

CITY OF PASADENA
City Council Minutes
July 13, 2026 – 5:00 P.M.
City Hall Council Chamber

UNOFFICIAL UNTIL
APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL

OPENING:

Mayor Gordo called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
(Absent: None)

CLOSED SESSION

On the order of the Mayor, the regular meeting recessed at 5:14 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: Buenaventura, E. v. City of Pasadena
Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 22STCV29629**

**CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE regarding public employee
employment pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(b)(1)
and 54957.6**

Position: City Manager

Agency Designated Representative: Victor M. Gordo

**CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE regarding public employee
performance evaluation pursuant to Government Code Section
54057(b)(1)**

Title: Interim City Manager

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

**(One case discussed with no reportable action taken at this time;
one case not discussed)*

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

**CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY
NEGOTIATORS pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8**

**Property Locations: 230 Wigmore Drive, 180 W. Glenarm
Avenue, 1175 Pasadena Avenue, and 163 State Street**

**Agency Negotiator: Matthew Hawkesworth, Interim City
Manager**

**Negotiating Party: Bryan Wong, Chief Executive Officer, San
Gabriel Valley Habitat for Humanity**

Under negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

**CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY
NEGOTIATORS pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8**

**Property: 78 N. Marengo Avenue (APNs 5723-026-902, 5723-026-
903 and 5723-026-900)**

Agency negotiator: Matthew E. Hawkesworth, Interim City Manager, or designee
Negotiating parties: Seibu Prince Hotels Worldwide, Ace Hotel Group
Under negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

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 closed session items were not discussed.

On the order of the Mayor, the regular meeting reconvened at 6:54 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was led by Councilmember Hampton.

ROLL CALL:

Councilmembers:

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

Staff:

Interim City Manager Matthew E. Hawkesworth
Chief Assistant City Attorney Arnold F. Lee
City Clerk Mark Jomsky

CEREMONIAL MATTERS

Mayor Gordo presented a proclamation recognizing the month of July 2026 as National Parks and Recreation Month and Parks Make Life Better Month. Pamela Cantero, Janine Andrade, and Jordan Grays, Parks Superintendents, all accepted the proclamation on behalf of the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services (PRCS) Department and thanked the City Council for the recognition. Parks Superintendent Cantero spoke on the importance of recreational services and provided details for the upcoming Parks After Dark summer event series.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Geoffrey Baum, Pasadena resident, announced his candidacy for Pasadena City College (PCC) Trustee and advocated for continued collaboration between the City and PCC.

The following individuals spoke on behalf of AFSCME Local 858 members, highlighted essential services provided by union members, advocated for a fair new labor contract, and/or provided other related comments:

Robert Montanez, Pasadena resident
Anthony Huerta, Pasadena resident
Andrew Duran, Pasadena resident

Ronnie Winn, Pasadena resident
Marcus Baisley, Pasadena resident

The following individuals thanked the City for working to protect the trees that were designated to be cut down by the Pasadena Unified School District ("PUSD") and enforcing the City's Tree Protection Ordinance, and/or providing related comments:

Brian Fulcher, Pasadena resident
Amanda Eliooff, Pasadena resident
Jessica Richards, Pasadena resident
Melissa Hoffs, residence not stated
Rene Gonzalez, Pasadena resident

Colin Campbell, South Pasadena resident, proposed that the City upgrade the City's Glenarm Power Plant systems to a portable fusion reactor using federal funds that his company has secured.

Kelly Brinkman, Pasadena resident, urged the City to enforce local health, building, and safety codes for the Caltrans properties, and to advocate for a fair and transparent process for the sale of Caltrans properties.

P.A. Brown, Pasadena 100, advocated for the City staff to provide an update on the funding and process to implement the additional 20 megawatts of solar to achieve the City's carbon free goals.

Dr. Lena Alsarraf, Pasadena resident, advocated for the City to establish a commercial vacancy tax to further subsidize affordable housing and homelessness prevention.

Mike Polka, Pasadena resident, expressed safety concerns regarding the PUSD ongoing tree removal activities.

