

CITY OF PASADENA
City Council Minutes
April 13, 2015 – 6:30 P.M.
Pasadena Convention Center
Ballrooms A-B-C-D-E
300 East Green Street
Pasadena, CA 91101

SPECIAL MEETING

OPENING: Mayor Bogaard called the special meeting to order at 6:44 p.m. (Absent: Councilmember Gordo).

ROLL CALL:

Councilmembers:

Mayor Bill Bogaard
Vice Mayor Jacque Robinson
Councilmember Victor Gordo (Arrived at 7:03 p.m.)
Councilmember John J. Kennedy
Councilmember Steve Madison
Councilmember Gene Masuda
Councilmember Margaret McAustin
Councilmember Terry Tornek

Staff:

City Manager Michael J. Beck
City Attorney Michele Beal Bagneris
City Clerk Mark Jomsky

The pledge of allegiance was led by Councilmember Kennedy.

CONSENT CALENDAR

APPOINTMENT OF BENITO BENITEZ TO THE PASADENA CENTER OPERATING COMPANY (Hotel Nomination)

CLAIMS RECEIVED AND FILED

Claim No. 12,380	Fiby Becerra	\$ 25,000.00+
Claim No. 12,381	Patricia Annicchiarico	25,000.00+
Claim No. 12,382	State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company as subrogee for Karen Miller	Not Stated
Claim No. 12,383	Arthur Coleman	25,000.00+
Claim No. 12,384	Arthur Coleman	25,000.00+
Claim No. 12,385	Kacie Laverne Motley, Jr.	25,000.00+
Claim No. 12,386	First United Methodist Church	41,702.19
Claim No. 12,387	Kathleen's Restaurant	395.00

Claim No. 12,388	Automobile Club of Southern California as subrogee for Darryl Yee	3,741.15
Claim No. 12,389	Robert Lovejoy	25,000.00+

PUBLIC HEARING SET

May 18, 2015, 7:00 p.m. Appeal of the Board of Zoning Appeals Decision regarding Conditional Use Permit No. 6222 for 3420, 3500, 4401 and 4500 Arroyo Seco Road (Arroyo Seco Canyon Project)

June 1, 2015, 7:00 p.m. – 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan and 2015-2016 Annual Action Plan

It was moved by Councilmember Madison, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson, to approve all items on the Consent Calendar. (Motion unanimously carried) (Absent: Councilmember Gordo)

ORDINANCE – ADOPTED

Adopt “AN EXTENSION OF THE INTERIM URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA TEMPORARILY LIMITING SINGLE FAMILY HOME DEMOLITION AND CONSTRUCTION IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OVERLAY DISTRICT IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THE POTENTIAL HISTORIC CHARACTER OF THE LOWER HASTINGS RANCH NEIGHBORHOOD” (Introduced by Councilmember Masuda) (Ordinance No. 7259)

The above ordinance was adopted by the following vote:
 AYES: Councilmembers Kennedy, Madison, Masuda, McAustin, Tornek, Vice Mayor Robinson, Mayor Bogaard
 NOES: None
 ABSENT: Councilmember Gordo

SPECIAL ITEM

FINAL RECOMMENDATION OF SR-710 PASADENA WORKING GROUP REGARDING PROPOSED ALTERNATIVES FOR SR-710 NORTH PROJECT

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Support the recommendation of the SR-710 Pasadena Working Group;
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to send a letter to Caltrans and the Mayor to send a letter to the Board of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), on behalf of the City of Pasadena, expressing such support; and

(3) Authorize City staff to coordinate with adjacent communities on efforts in support of advancing the elements of the Working Group's recommended alternative.

Councilmember Gordo
arrived at 7:03 p.m.

The Mayor introduced the agenda item, Fred Dock, Director of Transportation, reviewed the agenda report as part of a PowerPoint presentation. In addition, David Grannis and Jennifer Higginbotham, SR-710 Pasadena Working Group (PWG) members, presented the work of the Pasadena Working Group, and responded to questions.

Councilmember Madison thanked the members of the PWG for their outstanding work, commented on the lack of applicability of Ballot Measure "A" to the Tunnel Alternative, and urged the City Council to take a formal position to oppose the tunnel, as well as to support the PWG's recommendations.

ORIGINAL MOTION

It was moved by Councilmember Madison, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson, to approve the staff recommendation, with the addition that the City Council formally oppose the SR-710 Tunnel Alternative.

The following persons spoke in support of the proposed action and/or in favor of the PWG recommendation:

John Van de Kamp, West Pasadena Residents' Association (WPRA)
Dr. Marina Khubesrian, City of South Pasadena Councilmember
Ara Najarian, City of Glendale Councilmember
John L. Chan, Connecting Pasadena Project
Tom Savio, Pasadena resident
John Kvammen, Pasadena resident
Avram Gold, Pasadena resident
Christopher Sutton, Pasadena resident
Trish Gossett, Highland Park resident
Tina Miller, Los Angeles resident
Rick Madden, Pasadena resident
Audrey O'Kelley, Pasadena resident
John Dean, East Arroyo Residents Association
Scott Fruin, Pasadena resident
Joan Hearst, West Pasadena Residents' Association (WPRA)
Dr. Bill Sherman, No on 710 Action Committee
Susan N. Mossman, Pasadena Heritage
Jesse Lattig, Pasadena Heritage
Richard Helgeson, South Pasadena resident

