

**PARAMOUNT CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 2, 2021**

City of Paramount, 16400 Colorado Avenue, Paramount, CA 90723

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**CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the Paramount City Council was called to order by Mayor Peggy Lemons at 6:01 p.m. at City Hall, Council Chambers, 16400 Colorado Avenue, Paramount, California.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Councilmember Isabel Aguayo, led the pledge of allegiance.

**INVOCATION:** Pastor Brian Warth of Chapel of Change delivered the invocation.

**ROLL CALL OF COUNCILMEMBERS:** Present: Councilmember Isabel Aguayo  
Councilmember Laurie Guillen  
Councilmember Vilma Cuellar Stallings  
Vice Mayor Brenda Olmos  
Mayor Peggy Lemons

**STAFF PRESENT:** John Moreno, City Manager  
John E. Cavanaugh, City Attorney  
Andrew Vialpando, Assistant City Manager  
John Carver, Planning Director  
Adriana Figueroa, Public Works Director  
David Johnson, Com. Serv. & Recreation Director  
Rebecca Bojorquez, Management Analyst  
Steve Coumparoules, Management Analyst  
Danny Elizarraras, Management Analyst  
Heidi Luce, City Clerk  
Daniel Martinez, Information Technology Analyst I  
Margarita Matson, Assistant Public Safety Director  
Elida Zaragoza, Information Technology Specialist

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**PRESENTATIONS**

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1. **PROCLAMATION**  
National Women's History Month  
CF 39.12  
Mayor Lemons, on behalf of the City Council, proclaimed, March as National Women's History Month.
2. **PROCLAMATION**  
American Red Cross Awareness Month  
CF 39.12  
Mayor Lemons, on behalf of the City Council, proclaimed, March as American Red Cross Awareness Month. Veronica Garcia Davalos, Executive Director of the Greater Long Beach

Chapter accepted the proclamation on behalf of the American Red Cross

3. CERTIFICATE OF  
RECOGNITION  
Paramount Unified  
School District Nutrition  
Services  
CF 39.6

The Mayor, on behalf of the City Council, recognized Paramount Unified School District Nutrition Services for serving as essential workers during the pandemic to ensure that our community's children have access to nutritious food.

#### **CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC COMMENT UPDATES**

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CF 10.4

City Manager Moreno responded to comments made by Gerald Cerda at the February 16, 2021 City Council meeting.

Following the public comment updates, City Manager Moreno responded to recent social media activity regarding the City's air quality meters being taken down.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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CF 10.3

The following individuals addressed the City Council and provided public comments via teleconference: Gerald Cerda, Robert Blankenship, Alejandro Yanez, Jaime Lopez, Jose de Leon, Adrian Alvarez, Maria Paz, Rodolfo Cortes, and Tony Warfield. Additionally, the following individual provided written comments via e-mail: Sonia de Leon.

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

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It was moved by Vice Mayor Olmos and seconded by Councilmember Cuellar Stallings to approve Consent Calendar Items 4-8 as shown below. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Aguayo, Guillen,  
Cuellar Stallings; Vice Mayor Olmos;  
and Mayor Lemons

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
February 2 and February 16, 2021 Approved
5. APPROVAL  
Register of Demands  
CF 47.2 Approved
6. ORDINANCE NO. 1146 (Adoption)  
Amending Chapters 10.04.010 and 10.04.020 of the Paramount Municipal Code regarding incorporation of the County Traffic Code  
CF 98.1 Waived further reading and adopted
7. ORDINANCE NO. 1147 (Adoption)  
Amending Chapters 8.04.010 and 8.04.040 of the Paramount Municipal Code regarding incorporation of the County Health and Safety Code  
CF 61.23 Waived further reading and adopted
8. ORDINANCE NO. 1148 (Adoption)  
Zone Change No. 230. A request by Nima Golshani to change the official Zoning Map of the City of Paramount from C-3 (General Commercial) to PD-PS (Planned Development with Performance Standards)/Mixed-Use Commercial and Senior Assisted/Independent Living Facility at 16675- Waived further reading and adopted

16683 Paramount  
Boulevard in the C-3  
(General Commercial)  
zone  
CF 109 ZC 230

### **NEW BUSINESS**

9. URGENCY  
ORDINANCE NO. 1149  
(Adoption)  
Adding Chapter 5.84 of  
the Paramount Municipal  
Code Adopting Citywide  
COVID19 Regulations  
for Food Delivery  
Platforms  
CF 70, 78

Assistant City Manager Vialpando gave the report.

Vice Mayor Olmos commented this ordinance is a way to show support for the City's small businesses during these challenging times.

In response to Councilmember Cuellar Stallings question, City Attorney Cavanaugh commented that this ordinance will become void when in-person dining is once again allowed.

Councilmember Guillen expressed concern that this ordinance may adversely impact the drivers that provided delivery service for the food delivery platforms and may limit residents' access to these services.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Olmos and seconded by Councilmember Aguayo to read by title only, waive further reading, and adopt Urgency Ordinance No. 1149, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARAMOUNT ADOPTING CITYWIDE COVID-19 REGULATIONS FOR FOOD DELIVERY PLATFORMS." The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Aguayo,  
Cuellar Stallings; Vice Mayor Olmos;  
and Mayor Lemons  
NOES: Councilmember Guillen  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

10. RESOLUTION NO.  
21:005  
Approving Support of  
Complete Streets – Los  
Angeles County

Public Works Director Figueroa gave the report.