CONSENT CALENDAR

**City Manager/ Executive
Director**

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A FIVE-YEAR CONTRACT WITH RUSH TRUCK CENTERS OF CALIFORNIA INC., FOR THE INSPECTION SERVICES AND REPAIRS FOR CNG TRUCKS AND SERVICE VEHICLES IN AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$872,708 (Public Works Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the proposed action 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) Award contract to lowest and best bid dated January 20, 2026, submitted by Rush Truck Centers of California, Inc., in response to bid specifications for Inspection, Services, and Repairs of CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) Trucks and Service Vehicles, and authorize the City Manager to enter into a five-year contract for a

total not-to-exceed amount of \$872,708, which includes the base contract amount of \$831,150 and a contingency of \$41,558 to provide any necessary change orders (Contract No. 33771); and
(3) Authorize the City Manager to approve within contract authority, amendments to the subject contract including durational extensions.

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH AME BUILDERS INC., DBA AME ROOFING FOR THE HILL AVE LIBRARY ROOF REPLACEMENT AND STRUCTURAL CONNECTIONS UPGRADE PROJECT FOR AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$838,116 (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, 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) Award contract to the lowest and best bid dated June 4, 2026 submitted by AME Builders Inc., dba AME Roofing in response to the bid specifications for the Hill Ave Library Roof Replacement and Structural Connections Upgrade project, and authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$838,116 which includes the base contract amount of \$698,430 and a contingency of \$139,686 to provide for any necessary change orders (Contract No. 33774); and

(3) Authorize the City Manager to approve within the contract authority, amendments to the subject contract including durational extensions.

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A FIVE-YEAR CONTRACT WITH WESTERN PUMP INC., FOR AUTHORIZED GASBOY SERVICE AND REPAIR FOR DISPENSERS AND WIRELESS NOZZLES AND ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURER PARTS IN AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$514,364 (Public Works Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

(1) Find that the proposed action 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) Award contract to lowest and best bid dated February 2, 2026, submitted by Western Pump, Inc., in response to the bid specifications for Authorized Gasboy Service and Repair for Dispensers, Wireless Nozzles, and Original Equipment Manufacturer Parts, and authorize the City Manager to enter into a five-year contract for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$514,364, which includes the base contract amount of \$489,870 and a

contingency of \$24,494 to provide any necessary change orders (Contract No. 33772); and

(3) Authorize the City Manager to approve within contract authority, amendments to the subject contract including durational extensions

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A FIVE-YEAR CONTRACT WITH BETTS COMPANY DBA BETTS TRUCK PARTS AND SERVICE FOR HEAVY-DUTY TRUCK SPRING, SUSPENSION, AND ALIGNMENT SERVICES IN AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$694,313 (Public Works Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

(1) Find that the proposed action 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) Award contract to lowest and best bid dated February 9, 2026, submitted by Betts Company DBA Betts Truck Parts and Service in response to the bid specifications for Heavy-Duty Truck Spring, Suspension, and Alignment Services, and authorize the City Manager to enter into a five-year contract for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$694,313, which includes the base contract amount of \$603,750 and a contingency of \$90,563 to provide any necessary change orders (Contract No. 33773); and

(3) Authorize the City Manager to approve within contract authority, amendments to the subject contract including durational extensions.

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH OCEAN BLUE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC., TO PROVIDE HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES FOR THE WATER AND POWER DEPARTMENT FOR AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$2,100,000 (Water & Power Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

(1) Find that the action proposed in the agenda report is categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to California Code of Regulations, 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, as a result of competitive selection process, as specified by Section 4.08.047 of the Pasadena Municipal Code, with Ocean Blue Environmental Services, Inc. ("Ocean Blue") to provide hazardous waste management and emergency response services for the Pasadena Water and Power Department for seven years for a grand total amount not-to-exceed \$2,100,000, which includes the option for two additional one-year extensions or an amount not-to-exceed

\$600,000, whichever occurs first, at the discretion of the City Manager. Competitive price bidding is not required pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(F) Contract for professional or unique services (Contract No. 33739); and

(3) Authorize the City Manager to approve no-cost amendments to the subject contract, including durational extensions.

