

CITY OF PASADENA
City Council Minutes
November 24, 2025 – 5:00 P.M.
City Hall Council Chamber

Teleconference Location:

Private Residence
52300 Ross Avenue
La Quinta, CA 92253

OPENING:

Mayor Gordo called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
(Absent: Councilmember Lyon)

CLOSED SESSION

On the order of the Mayor, the regular meeting recessed at 5:16 p.m.
to discuss the following closed session items:

CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL

Regarding pending litigation pursuant to Government Code
Section 54956.9(d)(1)

**Name of Case: Crutchfield, Shelby, White v. City of Pasadena
Case No.: 24STCV12359**

CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL
regarding pending litigation pursuant to Government Code
Section 54956.9(d)(1)

**Name of Case: City of Pasadena v. The Regents of the
University of California**

Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No.: 25STCV31621

The above two closed session items were discussed, with no
reportable action at this time.

**CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE REGARDING PUBLIC
EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION** pursuant to
Government Code Section 54957 and CITY COUNCIL
CONFERENCE with Labor Negotiator pursuant to Government
Code Section 54957.6

**Employee Title and Unrepresented Employee: City
Attorney/City Prosecutor**

City Representative: Victor M. Gordo

**CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE REGARDING PUBLIC
EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION** pursuant to
Government Code Section 54957 and CITY COUNCIL
CONFERENCE with Labor Negotiator pursuant to Government
Code Section 54957.6

**Employee Title and Unrepresented Employee: City Clerk
City Representative: Victor M. Gordo**

**CONSIDERATION OF INITIATION OF LITIGATION pursuant to
Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4): One potential case**

**CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL
regarding significant exposure to potential litigation pursuant
to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2): One potential case**

The above four closed session items were not discussed.

On the order of the Mayor, the regular meeting reconvened at 6:11 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was led by Councilmember Masuda.

ROLL CALL:

Councilmembers:

Mayor Victor M. Gordo
Vice Mayor Jessica Rivas
Councilmember Rick Cole
Councilmember Tyron Hampton
Councilmember Justin Jones
Councilmember Jason Lyon (absent)
Councilmember Steve Madison (via teleconference)
Councilmember Gene Masuda

Staff:

City Manager Miguel Márquez
City Attorney/City Prosecutor Michele Beal Bagneris
City Clerk Mark Jomsky

SPECIAL ITEM

**INTRODUCTION/PRESENTATION BY ED REECE, 2025
PRESIDENT OF THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COUNCIL OF
GOVERNMENTS**

Ed Reese, President of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments ("SGVCOG"), presented a PowerPoint presentation on the SGVCOG's collaboration between 31 cities, 2 county supervisorial districts, and other local agencies throughout the San Gabriel Valley. He also presented information on regional planning for wildfire preparation and recovery, partnership on policies for the LA28 Olympics, and homelessness. The City Council thanked Mr. Reese and his team for their hard work and collaborative efforts throughout the region.

On the order of the Mayor, by consensus of the City Council, the presentation was received and filed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON
MATTERS NOT ON THE
AGENDA**

The following individuals expressed concerns regarding the Urban Forestry Advisory Commission meeting cancellations and the removal of mature trees in the City:

Barbara Lambrecht, Pasadena residents
Marina Romans, Pasadena resident
Ken Compton, Los Angeles resident

The following individuals spoke on the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and/or advocated for the City to divest from specific companies:

Anthony Manousos, Pasadena resident
Cloud Morgan Clark, Pasadena resident
Charlotte Biancheri, Pasadena resident
Lucy Pettit, Pasadena resident
Marianne Albina, Pasadena resident

Donald Wallace, Lighthouse Security Group, shared details regarding his company providing job opportunities for individuals in need of employment, and inquired how his company can partner with the City of Pasadena.

Olden Denham, Pasadena resident, provided comments on the officer involved shooting of Anthony McClain and accountability.

Allen Shay, Pasadena resident, provided comments on the application of AB392 and the officer involved shooting of Anthony McClain.

The following individuals spoke in support of the Safe Parking program and urged the City Council to reconsider their previous decision on the matter:

Jon Pelzer, Pasadena resident
David Delgado, Pasadena resident
Mel Tillekeratne, Shower of Hope

CONSENT CALENDAR

City Manager/ Executive Director

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH PIPE TEC, INC., FOR THE ANNUAL SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS AND CAPACITY UPGRADES FISCAL YEAR 2026 CLEAN AND CCTV PROJECT FOR AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$754,258 (Public Works Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find the contract proposed in the agenda report to be categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 19, Class 1, §15301, Existing Facilities, and that there are no features that distinguish this project from others in the exempt class and, therefore, there are no unusual circumstances; and
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract as a result of the competitive bid process as specified by Section 4.08.045 of the Pasadena Municipal Code, with Pipe Tec, Inc. for the Annual Sewer System Improvements and Capacity Upgrades FY2026 Clean and CCTV project for an amount not-to-exceed \$754,258 which includes the base contract amount of \$685,689 and a contingency of \$68,569 to provide for any necessary change orders. (Contract No. 33459)

Jasmine Abdullah, Pasadena resident, expressed concerns regarding the amount of the proposed contract and the services provided by the contractor.

