CITY OF PASADENA
City Council Minutes
October 6, 2026 – 5:00 P.M.
City Hall Council Chamber

OPENING: Mayor Gordo called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. (Absent: Councilmembers Hampton and Madison)

CLOSED SESSION On the order of the Mayor, the regular meeting recessed at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the following closed session items:

Councilmember Madison arrived at 5:20 p.m.

Councilmember Hampton arrived at 5:22 p.m.

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

The above closed session item was discussed, with no reportable action at this time.

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 6:09 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was led by Councilmember Cole.

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 presented a proclamation declaring the month of October 2026 as National Disability Employment Awareness Month in Pasadena, recognizing individuals with disabilities and their contributions as a vital members of our community. Leslie Garcia-Brown, Acting Accessibility Coordinator, spoke on the City's

commitment to advance accessibility for people with disabilities through programs, facilities, and workforce. Patricia Herrera, Vice Chair on the Accessibility and Disability Commission, and Chris Otero, Civitan President, accepted the proclamation, expressed gratitude for Ability First and Civitan for leading the way towards a more inclusive community, and introduced Michaela Sanchez, Civitan Event Chair, who announced the details of Civitan's upcoming event at Villa Esperanza on October 15, 2026.

Mayor Gordo presented a proclamation declaring the month of October 2026 as Bullying Prevention Awareness Month and the week of October 18-24, 2026 as United Against Hate Week, focused on bullying prevention and awareness. Teens from the Pasadena Youth Network spoke in support of Bullying Prevention Awareness Month and the importance pf creating a safe environment for all students by promoting compassion, inclusion, and understanding.

Councilmember Madison requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Fred Claire, former Los Angeles Dodgers General Manager, former Rose Bowl Operating Company Board Member, and funding board member of First Tee of Pasadena. The Mayor and members of the City Council highlighted Mr. Claire's contributions to baseball and the local community, and shared their reflections on his integrity, wisdom, friendship, generosity, and commitment to helping others, and expressed condolences to his family and friends.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Marina Romans, Pasadena resident, advocated for the preservation of 17 mature trees in the Lower Arroyo and emphasized their importance in mitigating climate change.

Donald "C-Note" Hooker, residence not stated, expressed concerns relating to his experience at the Los Angeles Small Business Expo, where a food vendor reportedly required customers to provide an email address to purchase food.

Roy Becerra, Pasadena resident, expressed concerns regarding harassment and harm involving his neighbors, and requested assistance from the Pasadena Police Department.

Les Hammer, Pasadena resident, expressed opposition to the City's sanctuary city policies and expressed concerns regarding local immigration advocacy organizations for publicizing immigration enforcement activity.

Lisa Quinn, Pasadena resident, spoke on the sturdiness of eucalyptus trees and emphasized the ecological value of trees.

Yadi, Pasadena resident, provided comments on the effectiveness of automated license plate readers and raised concerns regarding surveillance technology.

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

Ken Compton, Pasadena resident, urged the City to protect and restore the City's tree canopy.

In response to public comment, Interim City Manager Hawkesworth reported that City staff has re-evaluated the trees in the Lower Arroyo and has decided to remove just one of the 17 trees cited during public comment, and that there is no immediate plan to remove any of the other 16 trees.

CONSENT CALENDAR

City Manager/ Executive Director

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT AGREEMENT WITH KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES, INC., FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ROSE BOWL AREA AND BROOKSIDE PARK MULTIMODAL CONNECTIVITY PLAN FUNDED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (CALTRANS) SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING GRANT (STPG) PROGRAM FUNDS FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED $500,000 (Transportation Dept.)