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ARTISAN GRID SERVICES, INC., TO REPLACE THE CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT SYSTEM OPERATOR'S REMOTE INTELLIGENT GATEWAY AND METERS FOR THE WATER AND POWER DEPARTMENT FOR AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$425,000 (Water & Power 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 California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15301, Class 1 – Existing Facilities, Section 15302, Class 2 – Replacement or Reconstruction, and Section 15303, Class 3 – New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures, and that there are no features that distinguish this project from others in the exempt classes, and therefore, there are no unusual circumstances;

(2) Award contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bid dated June 8, 2026, submitted by Artisan Grid Services, Inc., in response to the project plans and specifications to replace the California Independent System Operator ("CAISO") Remote Intelligent Gateway and CAISO meters for the Water and Power Department, authorize the City Manager to enter into a two year contract for an amount not-to-exceed \$425,000, which includes the base contract amount of \$340,000 and a contingency of \$85,000 to provide for any necessary change orders (Contract No. 33737); and

(3) Authorize the City Manager to approve amendments to the subject contract including durational extensions.

Item discussed separately

APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF PASADENA AND THE PASADENA POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION FOR THE TERM OF JULY 1, 2026 - JUNE 30, 2029 (Human Resources Dept.)

Item discussed separately

APPROVE AN AMENDED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF PASADENA AND THE PASADENA POLICE LIEUTENANTS' ASSOCIATION FOR THE TERM OF JULY 1, 2024 - JUNE 30, 2028

FINANCE COMMITTEE: AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS WITH THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (METRO) TO ACCEPT METRO GRANT FUNDING FOR OPEN AND SLOW STREETS CYCLE 6 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500,000 TO HOST AN

OPEN STREETS EVENT IN 2026, TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH CICLAVIA, INC., TO PARTNER FOR THE 2026 EVENT, AND TO AMEND THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOT) FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2027 OPERATING BUDGET AND FY2027 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE \$240,000 LOCAL MATCH (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 Public Resources Code Section 21065 and within the meaning of State CEQA Guideline Section 15378(b);
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to execute all agreements with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) to accept the Cycle 6 Open and Slow Streets grant in an amount not-to-exceed \$500,000;
- (3) Authorize a contract, without competitive bidding pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(F), contracts for Professional or Unique Services for \$330,000, with CICLAVIA Inc., for the implementation and management of the program (Contract No. 33798);
- (4) Grant the proposed contract with CICLAVIA Inc., 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;
- (5) Authorize the City Manager to approve no-cost amendments to the subject contract, including durational extensions and necessary change orders;
- (6) Amend DOT's FY2027 Operating Budget by recognizing and appropriating \$83,385 of TDA Article 3 funding for the local match; and
- (7) Amend the FY 2027 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget to replace General Fund in the amount of \$69,745 from the Pasadena Bicycle Program (75917) and in the amount of \$86,870 from the Pedestrian Crossing Enhancements Program FY2021-FY2028 (75112) with Transportation Improvement Fee (TIF) funds in the same amount, and allocate \$156,615 of General Fund to the DOT FY27 Operating Budget for the local match of the Open and Slow Streets Program Cycle 6 Grant as detailed in the agenda report. (Budget Amendment No. 2027-03)

In response to Councilmember Cole's inquiry, Joaquin Siques, Transportation Director, reported that the grant was specifically awarded to develop a multimodal connection between Memorial Park Station, Old Pasadena, and the Rose Bowl as part of the transportation planning related to future potential routes for the LA 2028 Olympics.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ALL AGREEMENTS WITH LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (METRO) FOR THE RECEIPT \$674,769 IN FEDERAL TRANSIT

ADMINISTRATION (FTA) SECTION 5310 GRANT FUNDS FOR THE PASADENA DIAL-A-RIDE MOBILITY MANAGEMENT PROJECT AND PASADENA MYSTERY RIDER PROGRAM (Transportation Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the proposed action 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 15301 of the State CEQA Guidelines, and as such, no environmental document pursuant to CEQA is required; and
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to execute all agreements with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) associated with the receipt of \$674,769 in reimbursable Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 grant funding for the implementation of the City of Pasadena Mobility Management Program supporting the Pasadena Dial-A-Ride program.