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH PSOMAS; PARSONS TRANSPORTATION GROUP; TETRA TECH, INC.; DOKKEN ENGINEERING; AND KPFF CONSULTING ENGINEERS FOR ON-CALL CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES IN AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$1,000,000 FOR EACH CONSULTANT (Public Works Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find the contract proposed in the agenda report to be categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 15061(b)(3), the "Common Sense" exemption that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment, and that there are no features that distinguish this project from others in the exempt class and, therefore, there are no unusual circumstances;
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to enter into individual contracts, as the result of a competitive selection process specified by Section 4.08.047 of the Pasadena Municipal Code with Psomas; Parsons Transportation Group, Inc.; Tetra Tech, Inc.; Dokken Engineering; and KPFF Consulting Engineers for On-Call Civil Engineering Services for a total amount not-to-exceed \$1,000,000 for each consultant over a three-year term. Competitive price bidding is not required pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(F) (contracts for professional or unique services) (Contract No. 33461 - Psomas) (Contract No. 33462 – Parsons Transportation Group, Inc.) (Contract No. 33463 – Tetra Tech, Inc.) (Contract No. 33464 – Dokken Engineering) (Contract No. 33465 – KPFF Consulting Engineers); and
- (3) Authorize the City Manager to extend the term of the contracts as necessary without increasing the not-to-exceed amount.

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH SHADE STRUCTURES, INC., DBA USA SHADE & FABRIC STRUCTURES FOR MCDONALD PARK AND VICTORY PARK PLAYGROUND SHADE STRUCTURES PROJECT FOR AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$1,065,444 (Public Works Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find the contracts proposed in the agenda report to be categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15301, Class 1 – Existing Facilities, and that there are no features that distinguish this project from others in the exempt class and, therefore, there are no unusual circumstances;
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Shade Structures, Inc. dba USA Shade & Fabric Structures for the

McDonald Park and Victory Park Playground Shade Structures project for an amount not-to-exceed \$1,065,444, which includes the base contract amount of \$926,473 and a contingency of \$138,971 to provide for any necessary change orders. Competitive bidding is not required pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(H), contracts with other government agencies or their contractors for labor, materials, supplies or services; and

(3) Grant the proposed contract an exemption from the Competitive Selection process pursuant to Pasadena Municipal Code Section 4.08.049(B), contracts for which the City's best interests are served. (Contract No. 33458)

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CJ CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR ANNUAL ADA CITYWIDE SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS AND MISCELLANEOUS SIDEWALK REPAIR PROGRAM FISCAL YEAR 2026 FOR AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$1,000,000 (Public Works Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the contract proposed in the agenda report to be categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15301, Class 1, Existing Facilities; and that there are no features that distinguish this project from others in the exempt class, and therefore, there are no unusual circumstances; and
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract as a result of the competitive bid process, as specified by Section 4.08.045 of the Pasadena Municipal Code, with CJ Concrete Construction, Inc. for the Annual ADA Citywide Sidewalk Improvements and Miscellaneous Sidewalk Repair Program FY 2026 for an amount not-to-exceed \$1,000,000 which includes the base contract amount of \$744,500 and a contingency of \$255,500 to provide for additional scope and any necessary change orders. (Contract No. 33466)

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ADDISON-MILLER INC. FOR ANNUAL ADA CITYWIDE SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FISCAL YEAR 2026 FUNDED WITH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FOR AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$500,000 (Public Works Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the contract proposed in the agenda report to be categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15301, Class 1, Existing Facilities; and that there are no features that distinguish this project from others in the exempt class, and therefore, there are no unusual circumstances; and
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract, as a result of the competitive bid process, as specified by Section 4.08.045 of the Pasadena Municipal Code, with Addison-Miller Inc. for Annual

ADA Citywide Sidewalk Improvement Program Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 funded with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for an amount not-to-exceed \$500,000 which includes the base contract amount of \$341,750 and a contingency of \$158,250 to provide for additional scope and any necessary change orders. (Contract No. 33467)