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 Public Resources Code Section 21065 and within the meaning of State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378;

(2) Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., as the result of a competitive selection process, specified by 4.08.047 of the Pasadena Municipal Code, for the development of the Rose Bowl Area and Brookside Park Multimodal Connectivity Plan funded through the Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant (STPG) Program funds and a local match in the amount not-to-exceed $500,000; which includes the base contract amount of $442,620 and contingency amount of $57,380 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); and

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

The following individuals expressed support for improving mobility and safety around the Rose Bowl loop, provided comments regarding multimodal methods of transportation, expressed concerns regarding the excessive use of consultants:

Thomas Tai, Pasadena resident
Humaira, Pasadena resident
Egor Chumak, Pasadena resident

Councilmember Madison left the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Councilmember Hampton expressed concerns about spending additional funds and hiring more consultants for the project, citing investments in multiple multimodal/street safety plans. He also advocated for lower speed limits around the Rose Bowl to increase pedestrian safety

Councilmember Cole expressed opposition to the proposed contract, emphasizing that the City should prioritize implementing existing plans instead of developing additional plans and advocating for the City to develop an internal outreach program, using City staff and/or working through local nonprofit partnerships.

In response to Councilmember Masuda's comments regarding the scope of City authority to regulate speed limits, Joaquin Siques, Transportation Director, confirmed that the City's speed limits are subject to state regulations but noted that the City is preparing to bring a proposal to the Municipal Services Committee regarding speed reductions in safety corridors.

Transportation Director Siques stated that the City utilizes outside consultants due to the substantial amount of community engagement required for numerous ongoing projects and limited internal staff and operating budget capacity. He also noted the need for transportation planning due to multiple stakeholders being involved, such as the Rose Bowl Operating Company, the Rose Bowl Aquatic Center, and other special event operations.

Councilmember Lyon advocated for City staff to determine whether providing community outreach services internally would be more cost-effective than hiring consultants.

Discussion ensued regarding the implementation of safety measures prior to injuries and lawsuits, and the development of a connected network of safe walking and cycling routes while maintaining access for motorists to traverse the City.

Mayor Gordo noted that the Rose Bowl area presents competing safety and recreational considerations, such as potential implementation of speed bumps to reduce speed limits, which could create other safety hazards for pedestrians and cyclists. He suggested referring the matter of outside contracting for community outreach services to the Finance Committee.

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO AMEND CONTRACT NO. 31881 WITH INTER-CON SECURITY SYSTEMS, INC., TO EXTEND THE TERM FOR ONE YEAR AND INCREASE THE CONTRACT AMOUNT BY $779,388 THEREBY INCREASING THE GRAND TOTAL TO $8,074,606 FOR CITYWIDE PARKING ENFORCEMENT SERVICES (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);
(2) Authorize the City Manager to amend Contract No. 31881 with Inter-Con Security Systems, Inc., for citywide parking enforcement services, increasing the contract amount of $7,295,218 by $779,388, for a new not-to-exceed amount of $8,074,606, and extend the contract term for one year (Contract No. 31881-4); and
(3) Grant the proposed contract amendment with Inter-Con Security Systems, 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.

City Council

APPOINTMENTS, REAPPOINTMENTS, & RESIGNATIONS

APPOINTMENT OF JAMIL MAMDANI TO THE RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION (District 1 Nomination)

City Clerk/ Secretary

CLAIMS RECEIVED AND FILED

Claim No.	Claimant	Claim Amount
2027-0074	Gregory Jeno Benza	$ 35,000.00+
2027-0075	Raschel Riggs	10,000.00
2027-0076	Michael Rosenberg	300.00
2027-0077	Kristen Lai	35,000.00+

MOTION: Following discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Lyon, seconded by Councilmember Cole, to approve all items on the Consent Calendar with the exception of Item 1. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: Councilmember Madison)

CONSENT ITEM VOTED ON SEPARATELY

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT AGREEMENT WITH KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES, INC., FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ROSE BOWL AREA AND BROOKSIDE PARK MULTIMODAL CONNECTIVITY PLAN FUNDED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (CALTRANS) SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING GRANT (STPG) PROGRAM FUNDS FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED $500,000 (Transportation Dept.)