Item discussed separately

FINANCE COMMITTEE: AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS TO ACCEPT \$2,400,000 IN METRO ZERO-EMISSION VEHICLE GRANT FUNDS, AMEND CONTRACT 31918 WITH CONNEXIONZ LTD., BY INCREASING THE NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT BY \$1,757,342 FOR ONBOARD TECHNOLOGY ON THE PASADENA PUBLIC TRANSIT FLEET, AND AMEND THE FY 2027 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BUDGET (Transportation Dept.)

FINANCE COMMITTEE: AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES (CAL OES) AGREEMENT NO. A231012258-A2 AND AMEND THE FIRE DEPARTMENT'S FISCAL YEAR 2027 ADOPTED OPERATING BUDGET (PFD)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council

- (1) Find that the proposed action 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 execute Amendment No. 2 to Agreement No. A231012258 with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) for Regional Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Response Training and Exercise Reimbursement to increase the total contract value from \$247,200 to \$324,450 and extend the period of performance through June 30, 2028; and
- (3) Amend the Fire Department's Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Operating Budget as detailed in the following report by increasing revenues and appropriations by \$77,250. (Budget Amendment No. 2027-04)

City Council

**APPOINTMENTS,
REAPPOINTMENTS, &**

APPOINTMENT OF CHRISTOPHER GUERRERO TO THE NORTHWEST COMMISSION (District 7 Nomination)

RESIGNATIONS

RESIGNATION OF TUNISIA OFFRAY FROM THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION (District 7 Nomination)

City Clerk/ Secretary

MINUTES APPROVED

May 18, 2026	City Council
May 18, 2026	Successor Agency to the Pasadena Community Development Commission
May 25, 2026	City Council
May 25, 2026	Successor Agency to the Pasadena Community Development Commission
June 1, 2026	City Council
June 1, 2026	Successor Agency to the Pasadena Community Development Commission
June 8, 2026	City Council
June 8, 2026	Successor Agency to the Pasadena Community Development Commission

CLAIMS RECEIVED AND FILED

Claim No.	Claimant	Claim Amount
2026-0292	Victory Bible Church of Pasadena	\$ 6,683.60
2026-0293	Vincent D. Pagan	35,000.00+
2026-0294	Duplicate of Claim No 2026-0243	N/A
2026-0295	Ava Lightwood	126.70
2026-0296	Deborah R. Toga	800.00
2026-0297	David Salamanyan	10,000.00+
2026-0298	Duplicate of Claim No 2026-0243	N/A
2026-0299	Cal Land Engineering & Associates, Inc.	579.46
2026-0300	Daniel Alejandro Sanchez	35,000.00+
2026-0301	Leonardo Sanchez	35,000.00+
2026-0302	Luis Sanchez	35,000.00+
2026-0303	Tati Sanchez	35,000.00+
2026-0304	Angelica Sanchez	35,000.00+
2026-0305	Dominic Sanchez	35,000.00+
2026-0306	Sofia Sanchez	35,000.00+
2026-0307	Matthew Sanchez	35,000.00+
2027-0001	John & Roxanne Basso	10,000.00+
2027-0002	Ryan Hiosvany Muina	5,902.87
2027-0003	Spectral Imaging Laboratory	10,000.00+
2027-0004	R. Saenz Construction Inc.	35,000.00+
2027-0005	CSM OBO USAA aso Raul Cervantes Jr, Blanca Salazar-Cervantes	10,000.00+
2027-0006	Emmanuel Sison Dlamante	10,000.00+
2027-0007	Subro Claims obo GEICO a/s/o Virab Mirzoian	5,089.51

PUBLIC HEARING SET

July 20, 2026, 6:00 p.m. – Consideration of an Uncodified Ordinance to Repeal Uncodified Interim Urgency Ordinance Nos. 7455 & 7457 that Prohibit Senate Bill 9 Applications within a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone in the Boundary of the Eaton Fire

MOTION:

It was moved by Councilmember Hampton, seconded by Councilmember Lyon, to approve all items on the Consent Calendar, with the exception of items 7, 8, and 11. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: None)

