CITY OF PASADENA
City Council Minutes
September 29, 2026 – 5:00 P.M.
City Hall Council Chamber

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 5:10 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 WITH LEGAL COUNSEL regarding pending litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)
Name of Case: Ana Rivera v. City of Pasadena, et al.
Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 24NNCV03205

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

CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL regarding pending litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)
Name of Case: Pasadena Unified School District v. City of Pasadena
Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 26STCP02735

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 closed session items were not discussed.

On the order of the Mayor, the regular meeting reconvened at 6:24 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
City Attorney/City Prosecutor Michele Beal Bagneris
City Clerk Mark Jomsky

CEREMONIAL MATTERS

Mayor Gordo issued a proclamation declaring October 2026 as Walktober and Pedestrian Safety Month in the City of Pasadena, and spoke on the benefits of walkable City. Jenny Cristales-Cevallos, Deputy Director of Transportation, and Tina Machado, Senior Planner, gratefully accepted the recognition, and spoke on the joint work of Day One and Complete Streets Coalition. Councilmember Hampton requested that the matter of reducing speed limits in school zones be agendized for City Council discussion.

Mayor Gordo announced that Pasadena's Fire Department (PFD) received the Mission: Lifeline EMS – GOLD Achievement Award from the American Heart Association, and spoke on two recent heroic life-saving efforts that occurred recently due to the City's new policy to allow firefighters to carry and administer blood in the field. Doreen Palaha, AHA representative, presented the Award to the PFD and Huntington Health, and commended their dedication to strengthening and improving patient outcomes in Pasadena. Chad Augustin, Fire Chief, accepted the award on behalf of PFD and Huntington Health, and spoke on the importance of training and coordination in order to make a difference.

Councilmember Jones requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Dr. Mel Beech, former Pasadena Unified School District teacher, Deputy Superintendent, and Human Relations Commissioner. The City Council also spoke on Dr. Beech's commitment to education and the betterment of the community.

Councilmember Cole reported on his attendance at the League of California Cities Annual Conference & Expo in Anaheim, September 23-25, 2026, as the City's voting delegate. He noted that the convention considered a proposal related to affordable housing, which was passed with overwhelming support.

Mayor Gordo reported on a trip he attended, along with Councilmember Lyon and Councilmember Madison, to Denver, Colorado, to visit and meet with the City leaders involved in the renovation of Union Station in Denver, and discussing strategies that may be applicable to the City's 710 stub project.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

The following individuals expressed support for the City's decision to end the lease with Rose Bowl Riders, expressed concerns regarding

the new management at Myrtle Hill Farms, and/or provided other related comments:

Regina Colombo, Pasadena Equestrian Center
Sofia Sotomayor, Pasadena Equestrian Center
Abigail Jones, Pasadena Equestrian Center
Krista Noel, Pasadena Equestrian Center
Diane Bergman, Pasadena resident

The following individuals, urged the City to assist in identifying an alternative kitchen space or financial assistance for micro business food entrepreneurs who are losing access to their commercial kitchen, and the need for expedited permitting:

Robert Monzon, Pasadena/Altadena Coalition of Transformative Leaders ("PACTL")
Alfonso Rodalez, PACTL
Dionicio Yanez, PACTL
Alvaro Rojas, PACTL
Pedro N. Sanchez, PACTL
Yoland Trevino, PACTL
Elianne Rodriguez, representing LEEAF

The following individuals expressed concerns regarding mold and water damage occurring at the Summit Grove affordable housing project and urged the City to assist with remediation:

Jessica Claire, Pasadena resident
Eric Tai, Pasadena resident
Jose Hernandez, Pasadena resident

Kelly Brinkman, Pasadena resident, urged the City Council to continue supporting AB2329 and advocating for residents living in Caltrans properties.

Chikodili Udengwu, Pasadena resident, spoke on unresolved missing persons reports and requested that the City Council provide urgent assistance with these matters.

Yadi, Pasadena resident, expressed concerns regarding privacy and reliability of Flock camera technology.

Topher Mathers, Pasadena resident, provided comments on an upcoming heatwave and urged the City to extend the operating season/hours of at least one splash pad.

CONSENT CALENDAR

City Manager/ Executive Director

ADOPT THE 2026 UPDATE TO THE PASADENA WATER AND POWER PHYSICAL SECURITY PLAN (Water & Power 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 Public Resources Code Section 21065 and within the meaning of State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378; and

(2) Adopt the 2026 update to the Pasadena Water and Power ("PWP") Physical Security Plan in compliance with California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC") Decision D.19-01-018.