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT AGREEMENT WITH KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR PASADENA AVENUE AND ST. JOHN AVENUE ROADWAY NETWORK PROJECT CONCEPTUAL DEVELOPMENT, PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING AND FINAL DESIGN SERVICES FUNDED THROUGH MEASURE R MOBILITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (MIP) FUNDS FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$4,848,630 (Transportation Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the action proposed in the agenda report is not a "project" subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 21065 and within the meaning of Section 15378(b); and
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., as the result of a competitive selection process, as specified by Section 4.08.047 of the Pasadena Municipal Code, for Pasadena Avenue and St. John Avenue Roadway Network Project Conceptual Development, Preliminary Engineering and Final Design Services funded through Measure R MIP funds in the amount not-to-exceed \$4,848,630 which includes the base contract amount of \$1,436,960 to develop conceptual and preliminary design (Phase 1), the option for additional services to deliver final design including Plans, Specifications and Estimates (PS&E) in the amount of \$2,970,885 (Phase 2), and a contingency amount of \$440,785 for any necessary change orders subject to City Manager approval. Competitive price bidding is not required pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(F) (contracts for professional or unique services). (Contract No. 33471)

Councilmember Cole expressed concerns related to the fast one-way streets on St. John Avenue and Pasadena Avenue. In response to his inquiries regarding a protected bike lane and input on the process from the Transportation Advisory Committee, Joaquin Siques, Transportation Director, reported that a protected bike lane is anticipated for a majority of the Pasadena-St. John corridor that will separate vehicular traffic from motorist traffic. He also reported that the outreach for the project is being conducted through the outreach contract for the Measure R MIP projects. Transportation Director Siques also reported that the Finance Committee made an amendment to the staff recommendation to continue working with Old Pasadena and the Business District on safety enhancements along the bicycle corridor.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT AGREEMENTS WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (CALTRANS) TO ACCEPT LOCAL HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (HSIP) CYCLE 12 FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$610,110; \$324,630 FOR THE INSTALLATION OF RECTANGULAR RAPID FLASHING BEACONS AT THE INTERSECTIONS OF VILLA STREET AT CHESTER AVENUE, ARROYO BOULEVARD AT SECO STREET, AND BELLEFONTAINE STREET AT FAIRMOUNT AVENUE; AND \$285,480 FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A ONE-HALF MILE BIKE FACILITY ON UNION STREET BETWEEN ARROYO PARKWAY AND ST. JOHN AVENUE (Transportation Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the action proposed in the agenda report is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 21065 of CEQA and Sections 15060(c)(2), 15060(c)(3), and 15378 of the State CEQA Guidelines and, as such, no environmental document pursuant to CEQA is required;
- (2) Authorize the City Manager or designee to enter into agreements with Caltrans to receive grant funding for the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Cycle 12 grant in the amount of \$610,110; \$324,630 for the installation of rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFB); and \$285,480 for the installation of a one-half mile bike facility on Union Street, and execute any subsequent agreements regarding these grant awards (Contract No. 33511); and
- (3) Amend the Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget to recognize and appropriate \$324,630 in HSIP Cycle 12 grant funds and transfer \$86,870 from the FY 2026 Department of Transportation General Fund Operating Budget to the Pedestrian Crossing Enhancements Program FY2021-2028, and appropriate \$285,480 in HSIP Cycle 12 grant funds and transfer \$69,745 from the FY 2026 Department of Transportation General Fund Operating Budget to the Pasadena Bicycle Program (#75919) FY2026-2030. (Budget Amendment No. 2026-19)

Olden Denham, Pasadena resident, thanked the City for the road repairs on Fair Oaks Street and advocated for road repairs on Raymond Avenue.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF STATE AND COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS FOR \$2,000,000 AND RECOGNIZE AND APPROPRIATE \$300,000 TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE PASADENA OUTREACH RESPONSE TEAM EXPANSION ("PORT-E") PROGRAM (Public Works Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the proposed actions in the agenda report are not a "project" subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 21065 and within the meaning of Section 15378(b);
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the California Board of State and Community Corrections ("BSCC") to accept and administer \$2,000,000 in Proposition 47 grant funds on behalf of the City of Pasadena to expand Pasadena Outreach Response Team ("PORT") services through June 30, 2029 (Contract No. 33499);
- (3) Amend the Fiscal Year 2026 Public Health Department operating budget by recognizing and appropriating \$300,000 in BSCC Proposition 47 grant funding (Budget Amendment No. 2026-20);
- (4) Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Huntington Health in an amount not-to-exceed \$482,000 for clinical and nursing services through June 30, 2029, contingent on continued grant funding (Contract No. 33484); and
- (5) Grant the proposed contract an exemption from the competitive selection process pursuant to Pasadena Municipal Code (PMC) Section 4.08.049(B), contracts for which the City's best interests are served. This transaction is exempt from competitive bidding per PMC Section 4.08.030 and City Charter Section 1002(F) based on contracts for professional or unique services.