CONSENT ITEMS
DISCUSSED
SEPARATELY

APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF PASADENA AND THE PASADENA POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION FOR THE TERM OF JULY 1, 2026 - JUNE 30, 2029 (Human Resources Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the proposed action in the agenda report is exempt from the California Public Resources Code ("PRC") Section 21065 and within the meaning of California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") Guidelines Section 15378(b); and
- (2) Approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Pasadena (City) and the Pasadena Police Officers Association (PPOA) for the term of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029. (Contract No. 24,459)

APPROVE AN AMENDED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF PASADENA AND THE PASADENA POLICE LIEUTENANTS ASSOCIATION FOR THE TERM OF JULY 1, 2024 - JUNE 30, 2028 (Human Resources Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the proposed action in the agenda report is exempt from the California Public Resources Code ("PRC") Section 21065 and within the meaning of California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") Guidelines Section 15378(b); and
- (2) Approve an amended Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Pasadena (City) and the Pasadena Police Lieutenants Association (PPLA) for the term of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2028. (Contract No. 24,460)

The following individuals expressed concerns with the proposed recommendations citing a lack of public transparency and justification for the recommended salary increases, advocated for other more urgent priorities, and/or provided other related comments:

Sonja Berndt, Pasadena resident
Humaira, Pasadena resident
Anthony Manousos, Pasadena resident
Yadi, Pasadena resident

Councilmembers Cole and Hampton noted the importance of providing additional context in staff reports and suggested providing more substantive information so the public can better understand the rationale for proposed labor agreements.

Councilmember Madison and Mayor Gordo expressed support for the proposed labor agreements, emphasizing the importance of maintaining public safety through the retention of high-quality employees, and citing prior issues when the City lost numerous police officers to neighboring agencies due to below-market compensation levels.

MOTION:

Following discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Masuda, seconded by Councilmember Madison, to approve the staff recommendations for Consent Calendar Items 7 and 8. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: None)

FINANCE COMMITTEE: AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS TO ACCEPT \$2,400,000 IN METRO ZERO-EMISSION VEHICLE GRANT FUNDS, AMEND CONTRACT 31918 WITH CONNEXIONZ LTD., BY INCREASING THE NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT BY \$1,757,342 FOR ONBOARD TECHNOLOGY ON THE PASADENA PUBLIC TRANSIT FLEET, AND AMEND THE FY 2027 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BUDGET (Transportation Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council

- (1) Find that the proposed actions in the agenda report do not constitute 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 15301 of the State CEQA Guidelines, and as such, no environmental document pursuant to CEQA is required, with the exception of the bus stop enhancements, which are found to be categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15301, Class 1 – Existing Facilities, and that there are no features that distinguish the bus stop enhancements from other projects in the exempt class, and therefore, there are no unusual circumstances;
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to enter into all agreements with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) associated with the receipt of \$2,400,000 in Metro Zero-Emission Call for Project grant funding for the Pasadena Transit Hydrogen Fuel Cell Bus Procurement Cost Adjustment Project;
- (3) Amend the Fiscal Year 2027 Capital Improvement Program Budget, as detailed in the Fiscal Impact section of the agenda report;
- (4) Authorize the City Manager to amend Contract No. 31918 with Connexionz Ltd., by adding \$1,757,342, increasing the not-to-exceed amount to \$3,155,951, for the purchase of onboard technology for the Pasadena public transit fleet, which includes a base amount of \$2,996,193 and a contingency of \$159,758 (5.3%) to provide for any necessary change orders;

(5) To the extent the amendments to Contract No. 31918 could be considered a separate procurement subject to the Competitive Selection Process, grant an exemption pursuant to Pasadena Municipal Code (PMC) Section 4.08.049(B), contracts for which the City's best interests are served. Competitive price bidding is not required pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(F) contracts for professional or unique services; and

(6) Authorize the City Manager to approve no-cost amendments to Contract No. 31918 including durational extensions and necessary change orders.

Mayor Gordo announced that following their discussion, the Finance Committee agreed to bifurcate the motion for the item above: 1) to accept the grant funds (staff recommendations 1 and 2), and 2) defer action on the remaining recommendations related to transit technology issues to be reviewed by the Municipal Services Committee.