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH SOUTH COAST FIRE EQUIPMENT, INC., FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 2026 PIERCE ENFORCER TRACTOR DRAWN AERIAL LADDER TRUCK FOR A TOTAL OF $2,523,364 (Fire Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

(1) Find that the project proposed in the agenda report is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), the "Common Sense" exemption that CEQA applies only to projects that may have an effect on the environment;

(2) Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with South Coast Fire Equipment, Inc., for the purchase of one 2026 Pierce Enforcer Tractor Drawn Aerial Ladder Truck in an amount not-to-exceed $2,523,364. Neither Competitive Bidding nor Competitive Selection are required pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(h) and Pasadena Municipal Code Section 4.08.049(A)(3), contracts with other governmental entities. (P.O. per staff)

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH SUPPLYMATES, LLC TO PROVIDE OFFICE SUPPLIES FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED $369,639 OVER FIVE YEARS WITH TWO OPTIONAL ONE-YEAR EXTENSIONS (Public Health 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 Public Resources Code Section 21065 and within the meaning of State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378; and

(2) Award contract to lowest and best bid dated May 13, 2026, submitted by Supplymates, LLC in response to the specifications for office supplies for the Public Health Department and authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract for an amount of $264,028 for five years with two optional one-year extensions, at the discretion of the City Manager, for a total amount not-to-exceed $369,639. (Contract No. 33880)

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A FIVE-YEAR CONTRACT WITH AFFORDABLE GENERATOR SERVICES INC., FOR STATIONARY AND PORTABLE GENERATOR MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR SERVICES IN AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED $757,845 (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 August 17, 2026, submitted by Affordable Generator Services, Inc., in response to the bid specifications for Stationary and Portable Generator Maintenance and Repair Services, and authorize the City Manager to enter into a five-year contract for a total not-to-exceed amount of $757,845, which includes the base contract amount of $688,950 and a contingency of $68,895 to provide any necessary change orders (Contract No. 33874); and
(3) Authorize the City Manager to approve within contract authority, amendments to the subject contract including durational extensions.

APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF PASADENA AND THE LABORERS INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA FOR THE TERM OF JULY 1, 2026 - JUNE 30, 2029 (Human Resources Dept.)

ADOPT THE SALARY RESOLUTIONS FOR NON-REPRESENTED MANAGEMENT AND EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES (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 Section 21065 and within the meaning of California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") Guidelines Section 15378(b);
(2) Adopt the Non-Represented Management Salary Resolution (Resolution No. 10212); and
(3) Adopt the Executive Management Salary Resolution. (Resolution No. 10213)

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GOVERNMENTJOBS.COM INC., DBA NEOGOV FOR AN ONLINE APPLICANT TRACKING AND EMPLOYEE ONBOARDING SYSTEM FOR UP TO SEVEN YEARS FOR AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED $961,876 (Human Resources Department)
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 Section 21065 and within the meaning of California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") Guidelines Section 15378(b); and
(2) Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract, as a result of a competitive selection process, as specified in Section 4.08.047 of the Pasadena Municipal Code, with GovernmentJobs.com Inc, DBA NEOGOV for an online applicant tracking and employee onboarding system for a total amount not-to-exceed $589,579 over a five-year term, with two optional one-year extension periods that may be exercised concurrently, and a contingency of $87,443. The combined value of the optional extension periods is not-to-exceed

$961,876. Competitive bidding is not required pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(F), contracts for professional or unique services. (Contract No. 33872)

City Council

APPOINTMENTS, REAPPOINTMENTS, & RESIGNATIONS

REQUEST TO ALLOW COMMISSIONER ANDREA EDORIA (WHO HAS MOVED OUT OF PASADENA) TO CONTINUE TO SERVE ON THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION THROUGH END OF CURRENT TERM PURSUANT TO PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 2.45.020 (District 2)

APPOINTMENT OF ARPIE MIKAELIAN TO THE RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION (District 2 Nomination)

REAPPOINTMENT OF PATRICK CABRAL TO THE CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION (District 1 Nomination)

REAPPOINTMENT OF ZIANDRY PERALTA TO THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (District 1 Nomination)

REAPPOINTMENT OF COLIN BOGART TO THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMISSION (District 1 Nomination)