Bert Newton, Pasadena resident, spoke on the importance of having homelessness programs to provide services and assistance to unhoused individuals.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: DIRECT THE CITY ATTORNEY TO PREPARE AN ORDINANCE WITHIN 60 DAYS AMENDING CHAPTER 10.46 OF THE PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE UPDATING THE POLICE TOWING FRANCHISE PROCESS SYSTEM (Police Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the actions proposed in the agenda report are not a "project" subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 21065; and
- (2) Direct the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance within 60 days that amends Chapter 10.46 of the Pasadena Municipal Code and updates the police towing franchise process as described in the agenda report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT – QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025 (Finance Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

This report is for information only. The City Council may; however, take action relating to this item as it deems appropriate following consideration and discussion of the matter.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE: AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CLEAN ENERGY PURCHASE CONTRACT FOR PREPAID RENEWABLE ENERGY AND SUPPORTING AGREEMENTS, INCLUSIVE OF FIVE LIMITED ASSIGNMENTS OF EXISTING RENEWABLE POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENTS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF COST SAVINGS (Water & Power Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the proposed action is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to Section 21065 of CEQA and Sections 15060 (c)(2), 15060 (c)(3), and 15378 of the State CEQA Guidelines and, as such, no environmental document pursuant to CEQA is required for the project;
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to enter into the following interrelated agreements ("Prepay Agreements"), in substantial form, for participation in a prepay renewable energy transaction that will create a discount for the City of Pasadena's ("City") Water and Power Department ("PWP") in its purchase of certain renewable energy:
 - a. A Limited Assignment Agreement ("LAA") for Antelope Big Sky Ranch Solar ("Antelope Big Sky Ranch LAA") with the Southern California Public Power Authority ("SCPPA"), assigning to SCPPA certain of the City's rights and obligations to receive and pay for renewable energy and associated resources under the City's Renewable Power Purchase Sale Agreement ("Antelope Big Sky Ranch PPA") with Antelope Big Sky Ranch, LLC;
 - b. A LAA for Summer Solar ("Summer Solar LAA") with SCPPA, assigning to SCPPA certain of the City's rights and obligations to receive and pay for renewable energy and associated resources under the City's Renewable Power Purchase Sale Agreement and Amendment ("Summer Solar PPA") with Summer Solar, LLC;
 - c. A LAA for Columbia II Solar ("Columbia II Solar LAA") with SCPPA, assigning to SCPPA certain of the City's rights and obligations to receive and pay for renewable energy and associated resources under the City's Renewable Power Purchase Sale Agreement ("Columbia II Solar PPA") with RE Columbia Two, LLC;
 - d. A LAA for Kingbird Solar A ("Kingbird A Solar LAA"), the City's Renewable Power Purchase Agreement, assigning to SCPPA certain of the City's rights and obligations to receive and pay for renewable energy and associated resources ("Kingbird A Solar PPA") with Kingbird Solar A, LLC;
 - e. A LAA for CalWind ("CalWind LAA"), the City's Renewable Power Purchase Agreement, assigning to SCPPA certain of the City's rights and obligations to receive and pay for renewable energy and associated resources ("CalWind PPA") with CalWind Resources, Inc. coming from their Wind Resource II facility;

- f. A Clean Energy Purchase Contract (“CEPC”) with SCPPA by which SCPPA will sell to the PWP at discounted prices the prepaid renewable energy and associated resources generated by the assigned Antelope Big Sky Ranch PPA, CalWind PPA, Columbia II Solar PPA, Kingbird A Solar PPA, and Summer Solar PPA (together, the “PPAs”) for a term of up to 30 years;
- g. A Custodial Agreement with J. Aron & Company LLC (“J. Aron”) and U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, or selected financial institution as selected by J. Aron, as custodian, for a term equal to the CEPC’s term, to establish bank accounts for and administer payments to Antelope Big Sky Ranch Solar, CalWind, Columbia II Solar, Kingbird A Solar, and Summer Solar in satisfaction of performance under their respective PPAs;
- h. A Project Agreement with SCPPA by which SCPPA will administer this project and allocate administrative direct costs associated with the transaction to all SCPPA project participants including PWP;
- i. A Letter Agreement with SCPPA for a term equal to the terms of the Antelope Big Sky Ranch Solar, CalWind, Columbia II Solar, Kingbird A Solar, and Summer Solar (together, the “LAAs”) providing that the parties may terminate the LAAs only upon certain specified events, such as Antelope Big Sky Ranch Solar, CalWind, Columbia II Solar, Kingbird A Solar, or Summer Solar’s termination or suspension of performance under the assigned PPAs; and

(3) Authorize the City Manager to (a) execute and deliver the Prepay Agreements with any de minimis changes that, as determined by the City Attorney’s Office, do not substantially change the terms and conditions of the Prepay Agreements; (b) execute and deliver any related documents, such as amendments of any of the Prepay Agreements or any agreements necessary to carry out the transactions contemplated by the Prepay Agreements; and (c) take such actions as are necessary or advisable to implement and administer the Prepay Agreements.

