

**PARAMOUNT CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 8, 2023**

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 Isabel Aguayo at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, Council Chamber, 16400 Colorado Avenue, Paramount, California.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Esmeralda Figueroa, 2023 Paramount High School Graduate and PEP Scholarship Recipient, led the pledge of allegiance.

**INVOCATION:** Bishop Ray Moten, Joseph of Jacob United Church of God in Christ delivered the invocation.

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

Absent: Vice Mayor Annette C. Delgadillo

It was moved by Councilmember Olmos and seconded by Councilmember Cuellar Stallings to excuse Vice Mayor Delgadillo's absence. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

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

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** Vice Mayor Delgadillo

**ABSTAIN:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** John Moreno, City Manager  
Elizabeth Martyn, Assistant City Attorney  
Andrew Vialpando, Assistant City Manager  
John Carver, Planning Director  
Adriana Figueroa, Public Works Director  
David Johnson, Community Services Director  
Kim Sao, Finance Director  
Margarita Matson, Public Safety Director  
Pauline Aguayo, Management Analyst  
Clyde Alexander, Assistant Finance Director  
Rebecca Bojorquez, Management Analyst

Chris Callard, Public Information Officer  
Steve Coumparoules, Community Preservation Mgr.  
Danny Elizarraras, Management Analyst  
Anthony Gonzalez, IT  
Yecenia Guillen, Asst. Community Services Director  
Jocelyn Hernandez, Communications Specialist  
John King, Assistant Planning Director  
Nicole Lopez, HR Manager  
Heidi Luce, City Clerk  
Wendy Macias, Public Works Manager  
Anthony Martinez, Finance Services Manager  
Johnnie Rightmer, Building & Safety Manager  
Celina Sanchez, Management Analyst  
Eric Wosick, Assistant Public Safety Director

### **PRESENTATIONS**

1. VIDEO  
National Night Out  
CF 39.7  
A video highlighting the City's National Night Out event was shown.
2. PRESENTATION  
Mayor's Award of  
Excellence  
CF 39.7  
Mayor Aguayo presented the Mayor's Award of Excellence to Frank Barraza. Mr. Barraza was present to accept the award and expressed his sincere appreciation for the recognition.
3. PRESENTATION  
Recognition of Former  
Commissioners  
CF 39.7  
Mayor Aguayo, on behalf of the City Council, recognized the following outgoing commissioners and thanked them for their service to the Community: Alejandro Maldonado, Parks and Recreation Commission and Magdalena Ortega, Senior Services Commission. She presented each commissioner with a glass award commemorating their service.
4. CERTIFICATES OF  
RECOGNITION  
62nd State Assembly  
District Youth Leadership  
Program Participants  
CF 39.7  
Mayor Aguayo, on behalf of the City Council, recognized the following Paramount Unified School District students with a certificate of recognition for their participation in the 62nd State Assembly District Youth Leadership Program: Odyssey STEM Academy students, Ashley Calyeca, Betsaida Reyes, Brianna Vega, Callaghan Ochoa, Destiney Laurent-Lubin, Eli Ramirez, Estrella Gutierrez, Evelyn Leos, Jessica Serrano, Khamahi Kinney, Salvador Martinez, and Steven Moreira; and Paramount High School Students, Aaron Diaz and Joany Martinez.

5. PROCLAMATION  
National Wellness Month  
CF 39.12  
Mayor Aguayo, on behalf of the City Council, proclaimed August as National Wellness Month. Lili Martinez, Director of Health Education and Outreach for the Children's Clinic was present to accept the proclamation.
6. PROCLAMATION  
National Back to School  
Month  
CF 39.12  
Mayor Aguayo, on behalf of the City Council, proclaimed August as National Back to School Month and recognized the following organizations that supported the City's Back to School event: Supervisor Janice Hahn, Air Products, The Sauce Creative Services, Tripepi Smith, Ink Head Prints, Downey Federal Credit Union, Athens Services, Bimbo Bakeries, USA, Xclusive Auto Collision, Blendz & Co. Barbershop, La Mejor Barbershop, stylist Alicia Anderson, and stylist Denyce Hernandez.