City Clerk/ Secretary

MINUTES APPROVED

August 24, 2026	City Council Special Meeting
August 24, 2026	City Council
August 24, 2026	Successor Agency to the Pasadena Community Development Commission
August 31, 2026	City Council
August 31, 2026	Successor Agency to the Pasadena Community Development Commission
September 7, 2026	City Council
September 7, 2026	Successor Agency to the Pasadena Community Development Commission
September 8, 2026	City Council Special Meeting
September 14, 2026	City Council
September 14, 2026	Successor Agency to the Pasadena Community Development Commission
September 15, 2026	City Council
September 15, 2026	Successor Agency to the Pasadena Community Development Commission
September 22, 2026	City Council
September 22, 2026	Successor Agency to the Pasadena Community Development Commission

CLAIMS RECEIVED AND FILED

Claim No.	Claimant	Claim Amount
2027-0061	Zaniya Ana Flood	$ 100.00
2027-0062	Devin Robert Brown	3,200.00
2027-0063	Guillermo Cardenas	35,000.00+

2027-0064	Arvin J. Stodick	3,500.00
2027-0065	Michael J. Haggins	10,000.00+
2027-0066	Nadev Heyman	8,000.00
2027-0067	Priscila Anahi Uribe	70.64
2027-0068	AAA	8,058.45
2027-0069	Mercury Insurance	10,000.00+
2027-0070	Steven Ambuul	5,000.00
2027-0071	Duplicate of Claim No. 2027-0065	N/A
2027-0072	Daniel Nathaniel Manning	35,000.00+
2027-0073	Catherina Macias	35,000.00+

As required by the California Brown Act, prior to taking action on the motion, Mayor Gordo reported information related to Consent Calendar Item 6 regarding compensation increase for the Police Chief and the Deputy Police Chief.

MOTION: It was moved by Councilmember Masuda, seconded by Vice Mayor Rivas, to approve all items on the Consent Calendar, with the exception of Item 5. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: None)

CONSENT ITEMS DISCUSSED SEPARATELY

Mayor Gordo stated a conflict of interest with Item 5, recused himself from the item, and left the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF PASADENA AND THE LABORERS INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA 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 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 Laborers International Union of North America (LIUNA) for the term of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029. (Contract No. 24,537)

MOTION: It was moved by Councilmember Hampton, seconded by Councilmember Cole, to approve the staff recommendation. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: Mayor Gordo)

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Gordo returned to the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

HOUSING, HOMELESSNESS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE: APPROVE THE SUBMISSION OF THE PROGRAM YEAR 25 CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION REPORT (CAPER) FOR PROJECTS FUNDED FROM COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT, EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT, AND HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP ACT PROGRAMS (Housing Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

(1) Find that the recommended actions in the agenda report are 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 Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4) and (5); and

(2) After the public hearing, approve the submission to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development of the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report for projects completed in the 2025 Program Year under the Community Development Block Grant, Emergency Solutions Grant, and the HOME Investment Partnership Act programs which assist low to moderate income individuals and families and address community development, affordable housing and homelessness needs.

City Clerk Jomsky reported that the public hearing notice was published on September 14, 2026 in the Pasadena Press, and that one letter expressing concerns with the staff recommendation and advocating for additional funding to prioritize the homeless crisis in the City was received by the City Clerk's office, distributed to the City Council, posted online, and made part of the public record for this item.

Peter Smith, Pasadena resident, urged the City to address building defects and funding shortfalls affecting residents at the Summit Grove affordable housing units.

MOTION: It was moved by Councilmember Hampton, seconded by Councilmember Cole, to close the public hearing. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: None)

Councilmember Cole urged City staff to focus not only on federal compliance, but also on measurable outcomes related to affordable housing.

In response to Councilmember Hampton's inquiry regarding grants that could support homelessness-prevention efforts and promote economic stability, Randy Mabson, Program Coordinator, reported that while these funds cannot be utilized for these purposes, such a program may be considered during next year's funding allocation.