City Clerk Jomsky noted that the recommendation from the Finance Committee is to approve staff recommendations 1 and 2 tonight, with staff recommendations 3 – 6 to be deferred to the July 20, 2026 City Council meeting, following the discussion of the short-range transit plan at the Municipal Services Committee meeting on July 14, 2026.

MOTION:

It was moved by Councilmember Cole, seconded by Councilmember Masuda, to approve staff recommendations 1 and 2 tonight, with staff recommendations 3 – 6 to be deferred to the July 20, 2026 City Council meeting, following the discussion of the short-range transit plan by the Municipal Services Committee meeting on July 14, 2026. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: None)

**RECOMMENDATIONS
FROM OFFICERS AND
DEPARTMENTS**

City Clerk

**ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE
"CERTIFICATE OF THE CANVASS OF THE ELECTION
RETURNS" AS PREPARED AND CERTIFIED BY THE LOS
ANGELES COUNTY REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK
FOR THE PASADENA PRIMARY MUNICIPAL ELECTION
CONSOLIDATED WITH THE JUNE 2, 2026 STATEWIDE
PRIMARY ELECTION**

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

(1) Find that the proposed action in the agenda report is not a project subject to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as defined in Section 21065 and Section 15378 of the State CEQA Guidelines, and as such, no environmental document pursuant to CEQA is required for the project; and

(2) Adopt a resolution accepting the "Certificate of the Canvass of the Election Returns" (Exhibit A to the resolution) as prepared and certified by the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk for the Pasadena Primary Municipal Election, consolidated with the Statewide Primary Election held on June 2, 2026 declaring the following persons, receiving a majority of the votes cast, are

elected to the following offices, each for a full term of 4 years
(Resolution No. 10201):

Justin L. Jones	Member of the City Council, District 3
Jessica Rivas	Member of the City Council, District 5
Jason Lyon	Member of the City Council, District 7

The City Council congratulated the Councilmembers Jones and Lyon, and Vice Mayor Rivas for their successful re-election campaigns.

MOTION:

It was moved by Vice Mayor Rivas, seconded by Councilmember Jones, to approve the staff recommendation. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: None)

OLD BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FROM VICE MAYOR RIVAS TO CALL FOR REVIEW A HEARING OFFICER'S DECISION TO THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS REGARDING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 7100 AND CERTIFICATE OF EXCEPTION NO. 449, LOCATED AT 1453 AND 1467 NORTH LAKE AVENUE AND 874 LADERA STREET (Vice Mayor Rivas)

Vice Mayor Rivas provided introductory comments on the item and reported that City staff met with residents to discuss the conditions imposed by the hearing officer. She recommended for City staff and residents to focus and resolve remaining issues through an appeal to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

The following individuals expressed support for the call for review and provided comments regarding the safety concerns for the events that occur at the location:

Brad Tesan, Pasadena resident
Nathaniel Peterson-More, Pasadena resident
Rose Malmberg, Pasadena resident
Gricelda Valenzuela, Pasadena resident

Armen Gharehbagloo, Applicant and Pasadena resident, stated that his business has complied with the conditions imposed by the hearing officer and has worked to address residents' concerns, and spoke in opposition to the call for review.

Nisha Kuttothara, Pasadena resident, expressed appreciation for the business and their support for neighbors during the Eaton Fire.

Vice Mayor Rivas acknowledged the importance of having successful businesses in the North Lake area, while recognizing the need for businesses to coexist with adjacent neighbors/residents.

MOTION:

It was moved by Vice Mayor Rivas, seconded by Councilmember Lyon, to approve a call for review of the matter by the Board of Zoning Appeals. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: None)

**REPORTS AND
COMMENTS FROM
COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

Finance Committee

**REVIEW OF CITY REVENUE SOURCES AND OPTIONS FOR
REVENUE ENHANCEMENTS FOR THE GENERAL FUND**
(Finance 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 Sections 15060(c) and 15378(b);
- (2) Direct City staff on the preparation of any necessary resolutions to place one or more tax measures on November 3, 2026, General Municipal Election ballot for the City of Pasadena;
- (3) Direct City staff on the preparation of a separate supplemental voter information pamphlet to send to voters in the City of Pasadena for all related City of Pasadena ballot measures for the November 3, 2026, General Municipal Election; and
- (4) Direct City staff to hold a meeting on July 27 or August 3 to approve the final documents for submission before the August 7, 2026, deadline.