City Council

APPROVE A THIRD AMENDMENT TO EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT FOR CITY MANAGER

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the proposed action in the agenda report is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) “Common Sense” exemption; and
- (2) Approve a third amendment to the employment agreement for City Manager Miguel Márquez to provide an increase to salary and the classification’s salary control rate, increase the monthly auto allowance amount, and change the Management Time Off bank to a soft cap. It is further recommended that the Mayor be authorized to

sign the third amendment to the employment agreement to reflect City Council-approved changes. (Contract No. 23,680-3);

APPOINTMENTS,
REAPPOINTMENTS, &
RESIGNATIONS

REAPPOINTMENT OF RACHEL JANBEK AS CITY OF PASADENA REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT BOARD SERVING AT THE PLEASURE OF THE COUNCIL FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS, COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2026 (City Nomination)

RESIGNATION OF REMY DE LA PEZA FROM THE RECONNECTING COMMUNITIES 710 ADVISORY GROUP (At Large Nomination)

City Attorney

FINANCE COMMITTEE: AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS TO ACCEPT A CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 47, COHORT 5, GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,498,269 FOR PASADENA'S HOME DIVERSION PROGRAM AND TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS TO EFFECTUATE THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THE GRANT, AMEND THE CITY ATTORNEY/CITY PROSECUTOR DEPARTMENT'S FISCAL YEAR 2026 OPERATING BUDGET AND ADD 1.0 LIMITED-TERM FTE (City Attorney/City Prosecutor's Office)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the action proposed in the agenda report is not a "project" subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 21065 and within the meaning of Section 15378(b);
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with the California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) for the acceptance of a Proposition 47, Cohort 5, grant for Pasadena's HOME Diversion Program, and execute any subsequent agreements regarding this grant award (Contract No. 33508);
- (3) Amend the City Attorney/City Prosecutor Department's Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Operating Budget by recognizing revenue and appropriating \$4,498,269 in California Proposition 47, Cohort 5, grant funds and adding a 1.0 limited-term FTE Program Coordinator II position through June 30, 2029;
- (4) Authorize the City Manager to enter into a Grant Subrecipient Agreement, without competitive bidding pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(F), contracts for professional or unique services, with Illumination Foundation to execute subcontracts and operate Pasadena's HOME Diversion Program for an amount not-to-exceed \$3,677,869, which will be paid for by the grant, for a service period of three years, from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028 (Contract No. 33521); and
- (5) Grant the proposed subrecipient agreement an exemption from the Competitive Selection process pursuant to Pasadena Municipal Code Section 4.08.049(B), contracts for which the City's best interests are served.

Sonja Berndt, Pasadena resident, expressed concerns regarding the individuals who would be eligible for the program and expressed opposition to the criminalization of homelessness.

In response to public comment, City Attorney Bagneris and Tim Wellman, Chief Assistant City Prosecutor, clarified that the proposal would apply to those who are at risk of being arrested, as well as unhoused individuals.

In response to Vice Mayor Rivas' inquiry regarding how an individual who does not have a citation can gain access to the HOME Diversion process, Chief Assistant City Prosecutor Wellman reported that there are numerous referral processes such as having an active case and being identified in court, the City's PORT-E team, and/or the Police Department's HOPE program.

City Clerk/ Secretary

MINUTES APPROVED

November 3, 2025	City Council
November 3, 2025	Successor Agency to the Pasadena Community Development Commission
November 10, 2025	City Council
November 10, 2025	Successor Agency to the Pasadena Community Development Commission

CLAIMS RECEIVED AND FILED

	Claim No.	Claimant	Claim Amount
	2026-0119	John Herman	\$ 3,822.00
	2026-0120	Jacinto Hernandez Banuelos	35,000.00+
	2026-0121	Theresa C. Colley	9,528.57
	2026-0122	Alisha Brown	10,000.00
	2026-0123	Sara Knowles	326.00

As required by the California Brown Act, prior to taking action on the motion, Mayor Gordo reported information related to Consent Calendar Item 12 regarding the compensation increase for the City Manager's employment agreement with the City of Pasadena.

MOTION:

It was moved by Councilmember Hampton, seconded by Councilmember Cole, to approve all items on the Consent Calendar, with an amendment to the staff recommendation for Item 7, as amended by the Finance Committee, to work with the Old Pasadena Management District and the Transportation Advisory Committee as part of the review process, and to identify measures to further protect bicyclist safety and reduce speeds on Union Street.