MOTION: It was moved by Councilmember Hampton, seconded by Councilmember Cole, to approve the staff recommendation. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: None)

REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Public Safety Committee

APPROVE MILITARY EQUIPMENT ANNUAL REPORT, AUTHORIZATION OF ENERGY ASSISTED BREACHING, UPDATED UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS (UAS) DEPLOYMENT, AND RENEWAL OF EXISTING MILITARY EQUIPMENT (PPD)

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) Find that each type of military equipment identified in the Pasadena Police Department (PPD) July 2025 through June 2026 Annual Military Equipment Report has complied with the standards for approval set forth in the PPD Military Equipment Policy 711 and Government Code Section 7070 et seq.;
(3) Authorize the PPD SWAT team to use Energy Assisted Breaching (EAB), when appropriate and consistent with PPD Policy 409;
(4) Authorize the updated use of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) for public safety operations consistent with PPD Policy 622;
(5) Confirm that authorization of UAS consistent with Policy 622 does not constitute authorization for the acquisition of new UAS equipment outside of scheduled replacement equipment. Any acquisition of additional UAS equipment outside of scheduled replacement equipment will require approval of City Council and is subject to the applicable AB481 process; and
(6) Approve the continued use of the currently authorized military equipment by renewing Ordinance no. 7395 pursuant to Government Code Section 7071(e)(1).

Interim City Manager Hawkesworth provided introductory comments on the item. Vice Mayor Rivas, Chair of the Public Safety Committee (PSC), provided a brief recap on the discussion held by PSC, and noted the Committee's decision to bifurcate the staff recommendations. She also expressed opposition to the use of drones (Recommendation No. 4) beyond SWAT operations.

Yadi, Pasadena resident, thanked the Police Department for developing a more transparent report and incorporating extensive community feedback, expressed concerns regarding surveillance technology, and urged staff to first evaluate the effectiveness and costs of the Drones as First Responder program prior to moving forward with deploying such a program in Pasadena.

Daniel James, Pasadena resident, expressed opposition to energy-assisted breaching equipment, as well as an expansion to the City's drone policy and its potential cost.

City Clerk Jomsky reported that four letters expressing concerns with the staff recommendation and/or in opposition to providing the Pasadena Police access to unmanned aerial drone devices and energy assisted breaching tools, which were received by the City Clerk's Office, distributed to the City Council, posted online, and made part of the public record for this item.

Councilmember Cole expressed concerns regarding the Police Department's preparedness for large demonstrations in terms of the potential use of military equipment and non-lethal weapons in such

circumstances. He emphasized the need for comprehensive training and the development of operational plans before such equipment is deployed or used in a public situation.

MOTION: Following discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Cole, seconded by Councilmember Hampton, to approve staff's Recommendations Nos. 1-3 and 5-6, and to direct that the Police Department report back to the Public Safety Committee and the Community Police Oversight Commission ("CPOC") regarding operational plans and training on the use of military equipment. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: None)

MOTION: It was moved by Councilmember Madison to approve staff Recommendation No. 4 to authorize the updated use of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) for public safety operations consistent with PPD Policy 622.

In response to questions, Police Lieutenant Anthony Russo reported that approval would allow staff to establish the policy framework needed to conduct a potential pilot program for drones. He clarified that the adoption of the policy provisions would not authorize the purchase or deployment of a new drone program, and that existing SWAT drones cannot perform the proposed first-responder functions that the proposed policy would cover.

Councilmember Hampton noted that the staff report and recommendation does not explicitly identify this as a pilot program and advocated that any motion to approve Recommendation No. 4 should explicitly reference Council's authorization of a pilot program.

In response to Councilmember Cole's inquiry regarding how the CPOC's recommendations were incorporated into the proposed policy, Lieutenant Russo reported that all 27 recommendations from the CPOC related to unmanned aerial systems were incorporated into the policy, with only minor edits to address tactical considerations. Councilmember Cole thanked City staff for the collaboration but raised broader concerns regarding the use of surveillance data by technology companies, such as Flock.

In response to Councilmember Lyon's inquiries, Lieutenant Russo explained that a new policy would establish guardrails for a pilot program, after which the Police Department would return to the Council with findings, recommendations, and costs prior to seeking authorization to purchase drones. Lieutenant Russo noted that if the policy is approved, staff would work with prospective vendors to conduct limited demonstrations of their systems, visit agencies that utilize the vendor's technology, conduct assessments, work with the CPOC during the trials, and report findings and results as part of presentations to CPOC, the Public Safety Committee, and the City Council before requesting authorization to purchase a new system.

In clarifying whether the pilot program would be used in Pasadena, Councilmember Madison expressed concerns that his understanding from the Public Safety Committee ("PSC") was that the Police Department would research vendors and visit other jurisdictions who utilize the drone equipment, and would not deploy borrowed equipment within the City. He supported approving a policy establishing guardrails, but did not want the policy itself interpreted as authorization to begin using drones in Pasadena.

AMENDED MOTION:

Councilmember Madison amended his original motion to clarify that the use of the proposed equipment is not approved for research purposes within the City without prior approval of the City Council. MOTION FAILED DUE TO LACK OF SECOND.