MOTION: It was moved by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Lyon, to approve the staff recommendation.

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

ORDINANCE – FIRST READING

Conduct the first reading of "AN UNCODIFIED ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA EXEMPTING QUALIFYING EATON FIRE REPAIRS FROM CONSTRUCTION TAX"

The ordinance above was introduced by Councilmember Hampton:

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

REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Legislative Policy Committee

RECOMMENDATION TO SUPPORT MEASURE PFD AND MEASURE UP FOR THE NOVEMBER 2026 LOCAL ELECTION; AND RECOMMENDATION TO SUPPORT PROPOSITION 1 AND OPPOSE PROPOSITIONS 39 AND 43 IN THE NOVEMBER 2026 STATE ELECTION

Recommendation from the Legislative Policy Committee: 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; and

(2) Consider positions on the following ballot measures for the upcoming November 3, 2026 General Election:

Local Measures:

- Measure PFD – SUPPORT – Authorizes annual parcel tax to fund Pasadena 911 emergency response and wildfire preparedness
- Measure UP – SUPPORT – Authorizes bonds for Pasadena City College facilities and career training, without increasing tax rates

State of California Propositions:

- Proposition 1 – SUPPORT – Authorizes bonds for Housing Affordability Programs
- Proposition 39 – OPPOSE – Requires government-issued photo ID to vote
- Proposition 43 – OPPOSE – Raises approval threshold for local special taxes to a two-thirds super majority

Egor Chumak, Pasadena resident, expressed concerns regarding the financial impact of additional taxes on residents amid the rising cost of living.

City Clerk Jomsky reported that one letter providing historical information on Measures I and J, citing funding for the fire stations in relation to Measure PFD, and one letter expressing concerns with the City Council taking a position on Proposition 39, were both

received by the City Clerk's Office, distributed to the City Council, posted online, and made part of the public record for this item.

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

CONSIDERATION OF A POLICY REGARDING THE VICE MAYOR APPOINTMENT PROCESS (City Clerk's Office)
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 State CEQA Guidelines Section 21065 and within the meaning of Section 15378(b); and
(2) Provide direction to City staff regarding the Vice Mayor appointment process.

City Clerk Jomsky provided a brief overview regarding the proposed policy for a Vice Mayor appointment process. Vice Mayor Rivas provided a brief recap of the Legislative Policy Committee's discussion regarding clarification of the City Council's longstanding practice and reducing uncertainty during future Vice Mayor selections. The proposed policy was written as follows:

"Consistent with the longstanding practice of the City Council, the longest-serving Councilmember who has not yet served as Vice Mayor will be considered the next-in-line to serve as Vice Mayor. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any action of the City Council, as stated in City Charter Section 506, requires five affirmative votes to be valid. If any Councilmember nominated for Vice Mayor does not receive five affirmative votes, the City Council may nominate and elect another Councilmember to serve as Vice Mayor. Nothing in this policy shall prevent the City Council from electing the same person to serve as Vice Mayor for a second one-year term."

Councilmember Lyon expressed support for the proposed policy and noted that the City Charter requires an annual election of the Vice Mayor and that the City Council cannot restrict service to two terms. He made a motion to approve the proposed policy with an amendment to the language clarifying that nothing in the policy would prevent the Council from electing the same person to serve as Vice Mayor for consecutive one-year terms. MOTION FAILED DUE TO LACK OF SECOND.

Discussion ensued regarding the City Council's tradition of having two-year terms for the Vice Mayor, the selection process, and the City Charter's requirement of an annual Vice Mayor election.

Mayor Gordo expressed support for the proposed policy and suggested alternative language to state that consideration would be given to honoring the tradition of two consecutive one-year terms to provide all City Councilmembers an opportunity to equally serve.

Councilmember Cole expressed support for the proposed policy and suggested alternative language by making a motion, seconded by Councilmember Hampton, for the policy to state, "Similarly consistent with the long-standing practice of the City Council, consideration will be given to honoring the tradition of two consecutive one-year terms."