Interim City Manager Hawkesworth and Karin Schnaider, Finance Director, provided a PowerPoint presentation on various potential revenue measures available through local taxes or bond measures, and reported on the types of dedicated services that might be funded through new revenue efforts.

Councilmember Hampton stated that he is generally opposed to imposing new taxes but acknowledged that declining revenue and increasing operational costs require the City to evaluate revenue sources to maintain quality municipal services. He expressed support for a parking tax, noting that benefits may come from the large volume of commuters and visitors that come to Pasadena, and a well-framed parcel tax that outlines specific uses of the revenue, which may garner community support.

Councilmember Jones expressed support for exploring a parcel tax to generate funds for fire facility improvements, and indicated interest in including streets/sidewalk improvements as part of the dedicated services to be funded by such a parcel tax.

Councilmember Masuda expressed support for exploring a transaction and use tax, as well as a parcel tax.

In response to Councilmember Lyon’s inquiry regarding whether City staff had preliminary information regarding the level of public’s support for a voter tax, Interim City Manager Hawkesworth reported that previous community outreach gauging priorities has indicated

strong support for fire-related investments, moderate support for street improvements, and continued interest in affordable housing and homelessness services.

Councilmember Madison stated his preference to focus on a single ballot measure rather than multiple measures due to the difficulty of securing voter approval, expressed support for a parcel tax over a sales tax, noting that a sales tax may be more regressive. He advocated for the proposed ballot measure to indicate necessity for a city-owned, city-operated Fire Department headquarters and a fire training center.

The following individuals expressed support for placing a property transfer tax on the November 2026 ballot, with the funds dedicated to affordable housing opportunities and supportive housing for unhoused individuals, and/or provided other related comments:

Sonja Berndt, Pasadena resident
Bert Newton, Pasadena resident
Humaira, Pasadena resident
Dr. Lena AlSarra, Pasadena resident
Yadi, Pasadena resident
Jill Shook, Pasadena resident

P.A. Brown, Pasadena resident, expressed support for a property transfer tax for affordable housing and homeless services, as well as a parcel tax dedicated to fire prevention.

Anthony Manousos, Pasadena resident, suggested using parking tax revenues to fund the safe parking program and expressed support for new taxes if revenues are dedicated to affordable housing and homeless services.

Rian Barrett, Pasadena Foothills Association of Realtors, urged the City Council to consider the cumulative financial impact of multiple local tax measures on top of existing taxes.

The following individuals expressed support for placing a measure on the November 2026 ballot to fund Fire Department priorities:

Christiaan Miller, Pasadena Firefighter Management Association
Raffy Bitchakdjian, Pasadena Firefighter Management Association

Daniel Powell, Pasadena resident, spoke on the financial burden of existing taxes and encouraged the City to prioritize cost savings and operational efficiencies before seeking additional taxes.

Adam Bray-Ali, Pasadena resident, spoke in opposition to a property transfer tax, noting the failures of Los Angeles' Measure ULA.

Donna Sider, Pasadena resident, urged the City Council to evaluate budget priorities before seeking additional taxes, and expressed support for a property transfer tax.

Councilmember Lyon reflected on the City Council's previously established priorities and noted that adequate progress has not been made on fire infrastructure. He expressed support for a property tax funding measure dedicated to fire services and infrastructure.

Vice Mayor Rivas expressed reluctance to place any measure on the November 2026 ballot and suggested spending the next year studying options, however, she expressed support for a narrowly focused measure to support the City's Fire Department infrastructure and training needs.

Councilmember Madison expressed opposition to implementing a transfer tax, citing concerns about its structure and equity, and voiced support for a parcel tax that distributes costs more equitably by requiring all property owners to contribute.