AYES:	Councilmembers Cole, Hampton, Jones, Madison, Masuda, Vice Mayor Rivas, Mayor Gordo
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Councilmember Lyon
ABSTAIN:	None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ZONING CODE AMENDMENT TO IMPLEMENT OBJECTIVE DESIGN STANDARDS FOR HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT (Planning Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the proposed Zoning Code Amendment is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3), the "Common Sense" exemption, where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment;
- (2) Make the Findings for Approval for the Zoning Code Text Amendment (Attachment A of the agenda report); and
- (3) Direct the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance for the Zoning Code Amendment within 90 days consistent with the provisions set forth in the agenda report.

Recommendation of the Planning Commission: On October 8, 2025, the Planning Commission considered the proposed Zoning Code Amendment at a publicly noticed hearing (Attachment B of the agenda report) and unanimously recommended that the City Council approve the Zoning Code Amendment as presented by staff, with the following amendments:

1. Refine the terms "Simple Form" and "Articulated Form" to describe proposed standards;
2. Include a range of permitted colors;
3. Require balconies on street-facing facades to project no more than two feet from a façade, have opaque railings, and high quality materials; and
4. Allow for an alternate design review process for sites above two acres in size.

Staff is supportive of the Planning Commission recommendations.

Jennifer Paige, Planning Director, provided introductory comments on the item. Martin Potter presented a PowerPoint presentation providing information on project background, the existing design guidelines, study sessions and public hearings.

As a result of questions raised by Councilmember Jones, and a brief discussion regarding the boundaries of the project, City Attorney Bagneris stated the need for additional time to determine if a conflict might exist for the Councilmember.

Following discussion regarding conflicts of interest and recusal necessity, Councilmember Madison and Mayor Gordo advocated to defer the matter to allow the City Attorney's Office time to properly analyze the grounds for recusal and ensure compliance with the Fair Political Practices Commission regulations. City Attorney Bagneris reported that the map included in the agenda report does not apply to all properties in the City, however, it does apply to a broad area that may need additional analysis as it relates to councilmembers' properties.

Councilmember Jones, in abundance of caution, stated a potential conflict of interest might exist, recused himself, and left the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

Vice Mayor Rivas stated a potential conflict of interest might exist, recused herself from the item, and left the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

In response to Councilmember Cole's inquiry regarding why 90 days may be needed to prepare an ordinance, City Attorney Bagneris reported that the City Attorney's Office will work with the Planning Department to prepare the ordinance, a process that occurs after the City staff makes their analyses. Planning Director Paige briefly shared that writing the design standards in an objective form is an extensive process.

Thomas Tai, Pasadena resident, expressed support for the item and advocated for increased housing development to combat the homelessness crisis.

Amy Deavoll, Pasadena resident, inquired about the medium mixed use on North Lake noted in the agenda report as it pertains to the specific plan.

MOTION: Following discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Madison, seconded by Councilmember Cole, to continue the public hearing to December 8, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

AYES: Councilmembers Cole, Hampton, Madison, Masuda, Mayor Gordo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Councilmembers Jones, Lyon, and Vice Mayor Rivas

ABSTAIN: None

Councilmember Jones and Vice Mayor Rivas returned to the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

Vice Mayor Rivas stated a conflict of interest, recused herself from the item and left the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING: NORTH LAKE SPECIFIC PLAN UPDATE (Planning Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Adopt the Addendum to the 2015 Pasadena General Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and find that the Addendum properly discloses only minor technical changes or additions to the EIR, and none of the conditions triggering a subsequent or supplemental EIR are present, as set forth in State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15164;
- (2) Make the Findings for Approval for the General Plan Land Use Map Amendment, Specific Plan Adoption, Zoning Map Amendment, and Zoning Text Amendment (Attachment A of the agenda report) to adopt the recommended North Lake Specific Plan (Attachment B of the agenda report). The Zoning Text Amendment also includes technical changes in the previously adopted Central District and Lamanda Park Specific Plans for internal consistency;
- (3) Adopt a resolution approving the General Plan Map Amendment (Resolution No.10165);
- (4) Adopt a resolution approving the recommended North Lake Specific Plan (Resolution No.10166); and
- (5) Direct the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance for the Zoning Map and Text Amendment within 120 days consistent with the provisions set forth in the agenda report.

Recommendation of the Planning Commission: On September 10, 2025, by a vote of 7-0, the Planning Commission recommended that the City Council approve the proposed North Lake Specific Plan, as presented by staff, with three recommended changes below:

- 1) Change timeframe for Implementation Action PA-4 (Temporary Art Installations in Empty Storefronts) from 'Medium-Term' to 'Short-Term';
- 2) Amend the Land Use Categories for 701 and 709 N. Mentor Avenue (Low Density Residential [0-6 units per acre]) and 919 E. Orange Grove Boulevard (Medium Density Residential [0-16 units per acre]) to Medium-High Density Residential (0-32 units per acre). Also, change the corresponding Zoning Districts from RS-6 (Single-Family Residential, six units per acre) and RM-16 (Multi-Family Residential, 16 units per acre) to RM-32 (Multi-Family Residential, 32 units per acre) and NL-RM-32 (Multi-Family Residential, 32 units per acre) (Attachment F, page 7 of the agenda report); and
- 3) Change the Zoning District for two properties outside but adjacent to the NLSP, 1311 and 1321 N. Mentor Avenue, from RM-12-PK-LD-1 (Residential Multi-family, two units per lot, Parking Overlay District, Landmark District 1 [Bungalow Heaven]) to RM-12-LD-1 (removing the PK overlay) (Attachment F of the agenda report). Staff is supportive of the Planning Commission recommendations.