Following discussion, Lieutenant Russo noted that approval of the proposed policy is necessary since it is also related to the limited use for tactical situations by the SWAT team.

Councilmember Lyon noted his conditional support for staff Recommendation No. 4, subject to the following amendments: 1) conduct any and all testing offsite and outside of the City, 2) direct City staff to gather more data regarding costs and implications of the drone program, 3) approve the proposed policy for operational implementation for use by the SWAT team only, and 4) continue discussions related to the City Council's concerns regarding use of drones in the City through the CPOC and the PSC.

Vice Mayor Rivas noted the importance of CPOC's perspective in not only evaluating policies but also in determining whether such technology is worth pursuing. She urged staff to facilitate a discussion with the Commission regarding use of the technology to provide recommendations and input to the City Council that goes beyond the scope of simply evaluating the adequacy of the policy.

MOTION:

Following discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Lyon, seconded by Councilmember Hampton, to approve staff Recommendation No. 4, subject to the following amendments: 1) conduct any and all testing offsite and outside of the City, 2) direct City staff to gather more data regarding costs and implications of the drone program, 3) approve the proposed policy for operational implementation for use by the SWAT team only, and 4) continue discussions regarding the City Council's concerns regarding use of drones in the City through the CPOC and the PSC.

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS CONT'D.

Mayor Gordo stated a conflict of interest, recused himself from the item, and left the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE FAIR OAKS ORANGE GROVE SPECIFIC PLAN (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 Fair Oaks Orange Grove Specific Plan (Attachment B of the agenda report);

(3) Adopt a resolution approving the General Plan Map Amendment (Resolution No. 10214);

(4) Adopt a resolution approving the recommended Fair Oaks Orange Grove Specific Plan (Resolution No. 10215); and

(5) Direct the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance for the Zoning Map and Text Amendments within 120 days consistent with the provisions set forth in the agenda report.

Recommendation of the Planning Commission: On April 22, 2026, by a vote of 7-0, the Planning Commission recommended that the City Council approve the proposed Fair Oaks Orange Grove (FOOG) Specific Plan, as presented by staff, with the following recommended changes:

1. Change the timeframe for Implementation Action PA-4 (Pedestrian Oriented Art in Public Realm) from Medium-term (5-10 years) to Near-term (0-5 years) – included in the plan;
2. Change the timeframe for Implementation Action IMS-10 (Decorative Crosswalk) from Medium-term (5-10 years) to Near-term (0-5 years) and include the intersection of East Penn Street and North Fair Oaks Avenue on the list of potential decorative crosswalks – included in the plan;
3. Revise Implementation Action PA-7 (Business Association Formation) to include restorative justice and economic development language – included in the plan;
4. Revise Implementation Action IMS-6 (SRTP Bus Improvements) to include bus shelters and other infrastructure that enhance the streetscape for the transit rider – included in the plan;
5. Change the permit requirement for the 'Industry, Restricted, Small-Scale' land use category from a Minor Conditional Use Permit to a by-right use throughout the plan area – modified recommendation in the plan;
6. Change the residential density from 32 dwelling units per acre (du/ac) to 48 du/ac for the southeast corner of Fair Oaks Avenue and Washington Boulevard – included in the plan;

7. Include pedestrian-oriented standards and/or guidelines to address storefronts in the FOOG Specific Plan – included in the plan; and
8. Reconsider the varied roof line provision that allows up to 30 percent of a building's footprint to exceed the height limit by 12 feet – included in the plan.

Staff is supportive of the Planning Commission's recommendations, with the exception of Recommendation #5 regarding the permit requirement for the 'Industry, Restricted, Small Scale' land use category. Staff's reasoning is discussed on page 16 of the agenda report.

City Clerk Jomsky reported that the public hearing notice was published on September 3, September 17, and September 24, 2026 in the Pasadena Press, and that one letter stating that the property owners at 1343 North Fair Oaks Boulevard plan to keep the property for commercial purposes; six letters advocating for the City to name a portion of the Fair Oaks Orange Grove Specific Plan as the Black Legacy District, and providing various recommendations to the proposed specific plan; two letters in opposition to the proposed specific plan and/or expressing concerns with the proposed specific plan; five letters in support of the staff recommendation; and sixteen letters expressing concerns regarding Flock cameras in the Fair Oaks Orange Grove Specific Plan corridors; which 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.