Councilmember Cole reiterated support for a parcel tax dedicated to fire station modernization, earthquake preparedness, and emergency response capacity. He suggested that a transfer tax be studied and discussed at a later time.

Mayor Gordo expressed agreement with placing a measure on the November 2026 ballot focusing exclusively on fire infrastructure. He acknowledged that housing and homelessness remain important City priorities but viewed fire infrastructure as requiring more immediate action.

Councilmember Hampton reiterated his preference for a parking tax dedicated to funding street and sidewalk improvements to the ballot. Relatedly, Councilmember Lyon expressed opposition to placing multiple tax measures on the ballot noting that it may jeopardize achieving the required two-thirds voter approval needed for a parcel tax measure.

Councilmember Cole made a motion to direct City staff to prepare a ballot measure for a parcel tax and develop as much as possible a "finer grained" expenditure plan. Councilmember Madison reiterated his request for the measure to incorporate funding for the fire station renovations, a new fire station, a City-owned headquarters, and a fire training center.

In response to Councilmember Hampton's request for additional information on the proposed parking tax, Interim City Manager Hawkesworth reported that the proposal is for a 10% tax on off-street paid parking, where parking operators could either absorb the tax or pass the cost on to customers. Interim City Manager Hawkesworth also reported that City staff is recommending for the exemption framework be designated later via resolution instead of a ballot measure to allow flexibility for refinement in the future.

MOTION:

It was moved by Councilmember Cole, seconded by Councilmember Madison, to approve the staff recommendation, with direction to City staff to prepare election resolutions related to a parcel tax ballot measure and develop a "finer grained" expenditure plan as possible.

AYES: Councilmembers Cole, Hampton, Jones, Lyon,
Madison, Masuda, Vice Mayor Rivas, Mayor Gordo

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Following further discussion, Councilmembers Cole and Hampton advocated for City staff to return to the City Council with additional information on a potential parking tax ballot measure as well. Councilmember Madison expressed support for studying alternative taxation methods in the future, but spoke in opposition to a parking tax measure, emphasizing the need to build consensus around the proposed parcel tax for fire infrastructure and safety. Councilmember Cole clarified that the intention is only a request for additional information.

On the order of the Mayor, with consensus of the City Council, direction was given to City staff to return with additional information on a potential parking tax for further City Council discussion at the July 22, 2026 City Council meeting.

**ORDINANCE – FIRST
READING**

Councilmember Jones left
the meeting at 10:04 p.m.

Conduct first reading of "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA AUTHORIZING THE SETTING OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2026-27 TAX RATE FOR THE CITY'S GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS (CENTRAL LIBRARY PROJECT) APPROVED BY THE VOTERS AT THE NOVEMBER 5, 2024 STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION AND REQUESTING AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES TO LEVY A TAX ON ALL REAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF PASADENA AS A VOTER APPROVED LEVY WITH RESPECT TO SAID BONDS"

The ordinance above was introduced by Councilmember Madison:

AYES: Councilmembers Cole, Hampton, Lyon, Madison,
Masuda, Vice Mayor Rivas, Mayor Gordo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Councilmember Jones
ABSTAIN: None

**ORDINANCE – SECOND
READING**

Adopt “AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA AMENDING PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 2, ARTICLES III AND IV TO UPDATE PROVISIONS REGARDING TERM LIMITS AND TRAINING OF MEMBERS OF ADVISORY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES AND BOARDS OF OPERATING COMPANIES CREATED BY CITY COUNCIL”

Councilmember Hampton reported that after reflecting on correspondence and feedback that received from his constituents, he is no longer supportive of the ordinance.

Councilmember Madison expressed concerns regarding clarity in the staff report and requested that City staff provide a new fact sheet when the item returns in the future.

MOTION:

It was moved by Councilmember Cole, seconded by Councilmember Lyon, to table the item until the July 22, 2026 City Council meeting, when a full City Council is present.

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

ADJOURNMENT

On order of the Mayor, the regular meeting of the City Council adjourned at 10:09 p.m.

Victor M. Gordo, Mayor
City of Pasadena

ATTEST:

City Clerk