It was moved by Councilmember Cuellar Stallings and seconded by Councilmember Aguayo to read by title only and adopt Resolution No. 21:005, "A

Metropolitan Transit  
Authority Complete  
Streets Resolution for  
Los Angeles County  
CF 61.22

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARAMOUNT IN SUPPORT OF COMPLETE STREETS – LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY COMPLETE STREETS RESOLUTION FOR LOS ANGELES COUNTY.” The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Aguayo, Guillen,  
Cuellar Stallings; Vice Mayor Olmos;  
and Mayor Lemons

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

11. RESOLUTION NO.  
21:006  
Approving the  
Modification of Fees and  
Charges for Pick-up and  
Hauling of Refuse within  
the City of Paramount  
CF 86, 43.23

Public Works Director Figueroa gave the report.

Councilmember Guillen commented that something should be done to help residents during the pandemic not just businesses.

Vice Mayor Olmos asked if it would be possible to defer the residential rate increase to July to provide assistance to residents since we are still in the midst of a pandemic.

CalMet Services representative, Bill Kalpakoff responded that is not feasible to defer the rate increase given that trash volumes and labor costs have increased during the pandemic.

In response to Vice Mayor Olmos’ query as to the feasibility of meeting in the middle and deferring the residential rated increase for a shorter period, possibly 45 days, Mr. Kalpakoff explained that due to the reasons mentioned earlier and the additional services being provided, it is not feasible to defer the rate increase for any period of time.

It was moved by Councilmember Aguayo and seconded by Councilmember Cuellar Stallings to read by title only and adopt Resolution No. 21:006, “A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARAMOUNT APPROVING THE MODIFICATION OF FEES AND CHARGES FOR PICKUP AND HAULING OF REFUSE WITHIN THE CITY OF PARAMOUNT.”

The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Aguayo, Guillen,  
Cuellar Stallings; Vice Mayor Olmos;  
and Mayor Lemons  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

12. AWARD OF  
CONTRACT  
Award of Contract for  
Interior Improvements at  
Progress Park Plaza  
(City Project No. 9053)  
CF 74.8

Public Works Director Figueroa gave the report and informed the City Council that since publication of the agenda, upon further review of the bid documents, it was determined that there were some technical deficiencies with the bid packet; and pursuant to legal authority under Public Contracts Code Section 21006, staff is recommending that the City Council reject all bids and re-advertise the request for bids.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Olmos and seconded by Councilmember Cuellar Stallings to reject all bids and direct staff to advertise the request for bids for the award of contract for interior improvements at Progress Park Plaza (City Project No. 9053). The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Aguayo, Guillen,  
Cuellar Stallings; Vice Mayor Olmos;  
and Mayor Lemons  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

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## **COMMENTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Councilmembers**

Councilmember Aguayo suggested that the City Council meeting agendas be posted to the City's various social media outlets. She encouraged residents to continue reaching out to the City Council with their concerns. Lastly, she reminded residents to stay vigilant in their efforts related to the pandemic.

Councilmember Cuellar Stallings thanked the Community Services & Recreation team for their efforts in bringing COVID-19 testing and vaccinations

to the City of Paramount. She expressed concern regarding traffic safety in the area of Downey Avenue and Flower Street and asked if it would be possible to have extra Sheriff's Department patrol in the area. Lastly, she express here sincere condolences to the Sheriff's Department and the family of Deputy Thomas Albanese.

Councilmember Laurie Guillen suggested that the City make an effort to advocate for the COVID-19 vaccine to be available to grocery store workers and put pressure on AQMD to have the air quality monitors put back up as soon as possible. She expressed appreciation to all involved in the successful vaccination clinic.

She also expressed her sincere condolences to Public Safety for the loss of Deputy Thomas Albanese who died in the line of duty and suggested that the City provide grief counseling resources to those Public Safety team members that need it. In recognition of Heart Awareness Month and Women's Month, she reminded everyone to get regular physicals.

She asked staff to provide an update on homelessness and homeless encampments and suggested polling the City Councilmembers and residents on their interest in placing an item regarding handball courts on the agenda and making it a priority. She also requested an update on the status of creating an environmental commission and what the City is required to do regarding switching to district elections.

Vice Mayor Olmos reported that a catalytic converter theft prevention event is scheduled to be held at the Lakewood Sheriff's Station and asked Public Safety to share the information through the City's various communication channels. She also asked Community Services & Recreation to work with the youth sports leagues to get information to residents about the leagues in our community and provide information regarding the County's current guidelines for youth sports.

Lastly, she encouraged the City Council to attend California Contract Cites Association's Local Legislative days scheduled for the following dates: March 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Lemons informed the public that SEAACA's Big Meow program, which offers free spay and neutering of indoor and outdoor cats is back. She also thanked Ms. Garcia for inviting her to participation in virtual reading to her class. Lastly, she shared her experience with the COVID-19 vaccine and commented that there is a potential for side effects but in here experience, they don't last too long.

#### **Staff**

City Manager Moreno thanked the City Councilmembers for their leadership and trust in staff, specifically related to the recent COVID-19 vaccine distribution event.

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

None.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Lemons adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m. in memory of fallen Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy Thomas Albanese who was killed in the line of duty last week. The next meeting will be held on March 16, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

/s/ Peggy Lemons  
Peggy Lemons, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Heidi Luce  
Heidi Luce, City Clerk