City Clerk Jomsky reported that the public hearing notice was published on October 27, November 6, and November 11, 2025 in the Pasadena Press, and that 7,031 copies of the public hearing notices were mailed on October 27, 2025. He also reported that 3 letters in support of the City Council approving the North Lake specific plan and/or providing comments on the matter, 2 letters expressing concerns with the staff recommendations and/or expressing concerns related to various issues in the City, and 2 letters advocating for specific detailed amendments to the North Lake Specific Plan regarding street closures and/or Zoning Code amendments, were all received by the City Clerk's Office, distributed to the City Council, posted online, and made part of the public record for this item.

Planning Director Paige provided introductory comments on the item. David Sinclair, Senior Planner, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the item, recapping the Planning Commission discussions and recommendations, noting the planning process and community engagement events, the proposed vision plans for the sub-areas in the North Lake Specific Plan, and implementation actions.

Mayor Gordo expressed concerns with multi-story developments allowed by Senate Bill 79 ("SB79") and the impacts of transit-oriented developments on the City.

Councilmember Hampton advocated for the new developments to have community spaces and benefits, and suggested that the community also have input on these initiatives. He also suggested implementing a funding mechanism for future specific plans to attract developers to invest in the community.

In response to Councilmember Hampton's inquiry regarding the community's feedback on drive-throughs, Planning Director Paige reported that the City did not receive feedback in opposition to the proposal. Councilmember Hampton expressed concerns that drive-throughs would remove the community engagement element of dining. Planning Director Paige reported that the land use type was changed to allow for housing as a counter to the over concentration of drive-throughs in the area, which may offer more social interaction.

In response to Councilmember Masuda's inquiry regarding the distance between the drive-throughs, Jason Mikaelian, Deputy Planning Director, reported that there is a distance separation requirement for new drive-throughs, however, this specific plan does not allow for new drive-throughs. He added that the existing drive-throughs are clustered in one area because there was no previous distance requirement in place.

Councilmember Madison expressed the need for affordable housing opportunities. In response to his inquiry regarding the application of SB79 and impact on the North Lake Specific Plan, Planning Director Paige confirmed that City staff has interpreted that the legislation presently only applies to already established transit centers such as the Lake Station.

Discussion ensued regarding the potential impacts of SB79 and new transit-oriented developments on the North Lake corridors. Mayor Gordo advocated to agendize a discussion pertaining to all specific plans, the impacts of SB79, and how the City should approach the matter.

In response to Councilmember Cole's inquiry regarding reconciling the City's tree planning processes between different departments, Anita Serna, Principal Planner, reported that City departments are working collaboratively on amendments to the Master Street Tree Plan, which will allow for greater flexibility of planting the right tree in the right place, to increase biodiversity, prohibit specific trees in high fire zones, and provide for a tree design guideline.

The following individuals expressed support for the staff recommendations and/or provided comments related to the proposed North Lake Specific Plan:

Steve Preston, Pasadena Heritage
Justin Glover, Pasadena resident
Dr. Julianna Delgado, Pasadena resident
Annette Yasin, Bungalow Heaven Neighborhood Association
Martha Shenkenberg, Pasadena resident
Asher Vollmer, Pasadena resident
Joe Feinblatt, Pasadena resident
Sarah Lorenzen, Pasadena resident
Michael Canavan, Pasadena resident

Richard McDonald, representing owners on southwest corner of Lake and Washington Ave, expressed support for the proposed plan, while expressing concerns for not making the Specific Plan density consistent with the General Plan, which may create issues with the State density bonus law.

Greg Stanislawski, Pasadena resident, expressed concerns regarding impacts of the Specific Plan on his three parcels on the southwest corner of Lake and Washinton Ave.

Amy Deavoll, Pasadena resident, ask questions regarding the map on page 63 of the North Lake Specific Plan.

Councilmember Cole expressed his preference for Option 3 for the drive-through businesses that would allow for minor exterior changes and maintenance improvements, but prohibit exterior remodeling or rebuilding. He expressed concerns that Option 4 may increase traffic and affect neighborhood and community quality of life. He also suggested that the City dedicate significant staff time to identify capital and operating budget projects that invest in the North Lake area, allocate resources, and dedicate funds for outreach of businesses and property owners to explore a bid that will pay dividends in effort to spur private investment.

