

**PARAMOUNT CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 6, 2021**

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

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Paramount City Council was called to order by Mayor Peggy Lemons at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, Council Chambers, 16400 Colorado Avenue, Paramount, California.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Councilmember Vilma Cuellar Stallings, led the pledge of allegiance.

INVOCATION: Deacon Oscar Corcios, Our Lady of the Rosary Church 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
Karina Liu, Finance Director
Adriana Lopez, Public Safety Director
Danny Elizarraras, Management Analyst
John King, Assistant Planning Director
Heidi Luce, City Clerk
Wendy Macias, Public Works Manager
Anthony Martinez, Management Analyst II
Viridana Reyes, Information Technology Analyst II
Elida Zaragoza, Information Technology Specialist

PRESENTATIONS

1. **PRESENTATIONS**
Recognition of Outgoing Mayor Peggy Lemons
CF 39.7, 11.5
Outgoing Mayor Lemons was honored for her leadership.
Mayor Lemons expressed appreciation to her fellow Councilmembers and staff for their support and dedication over the last year during these unprecedented times.

She also thanked the dignitaries for their partnership and for the recognition and kind words.

MINUTES

2. APPROVAL OF
MINUTES
March 2 and March 16,
2021

It was moved by Councilmember Cuellar Stallings and seconded by Councilmember Aguayo to approve the Paramount City Council minutes of March 2 and March 16, 2021. 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

REORGANIZATION

3. REORGANIZATION
Selection of Mayor and
Vice Mayor
CF 11.3

City Clerk Luce opened nominations for the office of Mayor. Councilmember Cuellar Stallings nominated Councilmember Olmos. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

Brenda Olmos was unanimously declared **Mayor** by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Aguayo, Guillen,
Lemons, Olmos, and Cuellar Stallings

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Mayor Olmos opened nominations for the office of Vice Mayor. Councilmember Aguayo nominated Councilmember Cuellar Stallings for the office of Vice Mayor. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

Vilma Cuellar Stallings was unanimously declared
Vice Mayor by the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

PRESENTATIONS

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| 4. PROCLAMATION
National Library Week –
Paramount Library
CF 39.2 | Mayor Olmos on behalf of the City Council, proclaimed April as National Library Week – Paramount Library in the City of Paramount. Children’s Librarian, Jackie Ramirez, accepted the proclamation on behalf of Paramount Library |
| 5. PROCLAMATION
Fair Housing Month –
April 2021
CF 39.2 | Mayor Olmos, on behalf of the City Council, proclaimed April as Fair Housing Month in the City of Paramount. Stella Verdeja, Executive Director of the Fair Housing Foundation accepted the proclamation. |
| 6. PROCLAMATION
DMV/Donate Life Month
– April 2021
CF 39.2 | Mayor Olmos, on behalf of the City Council, proclaimed April as DMV/Donate Life Month in the City of Paramount. |
| 7. PROCLAMATION
Arbor Day – April 30,
2021
CF 39.2 | Mayor Olmos, on behalf of the City Council, proclaimed April 30, 2021 Arbor Day in the City of Paramount. |
| 8. PROCLAMATION
Alcohol Awareness
Month – April 2021 Little
House
CF 39.2 | Mayor Olmos, on behalf of the City Council, proclaimed April as Alcohol Awareness Month in the City of Paramount. |
| 9. PROCLAMATION
National Child Abuse
Prevention Month – April
2021 – Helpline Youth
Counseling
CF 39.2 | Mayor Olmos, on behalf of the City Council, proclaimed April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month in the City of Paramount. |

10. PROCLAMATION
National Sexual Assault
Awareness Month – April
2021
CF 39.2
- Mayor Olmos, on behalf of the City Council, proclaimed April National Child Abuse Prevention Month in the City of Paramount.

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC COMMENT UPDATES

- CF 10.4
- City Manager Moreno responded to comments made by Gerald Cerda and Lisa Lappin at the March 16, 2021 City Council meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- CF 10.3
- The following individuals addressed the City Council via teleconference and provided public comments: Gerald Cerda, Nita Juhasz, and Alejandro Yanez.