MOTION: Following discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Cole, seconded by Councilmember Hampton, to approve the proposed policy, amending the last sentence to read: "Similarly consistent with the long-standing practice of the City Council, consideration will be given to honoring the tradition of two consecutive one-year terms." (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: Councilmember Madison)

The adopted policy will read as follows:

"Consistent with the longstanding practice of the City Council, the longest-serving Councilmember who has not yet served as Vice Mayor will be considered the next-in-line to serve as Vice Mayor. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any action of the City Council, as stated in City Charter Section 506, requires five affirmative votes to be valid. If any Councilmember nominated for Vice Mayor does not receive five affirmative votes, the City Council may nominate and elect another Councilmember to serve as Vice Mayor. Similarly consistent with the long-standing practice of the City Council, consideration will be given to honoring the tradition of two consecutive one-year terms."

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENTS

City Manager

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH PCL CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, INC., FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT-RISK PHASE 1 PRECONSTRUCTION, DESIGN-ASSIST, AND GUARANTEED MAXIMUM PRICE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AND PHASE 1A DEMOLITION AND SITE PREPARATION SERVICES FOR AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED $11,147,338 FOR THE TRANSIT OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FACILITY PROJECT (Public Works & Transportation Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

(1) Find that the contract proposed in the agenda report is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15332, Class 32 (In-Fill Development Projects) of the State CEQA Guidelines; find 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 selection process and as specified by Section 4.08.136 of the Pasadena Municipal Code, with PCL Construction Services, Inc., for Phase 1 preconstruction, design-assist, and Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) development services in the amount of $999,362 and Phase 1A early construction services, including initial site demolition, grading, environmental remediation, and related site preparation, in the amount of $9,134,581 to proceed in advance of establishment of the full project GMP, plus a contract contingency of $1,013,395 for a total amount not-to-exceed $11,147,338 including contingency. Competitive bidding is not required pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(F) (contracts for professional or unique services). (Contract No. 33884)

Greg de Vinck, Public Works Director provided introductory comments on the item and Hayden Melbourne, Principal Engineer, presented a PowerPoint presentation providing information on the project timeline, fiscal impact, local hiring components, and responded to questions.

Councilmember Hampton advocated for increasing the local hiring and procurement aspirational goal for the project from 10% to 20%. Public Works Director de Vinck noted that the goals must remain voluntary for contractors and cautioned that such changes may increase project costs if contractors must overpay to meet targets.

In response to Councilmember Cole's concerns regarding PCL Construction being awarded multiple contracts for major City projects, Public Works Director de Vinck reported that the selection for the Field Club at the Rose Bowl was not determined by City staff, but rather Rose Bowl staff, but noted that PCL high rankings for the Central Library project and the current project are based on competitive pricing and strong interviews. Public Works Director de Vinck acknowledged the risks of awarding many projects to a single contractor and confirmed that project committee oversight ensures fairness and transparency.

Mayor Gordo requested City staff explore incentives, either in the planning or permitting process, to help support vendors as they strive to achieve 20% aspirational goals. Principal Engineer Melbourne stated that City staff will present incentive options during the next Phase 2 Guaranteed Maximum Price recommendation presentation.

Following discussion, Councilmember Hampton spoke in support of setting the aspirational goals for the project at 20% instead of 10% for local hire paid wages and hours, local vendors, and local suppliers.

MOTION: Following discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Hampton, seconded by Councilmember Jones, to approve the staff recommendation, amended to increase and set the aspirational goal at 20% for local hire paid wages and hours, local vendors, and local suppliers. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: Councilmember Madison)

ADJOURNMENT On order of the Mayor, the regular meeting of the City Council adjourned at 8:08 p.m. in memory of Fred Claire.

Victor M. Gordo, Mayor
City of Pasadena

ATTEST:

City Clerk