*At 6:23 p.m., Mayor Aguayo adjourned the meeting for a brief recess. The meeting was called back to order at 6:29 p.m.*

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

- CF 10.4  
City Manager Moreno responded to comments made by Yesenia Cuarenta, Jim Carver, Joseph Sanchez, Maria Veledias, Sidney Velasquez, and Juana Duarte Ochoa at the July 25, 2023 City Council meeting.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- CF 10.3  
The following individuals addressed the City Council and provided public comments: Ronald Adams, Kindred Hospital.

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

It was moved by Councilmember Cuellar Stallings and seconded by Councilmember Lemos to approve Consent Calendar Items 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 as presented below. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

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

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
July 25, 2023  
Approved.
8. APPROVAL  
Register of Demands  
CF 47.2  
Approved.
9. RECEIVE AND FILE  
Treasurer's Report for  
the Quarter Ending June  
30, 2023  
CF 47.3  
Received and filed.
10. APPROVAL  
Agreement between the  
Los Angeles Gateway  
Region Integrated  
Regional Water  
Management Joint  
Powers Authority and the  
City of Paramount for  
cost sharing for the  
installation of monitoring  
equipment and  
monitoring pursuant to  
the Harbor Toxic  
Pollutants TMDL  
CF 43.1213  
Approved the agreement between the Los Angeles  
Gateway Region Integrated Regional Water  
Management Joint Powers Authority and the City of  
Paramount for cost sharing for the installation of  
monitoring equipment and monitoring pursuant to the  
Harbor Toxic Pollutants TMDL and authorize the  
Mayor or her designee to execute the agreement.
11. ACCEPTANCE OF  
WORK  
Reclaim Water  
Extension on Lakewood  
Boulevard (City Project  
No. 9238)  
CIP 9238  
Accepted the work performed by Valverde  
Construction, Inc., Santa Fe Springs, California, for  
construction of the reclaim water extension on  
Lakewood Boulevard and authorize payment of the  
remaining retention.

12. ORDINANCE NO. 1172 Set Public Hearing for September 12, 2023.  
(Setting a Public Hearing  
for September 12, 2023)  
Amending Title 15 of the  
Paramount Municipal  
Code to add Chapters  
15.36, 15.40, 15.44,  
15.48, 15.52, 15.56 and  
15.60, Adopting by  
Reference the 1997  
Uniform Housing Code,  
1998 California Housing  
Code, 1997 Uniform  
Code for the Abatement  
of Dangerous Buildings,  
2022 California Existing  
Building Code, 2022  
California Historical  
Building Code, 2022  
California Referenced  
Standards Code and  
2022 California Fire  
Code  
CF 29

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#### **NEW BUSINESS**

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13. ORAL REPORT  
Veteran's Celebration  
Event Update  
CF 63  
  
Community Services Director Johnson gave the report and presented a PowerPoint presentation providing a preview of proposed updates for the Veteran's Celebration event.  
  
Discussion ensued concerning options for modifying the event to encourage more participation. Following discussion, staff was directed to hold this year's event under the usual format and begin creating a process to honor the veterans by giving them an opportunity to share their story through a recorded video to be shared with the community through social media and other channels.
14. ORAL REPORT  
Accessory Dwelling Unit  
(ADU) Ordinance and  
Resource Project  
CF 108:R-1  
  
Assistant Planning Director King gave the report and presented a PowerPoint presentation providing clarification on accessory dwelling unit (ADU) construction requirements and options to residential property owners. The presentation distinguished

CF R-2  
CF R-M  
CF PD-PS

State-required changes to the ADU ordinance from recommended changes that meet City goals and sought City Council input to use in preparing the draft ordinance that the Planning Commission and City Council will consider in the coming months.

Discussion ensued concerning whether or not carriage houses should be allowed in the front yard and options for regulating the height of two-story attached and detached accessory dwelling units on both single-family and multi-family properties. Following discussion, the City Council concurred that carriage houses should not be allowed in the front yard.