CONSENT CALENDAR

11. APPROVAL
Register of Demands
CF 47.2
- It was moved by Councilmember Lemons and seconded by Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings to approve the Paramount City Council Register of Demands. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

OLD BUSINESS

12. APPROVAL
Proposed City of
Paramount COVID-19
Memorial
Commemorations
CF 39.28
- Community Services & Recreation Director Johnson gave the report and presented a PowerPoint presentation.
- Brief discussion ensued concerning the possibility of councilmembers providing personal comments during the commemoration event.
- It was moved by Councilmember Lemons and seconded by Councilmember Aguayo to approve the COVID-19 commemoration activities as outlined in the report and to include comments by the City

Council; and allocate \$7,100 to the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget for such activities. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

13. AWARD OF
CONTRACT
Interior Improvements at
Progress Park Plaza
(City Project No. 9053)
CF CIP 9053

Public Works Director Figueroa gave the report and presented a PowerPoint presentation.

Discussion ensued concerning the proposed changes to the ceiling in the lobby and the proposed decorative wall in the auditorium. Following discussion, the City Council concurred that they would rather repair the wood ceiling in the front lobby as opposed to replacing it; and they would like to see a different decorative feature on the west wall of the auditorium. Further discussion ensued concerning the sliding doors.

It was moved by Councilmember Lemons and seconded by Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings to award the contract for interior improvements at Progress Park Plaza to Junior's Construction Inc., Santa Fe Springs, California, in the amount of \$363,733, and direct staff to work with the contractor to address the issues raised above; and authorize the Mayor or her designee to execute the agreement. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

NEW BUSINESS

14. AWARD OF
CONTRACT
Commercial

Planning Director Carver gave the report and presented a PowerPoint presentation.

Rehabilitation Project at
15504-15508 Paramount
Boulevard
CF 54.12

It was moved by Councilmember Lemons and seconded by Councilmember Aguayo to award the contract for Commercial Rehabilitation Program construction services at 15504-15508 Paramount Boulevard to Ever Builders in the total amount of \$122,000 with \$97,600 from Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and \$22,400 from property owner funds. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

15. APPROVAL
Authorization to
Purchase Civic Center
Monument Signs (City
Project No. 9134)
CF 92

Public Works Director Figueroa gave the report and presented a PowerPoint presentation.

It was moved by Councilmember Lemons and seconded by Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings to authorize the purchase and installation of three monument signs at the Civic Center, Clearwater Building and City Hall from Bravo Sign & Design, Inc., Anaheim, California, in the amount of \$80,000. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

16. RESOLUTION NO.
21:008
Affirming the Fiscal Year
2021-2022 Budget for
the Use of Funds
Provided by the Road
Repair and
Accountability Act of
2017 (SB 1)
CF 94

Public Works Director Figueroa gave the report and presented a PowerPoint presentation.

It was moved by Councilmember Lemons and seconded by Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings to read by title only and adopt Resolution No. 21:008, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARAMOUNT AFFIRMING THE FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 BUDGET FOR THE USE OF FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE ROAD REPAIR AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2017 (SB 1)." The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

17. RESOLUTION NO.
21:009
Ordering the Annual
Engineer's Report for
Landscape Maintenance
District No. 81-1
CF 25.3

Public Works Director Figueroa gave the report and presented a PowerPoint presentation.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings and seconded by Councilmember Lemons to read by title only and adopt Resolution No. 21:009, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARAMOUNT ORDERING THE ANNUAL ENGINEER'S REPORT FOR LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE DISTRICT NO. 81-1." The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

18. APPROVAL
Establishing a Section
for Sustainability Action
Items on the City Council
Meeting Agenda
CF 11

Assistant City Manager Andrew Vialpando gave the report and presented a PowerPoint presentation.

Councilmember Guillen commented that WRD turf replacement program would be a good item to place on the new Sustainability section of the agenda.

It was moved by Councilmember Lemons and seconded by Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings to approve establishing a Sustainability Business Section on the City Council Meeting Agenda. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

19. CONSIDERATION
Consideration and
Possible Action to
Create an Ad Hoc
Committee to Discuss
Matters Related to
Homelessness in the
City of Paramount
CF 11.4, 69.14

City Manager John Moreno gave the report.

It was moved by Councilmember Lemons and seconded by Councilmember Aguayo to create a City Council Ad Hoc Subcommittee consisting of two City Councilmembers to discuss matters related to homelessness in the City of Paramount and authorize the Mayor to appoint two councilmembers to this Subcommittee at the April 20, 2021 City Council meeting. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

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

20. APPROVAL
Appropriation of
Additional Funds for
Contract Planning
Services
CF 43.1072, 28.1

Planning Director John Carver gave the report and presented a PowerPoint presentation.