Darrell Clarke, Pasadena resident
Joe Cano, No on 710 Action Committee-El Sereno
Don Jones, Los Angeles resident
Kevin Sanada, spoke on behalf of Chris Morris,
National Trust for Historic Preservation
Clara Solis, Los Angeles resident
Alan Bair, Pasadena resident
Laura Olhasso, Pasadena Foothills Association of
Realtors
Melissa Michelson, Alhambra resident
Lisa Almeida, Los Angeles resident
Clarice Knapp, South Pasadena resident
Vickere Murphy, Office of Senator Carol Liu
Aurora Reyes-Harris, Pasadena resident
Sam Burgess, South Pasadena resident
Michael Cornwell, Pasadena resident
Jonathan Edwards, Downtown Pasadena
Neighborhood Association (DPNA)
Warren Haussler, Pasadena resident

The following persons spoke in opposition to, and/or,
expressed concerns regarding the proposed action:

Eddie Torres, East Los Angeles Chamber of
Commerce
Mary Dee Romney, Pasadena resident
"Mike", residence unknown
Emanuel Najera, residence unknown

Vice Mayor Robinson expressed her appreciation to both the members of the PWG and City staff for their hard work on this complicated issue, and commented on the tunnel alternative and the need for the City to formally oppose the tunnel option. She also stressed the need to consider the North and East Pasadena areas as part of any study regarding light rail and bus transportation options to ensure appropriate connections exist from north to south, and stated her support for the staff recommendation, with the addition that the City Council formally oppose the SR-710 Tunnel Alternative.

Councilmember Tornek complimented the work of the PWG, and stated his personal opposition to the SR-710 Tunnel Alternative. However, he noted that Ballot Measure "A" prohibits the City from taking a position against alternatives that would complete the SR-710 extension, and suggested that a new ballot measure be placed before the voters to reverse the limitation imposed on the City as a result of Measure "A". Councilmember Tornek also

noted that as staff coordinates with adjacent communities on efforts in support of advancing the elements of the Working Group's preferred alternative, Measure "A" does not prevent the City from opposing specific recommendations contained in the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (Metro) plans.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION

Following discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Tornek, seconded by Councilmember Kennedy, to approve the staff recommendation, with direction to staff to return to the City Council with information regarding the submission of a ballot measure for a vote by the people to reconsider/repeal the Measure "A" mandate.

Councilmember Kennedy expressed his gratitude to the members of the community present for their input on the matter and to PWG for their forward thinking approach, opposed consideration of a tunnel alternative by Metro, especially without a cost benefit analysis, and urged the City Council to support the substitute motion.

Councilmember Masuda stated his support for the staff recommendation, and for the City Council to formally oppose the SR-710 Tunnel Alternative.

Councilmember McAustin commented on the outstanding volunteer work of the PWG, stating that it is a progressive and regional solution that is consistent with the "Complete Streets" program, stated her personal opposition to the tunnel alternative, but noted that she is constrained by Measure "A" from voting to formally oppose the tunnel.

In response to Councilmember Gordo, Michele Bagneris, City Attorney, stated that the legal conclusion reached by a City-hired expert regarding Measure "A", is that the City can express concerns and object to aspects of a proposed project (including aspects of the tunnel alternative), but cannot oppose the tunnel project as an alternative since it would complete the extension of the freeway.

Councilmember Gordo expressed concerns regarding the impacts of the proposed tunnel project, stressed the importance for the City to take a firm position in opposition to the tunnel alternative, and suggested that in addition to sending a letter expressing support for the PWG recommended alternative, that the City request impacted neighboring cities to formally consider adopting the PWG's recommendations as the regional approach to transportation.

Councilmember McAustin offered a friendly amendment to the substitute motion, which was to approve the staff recommendation only.

AMENDED
MOTION

SUBSTITUTE

Following discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Tornek, seconded by Councilmember Kennedy, to approve the staff recommendation:

AYES: Councilmembers Kennedy, McAustin, Tornek, Mayor Bogaard

NOES: Councilmembers Gordo, Madison, Masuda, Vice Mayor Robinson

ABSENT: None

MOTION FAILED

AMENDED
MOTION

ORIGINAL

Councilmember Gordo offered a friendly amendment to the original motion to bifurcate the two actions; to formally oppose the SR-710 Tunnel Alternative, and to approve the staff recommendation.

Following additional discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Madison, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson, to formally oppose the SR-710 Tunnel Alternative:

YES: Councilmembers Gordo, Madison, Masuda, Vice Mayor Robinson, Mayor Bogaard

NOES: Councilmembers Kennedy, McAustin, Tornek

ABSENT: None

It was moved by Councilmember Madison, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson, to approve the staff recommendation:

YES: Councilmembers Gordo, Kennedy, Madison, Masuda, McAustin, Tornek, Vice Mayor Robinson, Mayor Bogaard

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Councilmember Madison expressed gratitude to the Mayor and City Council for their support.

Councilmember Gordo was excused at 10:14 p.m.

Vice Mayor Robinson reminded the members of the community that were present that comments made on the matter are not part of Metro/Caltrans official record, and encouraged interested persons to formally submit comments to Metro, which will also be accepted online, and to attend the upcoming public hearing on April 14, 2015.

In response to Vice Mayor Robinson, the City Manager noted that the Public Health Department does not currently have staff with the expertise to do an appropriate review of the Health Risk Assessment portion related to the project, with Vice Mayor Robinson requesting that information regarding the matter be provided in the weekly newsletter.

PUBLIC HEARING

FISCAL YEAR 2016-2020 RECOMMENDED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BUDGET

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council continue the public hearing to April 27, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., and thereafter at each subsequent regular meeting of the City Council, until the City Council determines that the public hearing may close, and then formally adopt the FY 2016-2020 CIP Budget.

It was moved by Councilmember Tornek, seconded by Councilmember Kennedy, to continue the above public hearing to April 27, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. (Motion unanimously carried) (Absent: Councilmember Gordo)

ADJOURNMENT

On order of the Mayor, the special meeting of the City Council adjourned at 10:22 p.m.

Terry Tornek, Mayor
City of Pasadena

ATTEST:

City Clerk