The matter regarding the allowable height for two-story detached ADUs on multi-family properties was tabled. Staff was directed to return with additional information and pictures of both the 18 ft. and 25 ft. roof height options.

15. APPROVAL  
Professional Services  
Agreement with Tripepi  
Smith and Associates,  
Inc. for Communication  
Consultation Services  
CF 43.1214

Management Analyst Aguayo gave the report and presented a PowerPoint presentation.

It was moved by Councilmember Olmos and seconded by Councilmember Lemons to 1) appropriate an additional \$40,316 from General Fund surplus in the FY 24 Adopted Budget; and 2) authorize the City Manager to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Tripepi Smith for communications consulting services for a three year term with the option to extend for two additional one year terms in the amount of \$110,316, with a contingency in the amount of \$30,000, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$140,316 in its first year, with CPI rate increases in subsequent years as shown in the proposal. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: Vice Mayor Delgadillo

ABSTAIN: None

### **Councilmembers**

Councilmember Lemons reported on her attendance at the monthly SEAACA board meeting noting that SEAACA is working on social media engagement and ways to keep the public informed about adoption opportunities. She also reported on her attendance at Tom Hansen's memorial service and the Heritage Parade and Festival. She suggested that the Heritage events be moved to the evening when it is cooler. Lastly, she reminded the community about the upcoming Back-to School-Event.

Councilmember Olmos reported on her attendance at the Water Replenishment District (WRD) training about water treatment and funding. She noted that she also attended Tom Hansen's memorial service. She also reported that she attended a CalCities meeting with Supervisor Lindsey Horvath regarding Measure H.

Councilmember Cuellar Stallings reported on her attendance at the following meetings and events: National Night Out, SELA Festival, CalCities board installation dinner and the Heritage Parade and Festival. She also noted that she heard suggestions that the event be held later in the day or later in the year when it is cooler. She expressed her condolences to families and loved ones of the firefighters that were killed in the recent helicopter crash.

Mayor Aguayo reported that she attended many of the same events as her colleagues including Tom Hansen's memorial service and the Heritage Parade and Festival. She thanked staff for their hard work on the event. Lastly, she reminded the community about the upcoming Back to School Friday Night Paramount events.

City Manager Moreno reported that the Back-to-School event is sold out with 500 participants currently registered, but staff will reach out to the School District and other community partners to assist any additional students in need or support. He thanked the teams that worked on the Heritage Parade and Festival.

He also reported that the Gateway COG City Managers will be meeting with the author of the legislation to increase the sales tax limit required to extend Measure H this week. Lastly, he reported that the City has achieved the Gold Energy Award from the Gateway Cities Council of Governments.

### **Staff**

There were none.

*Mayor Aguayo recessed the City Council meeting at 8:01 p.m. to convene the meeting of the Successor Agency for the Paramount Redevelopment Agency.*

*The City Council meeting was called back to order at 8:02 p.m. and the City Council recessed into closed session to discuss the matter listed below on the closed session agenda.*

### **CLOSED SESSION**

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL -  
EXISTING LITIGATION

(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)  
Name of case: *(City of Rancho Palos Verdes, et al v. Rob Bonta, State of California; Case No. 22STCP02369)*

Mayor Aguayo called the City Council meeting back to order in open session at 8:25 p.m.

*Assistant City Attorney Martyn reported that the City Council held a duly authorized closed session to discuss the matter list above and voted 4-0, with Vice Mayor Delgadillo absent, to support an appeal in the case of City of Rancho Palos Verdes vs. Rob Bonta, in participation with three other Southern California cities, with a maximum contribution of \$33,500.*

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Aguayo adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m. to a meeting on August 22, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.



*/s/ Isabel Aguayo*

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Isabel Aguayo, Mayor

ATTEST:

*/s/ Heidi Luce*

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Heidi Luce, City Clerk

APPROVED September 12, 2023

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