected by the HOA, to design, construct and oversee repairs to the damaged private underground storm channel owned by the HOA.

AYES: Mayor Gomez, Mayor Pro Tem Nigsarian,  
Councilmember Espinoza, Councilmember Medrano, Councilmember Simonian  
NOES: NONE  
ABSTAIN: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE

### **MAYOR'S COMMUNITY CALENDAR:**

Mayor Gomez made the following announcements:

- Kids Night Out on August 25, 2023, at the La Habra Community Center.
- Movies in the Park on September 8, 2023, at Oeste Park.
- Love La Habra Volunteer Event on September 23, 2023, at Portola Park.
- California Coastal Clean-up September 23, 2023, at the Coyote Creek Bikeway, 2000 West Imperial Highway.
- Planning Commission and Community Services Commission meetings held.
- Current job openings with the City of La Habra.
- Reminder of water conservation efforts.

### **COMMENTS FROM STAFF:**

City Manager Sadro thanked City Staff, City contractors, the Los Angeles County Fire Department, and the City of Buena Park for their efforts in keeping the La Habra community safe during the California Tropical Storm Hilary. He congratulated Director of Human Resources Balderrama on her retirement, and thanked her for her service to the City of La Habra.

### **COMMENTS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS:**

Mayor Gomez requested the meeting be adjourned the memory of Councilmember Espinoza's sister, Alvina Hernandez. He thanked Director of Human Resources Balderrama for her service to the City of La Habra and requested a City title be purchased in honor of her retirement. Councilmember Medrano concurred. He thanked the Police, Fire, Community Services and Public Works Departments for their efforts in keeping the La Habra community safe during the California Tropical Storm Hilary. He recognized Larry Romaine for his wealth of historical information on the La Habra Fire Department.

Councilmember Medrano requested the meeting be adjourned in memory of Micky McGuire and recognized his contributions to the La Habra community. He thanked Director of Human Resources Balderrama for her service to the City of La Habra, and wished her well in retirement.

Mayor Pro Tem Nigsarian thanked the Los Angeles County Fire Department for their continued service to the City of La Habra. He spoke regarding the selection process for new businesses. He thanked City staff for their efforts in keeping the La Habra community safe during the California Tropical Storm Hilary.

Councilmember Espinoza thanked City staff for their efforts in keeping the La Habra community safe during the California Tropical Storm Hilary and requested a City barbeque be hosted to recognize them. She thanked Director of Human Resources Balderrama for her service to the City of La Habra, and wished her well in retirement.

Councilmember Simonian thanked Director of Human Resources Balderrama for her service to the City of La Habra, and wished her well in retirement. He spoke regarding Consideration Item No. 1 and thanked those who provided public comments. He offered his condolences to Councilmember Espinoza for the loss of her sister, Alvina Hernandez.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mayor Gomez adjourned the meeting in memory of Micky McGuire and Alvina Hernandez at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda J. Barone, CMC  
City Clerk

These Minutes were approved on September 18, 2023.