In response to Councilmember Lyon's request for clarification on the Minor Conditional Use Permit ("MCUP"), Jason Mikaelian, Deputy Planning Director, provided an overview of the process to obtain an MCUP for a business seeking to establish small-scale industrial uses and explained that approval conditions are dependent on the specific business and its relationship with neighboring properties.

The following individuals expressed support for the proposed specific plan, thanked the City for revitalizing this portion of the community, advocated for additional enhancements relating to safety, historical purposes, and public art, and/or provided other related comments:

Blair Miller, Pasadena Complete Streets Coalition
Elainne Rodriguez, LEEAF
Steve Preston, Pasadena Heritage
John Stewart, Pasadena resident
Yadi, Pasadena resident
Bert Newton, Pasadena resident
Loretta Parks, Pasadena resident
Karina Toro, Pasadena resident
Reverend Jared McDaniel, First A.M.E. Zion Church
Pastor Kerwin Manning, Pasadena Church

Aldonia Bailey, Pasadena resident
Chantrese Wright, Pasadena resident
Colin Bogart, Pasadena resident
Joseph Bautista, Pasadena resident
Anthony Manousos, Pasadena resident
Jill Shook, Pasadena resident
Tom Coston, Pasadena resident
Danny Clash, Pasadena resident
Humaira, Pasadena resident
Daniel James, Pasadena resident
P.A. Brown, Pasadena resident
Nayeli Canada Hivner, Clergy Community Coalition
Dr. Lena Alsarraf, Pasadena resident

Jack Ipekjian, Pasadena Woodworks, expressed concerns regarding the new residential zoning and the impacts this will have on their business, and opposing any potential use of eminent domain.

MOTION: It was moved by Councilmember Hampton, seconded by Councilmember Jones, to close the public hearing. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: Mayor Gordo)

Councilmember Hampton expressed support for the proposed plan, and suggested amendments that would identify and allocate funds for district banners, crosswalk painting/beautification, and utility box art, and with direction to refer the matter of street medians to the Transportation Advisory Committee. Councilmember Jones supported these amendments, as well as suggested to include the City to work with the North Fair Oaks Empowerment Group to implement the enhancements. Councilmember Jones also expressed concerns regarding unreliable broadband service near the Robinson Park corridor and encouraged City staff to consider and develop solutions.

Councilmember Cole expressed support for the proposed specific plan, emphasized the importance of tangible improvements and results, and urged the City to move more quickly from planning to execution. Councilmember Cole advocated for establishing clear responsibility for ensuring implementation of the specific plan, establishing a business improvement district from medium-term to near-term implementation, and removing the Minor CUP requirement for qualifying small-scale uses under 5,000 square feet within the specific plan boundaries avoid creating unnecessary financial burdens on small businesses.

In response to Councilmember Cole's suggestion for a few wavier for MCUPs in the district, Planning Director Paige noted that City staff is exploring potential to convert certain Minor CUPs throughout the City into an administrative process and noted that City staff will

consider whether fee waivers are legally permissible without special circumstances.

In response to Councilmember Madison's inquiry regarding the fiscal impact of potential fee waivers, Interim City Manager Hawkesworth noted the potential fiscal impacts, though the anticipated amount may not be substantial. Councilmember Madison cautioned against making unbudgeted commitments for the specific plan and noted that budget decisions may involve trade-offs with other City Council priorities. He expressed support to have City staff study potential fee waivers and fiscal impacts.

Vice Mayor Rivas thanked the City staff for their hard work on the proposed specific plan, thanked the public for their input and collaboration, and emphasized the importance of preserving space for small scale industrial businesses that provide essential services through the City's specific plans and planning decisions.

MOTION: It was moved by Councilmember Hampton, seconded by Councilmember Jones, to approve the staff recommendation, amended with the following direction to City staff: 1) identify and allocate funds for district banners, crosswalk painting/beautification, and utility box art, 2) refer the matter of street medians to the Transportation Advisory Committee, 3) direct City staff to work with the North Fair Oaks Empowerment Group on Specific Plan implementation, 4) establish clear responsibility for implementation item PA-1 of the Specific Plan, 5) set the priority of establishing a business improvement district from medium-term to near-term implementation, and 6) analyze fee reductions or waivers for the MCUP application for industrial, small scale uses.

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

ADJOURNMENT

On order of the Mayor, the regular meeting of the City Council adjourned at 10:22 p.m. in memory of Dr. Mel Beech.

Victor M. Gordo, Mayor
City of Pasadena

ATTEST:

City Clerk