Discussion ensued concerning the necessary work required to complete the remaining administrative actions and if there is a need to proceed with enforcement against the subject businesses. Planning Director Carver commented the contractor is close to finalizing the administrative actions and the additional appropriation will allow for completion of the remaining administration actions.

It was moved by Councilmember Lemons and seconded by Councilmember Aguayo to authorize the appropriation of additional funding in an amount up to \$20,000 for contract planning services in the Fiscal Year 2021 budget and amend the existing contract to state that this amount is to complete the project. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

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

21. RESOLUTION NO. 21:010
Supporting a Request for Congressional Appropriations for Three Proposed Community Projects
CF 100
- Assistant City Manager Andrew Vialpando gave the report and presented a PowerPoint presentation.
- It was moved by Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings and seconded by Councilmember Lemons to read by title only and adopt Resolution No. 21:010, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARAMOUNT SUPPORTING A REQUEST FOR CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THREE PROPOSED COMMUNITY PROJECTS." The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:
- AYES: Councilmembers Aguayo, Guillen, Lemons; Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings; and Mayor Olmos
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: None
- ABSTAIN: None

COMMENTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmembers

Councilmember Guillen acknowledged April as National Autism Awareness month and recognized all the parents of children with autism for their heroic efforts day in and day out to support their children.

Councilmember Lemons congratulated Mayor Olmos and Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings on being selected Mayor and Vice Mayor and thanked staff for their help over the last year as the City navigated unforeseen territory during the pandemic. She also expressed appreciation to her City Council colleagues for their support and efforts over the last year.

Councilmember Aguayo congratulated Mayor Olmos and Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings for being selected to serve as Mayor and Vice Mayor. She reminded everyone to remain diligent as the pandemic wains and echoed Councilmember Guillen's sentiment in recognition of the parents of children with autism.

Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings thanked the Community Services & Recreation department for their efforts in resolving the recent soccer ball incident at the Dills

Park Mini Pitch. She also requested her fellow councilmembers consensus to temporarily add a section to the Parks & Recreation Commission agenda to discuss programming for developmentally disabled individuals. The City Council concurred.

Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings reminded every one of the importance of earthquake preparedness and encouraged residents to visit the American Red Cross web site for earthquake safety tips. She also thanked the Public Works for picking up bulky items disposed of in the alleyways and expressed concern regarding individuals running stop signs in her neighborhood. Lastly she thanked her City Council colleagues for selecting her to serve as Vice Mayor for the coming year.

Mayor Olmos expressed appreciation to the Community Services & Recreation Department for helping the City's residents get vaccination appointments. She also thanked her City Council colleagues for selecting her to serve as Mayor for the coming year and stated that she has some exciting new ideas for ways that the community to get connected to the City Council.

Staff

City Manager Moreno thanked Mayor Lemons for her leadership over the last year and congratulated Mayor Olmos and Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings for being selected to serve as Mayor and Vice Mayor.

Community Services & Recreation Director provided an update on the City's vaccination efforts including several upcoming vaccination clinics.

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At 8:38 p.m. Mayor Olmos recessed the City Council meeting to convene the meeting of the Successor Agency for the Paramount Redevelopment Agency and various Authority Boards.

The City Council meeting was called back to order at 8:47 p.m.

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CLOSED SESSION

City Clerk Luce read a written public comment regarding the first item on the closed session agenda submitted by the following individual: Leticia Vasquez Wilson

At 8:47 p.m. the City Council recessed into closed session to discuss the matters listed below:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9
Name of case: City of Lakewood, et al v. Central
Basis Municipal Water District; Case No. Los Angeles
County Superior Court Case Number 19STCP03882.

CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS

Government Code Section 54956.8
Property: 16280 Paramount Blvd., Suite C
Agency negotiator: City Manager
Negotiating parties: NAIA Capital/LA Monarca
Under negotiation: Price.

Mayor Olmos called the meeting back to order in open session at 9:29 p.m. with all Councilmembers present.

City Attorney Cavanaugh stated that the City Council held a duly authorized closed session to discuss the two matters listed above and reported the following:

For the first item (CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION), by unanimous vote, the City Council agreed to enter into the settlement agreements for the case and the case will be resolved upon execution of the agreement.

For the second item CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS), there was no decision with respect to a final report at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Olmos adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m. to a meeting on April 20, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

/s/ Brenda Olmos

Brenda Olmos, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Heidi Luce

Heidi Luce, City Clerk