Councilmember Hampton echoed similar sentiments and advocated for the City to look into incentives to encourage development and to engage with property owners.

Councilmember Cole suggested that the City Council approve the staff recommendation, with amendments: prior to the adoption of the implementation ordinance, City staff assign the appropriate staff to report to the Economic Development and Technology Committee on opportunities for early capital, operating, and grant funding to jumpstart investment in placemaking and programmatic initiatives under the implementation section of the proposed plan; and to adopt Option 3 for the drive-through, as detailed above.

Mayor Gordo expressed concerns that Option 3 regarding the legal, non-conforming uses of fast-food drive-throughs and incorporating housing may potentially lead to dilapidated properties.

In response to Councilmember Madison's inquiry regarding the difference between Option 3 and Option 4 for the drive-through, Planning Director Paige reported that Option 3 is more restrictive than Option 4 because it does not allow for any exterior remodeling or rebuilding, however, building repairs would only be allowed under non-conforming provisions (i.e. damage due to natural disaster or fire). In response to the information, Councilmember Madison expressed his opposition to Option 3. He also advocated for the City to issue a request for proposals for housing developments on the large parcel (Kaiser property) owned by the City.

In response to Mayor Gordo's concerns regarding the City's discretion under Options 3 and 4 in terms of a Conditional Use Permit ("CUP") process, Director Paige reported that projects with a minor CUP and a full CUP can be called for review. She clarified that a full CUP has more noticing requirements and a mandatory hearing.

Mayor Gordo requested that City staff look into an amendment to allow businesses to apply for a CUP to access rights under Option 4 that would give the City staff an opportunity to advise the City Council on a specific project being called for review.

MOTION: It was moved by Councilmember Masuda, seconded by Councilmember Hampton, to close the public hearing.

AYES: Councilmembers Cole, Hampton, Jones, Madison, Masuda, Mayor Gordo
NOES: None
ABSENT: Councilmember Lyon and Vice Mayor Rivas
ABSTAIN: None

NOTE: Action on this item was bifurcated to consider a motion on Option 3 separate from a motion on the overall North Lake Specific Plan.

MOTION: Following discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Cole, seconded by Councilmember Jones, to approve Option 3 - *Adding drive-through businesses to the list of non-conforming uses (such as service stations) in the North Lake Specific Plan, which are prohibited from expanding or rebuilding. Only certain limited alterations are permitted (as outlined in the Zoning Code); and with direction to City staff to return with options addressing the possibility of allowing future expansion or rebuilding projects, while preserving the City's control on outcomes (i.e. utilizing the CUP process).*

AYES: Councilmembers Cole, Hampton, Jones, Masuda, Mayor Gordo
NOES: Councilmember Madison
ABSENT: Councilmember Lyon and Vice Mayor Rivas
ABSTAIN: None

MOTION:

Following discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Cole, seconded by Councilmember Jones, to approve the staff recommendation, with the following amendment: prior to the adoption of the implementation ordinance, direct City staff to assign the appropriate staff to report to the Economic Development and Technology Committee on opportunities for early capital, operating, and grant funding to jumpstart investment in placemaking and programmatic initiatives under the Implementation Section of the North Lake Specific Plan.

AYES: Councilmembers Cole, Hampton, Jones, Madison, Masuda, Mayor Gordo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Councilmember Lyon and Vice Mayor Rivas

ABSTAIN: None

NOTE: Both motions above related to the North Lake Specific Plan were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON
MATTERS NOT ON THE
AGENDA (CONT.)

The following individuals urged the City Council to reconsider the motion on the Safe Parking program and/or provided comments related to interim housing:

Sonja Berndt, Pasadena resident
James Maddox, Pasadena resident
Jill Shook, Pasadena resident
Michael Canavan, Pasadena resident

Yadi, Pasadena resident, expressed concerns regarding the cancelled Public Safety Committee meetings in 2025 and the shortened time limit for public comment for matters not on the agenda at the beginning of each City Council meeting.

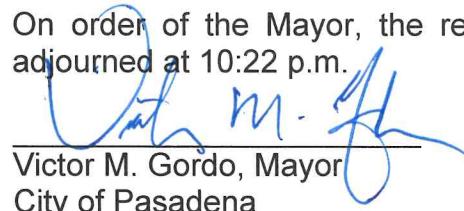
Councilmember Madison reported that he has requested the City Attorney's Office to look into bringing back the matter related to the Safe Parking program at All Saints Church so that he may participate in the discussion.

Councilmember Hampton expressed gratitude for City staff and the City Council and wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Councilmember Cole also expressed appreciation for City staff and his City Council colleagues.

ADJOURNMENT

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


Victor M. Gordo, Mayor
City of Pasadena

ATTEST:


City Clerk