

CITY OF PASADENA
City Council Minutes
March 30, 2026 – 5:00 P.M.
City Hall Council Chamber

Teleconference Location:

Kawga Hotel
Business Center
Piste de N'Guerigne, Somone, Petite Côte
Mbour, Thies, Senegal

OPENING:

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

Councilmember Hampton participated in the Closed Session via teleconference.

Vice Mayor Rivas reported that she is participating in the Closed Session remotely under Government Code Section 54953.8.3 "just cause" provision on the basis of having a contagious illness and is not able to participate in person.

CLOSED SESSION

On the order of the Mayor, the regular meeting recessed at 5:00 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: Robison v. City of Pasadena, et al.
Los Angeles County Superior Case No.: 22AHCV00085**

CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL regarding pending litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 94956.9(d)(1)

**Name of case: Davenport, S. v. City of Pasadena, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV18268**

Councilmember Madison arrived at 5:12 p.m.

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**

Councilmember Hampton and Vice Mayor Rivas left the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

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 Addresses: 275 Arlington Drive, Pasadena, CA
Agency negotiator: Miguel Márquez
Negotiating parties: State of California, Department of Transportation
Under negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

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

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

CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6
Agency Designated Representatives: Miguel Márquez and Tiffany Jacobs-Quinn
Employee Organization: International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6
Agency Designated Representatives: Miguel Márquez and Tiffany Jacobs-Quinn
Employee Organization: Laborers International Union of North America

The above closed session items were not discussed.

On the order of the Mayor, the regular meeting reconvened at 6:17 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was led by Councilmember Jones.

ROLL CALL:

Councilmembers:

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

Staff:

Assistant City Manager Matt Hawkesworth
City Attorney/City Prosecutor Michele Beal Bagneris
City Clerk Mark Jomsky

CEREMONIAL MATTERS

Mayor Gordo presented a proclamation declaring the month of April 2026 as Donate Life Month in the City of Pasadena and recognized the many lives saved through organ donations. Allen Jolley, One Legacy Ambassador, accepted the proclamation, shared information on the importance of becoming a registered donor, and invited the public to participate in the Donate Life Run Walk at Azusa Pacific University taking place at the end of April.

Mayor Gordo also presented a proclamation declaring April 2026 as Earth Month and April 22, 2026 as Earth day in the City of Pasadena. Lindsey Paige McCloy, Sustainability Administrator, and Lauren Siegel, Chair of the Environmental Advisory Commission, accepted the proclamation, thanked the City Council for recognizing Earth Day and Earth Month, shared environmentally friendly activities scheduled on April 18, 2026 at Villa Park and Brookside Park, and encouraged everyone to take action to protect the environment in various forms.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Ashley Du and Bernice Deng, Pasadena residents, advocated for the City Council to pass a plastic pellet ban resolution.

Kate E., Pasadena resident, spoke on the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and ethical investments.

The following individuals advocated for a sister cities relationship with the City of Guanajuato, Mexico:

Rene Gonzalez, Pasadena resident
Connie De la Torre, Pasadena resident

Gaeun Kwon, CJ Olive Young, USA, expressed gratitude to be opening up their first North American flagship store in the City.

JT Parr, residence not stated, provided comments on development of the Metro K Line.

Melvin D., residence not stated, advocated for a singles week for social interaction.

Chad Kroeger, residence not stated, sang a snippet of "More Than Friends" for the City Council.

Olden Denham, Pasadena resident, expressed concerns regarding local labor matters and officer-involved shootings.

Rose Malmberg, Pasadena resident, expressed concerns regarding unpermitted operations at Elli Banquet Hall on Lake Ave.

CONSENT CALENDAR

RESIGNATION OF HEATHER ROBB FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION (At Large Nomination/District 3)

City Council

APPOINTMENTS, REAPPOINTMENTS, & RESIGNATIONS

City Clerk/ Secretary

MINUTES APPROVED

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| February 23, 2026 | City Council |
| February 23, 2026 | Successor Agency to the Pasadena Community Development Commission |
| March 2, 2026 | City Council |
| March 2, 2026 | Successor Agency to the Pasadena Community Development Commission |
| March 7, 2026 | City Council Special Meeting |
| March 8, 2026 | City Council Special Meeting |

CLAIMS RECEIVED AND FILED

| Claim No. | Claimant | Claim Amount |
|------------------|---|---------------------|
| 2026-0231 | Jerome Vaughn | \$ 35,000.00+ |
| 2026-0232 | Micheline McFarland | 35,000.00+ |
| 2026-0233 | Anthony McFarland | 35,000.00+ |
| 2026-0234 | Aleksandr Verniss | 154.66 |
| 2026-0235 | Live Nation Worldwide and Creative Artists Agency | 35,000.00+ |

MOTION:

It was moved by Councilmember Lyon, seconded by Councilmember Masuda, to approve all items on the Consent Calendar. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: Councilmember Hampton and Vice Mayor Rivas)

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

Adopt “AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA, CALIFORNIA AMENDING THE LIGHT AND POWER RATE ORDINANCE, TITLE 13, CHAPTER 13.04 OF THE PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE” (Ordinance No. 7466)

City Clerk Jomsky reported that two letters expressing concerns and/or opposition to the proposed ordinance amendment 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.

The above ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: Councilmember Hampton and Vice Mayor Rivas

ABSTAIN: None

Adopt “AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA ADDING PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 9, ARTICLE XIII, CHAPTER 100 TO ADOPT AN ANTI-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT AND CREATE A PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION FOR AGGRIEVED INDIVIDUALS” (Ordinance No. 7467)

Yadi, Pasadena resident, expressed support for the ordinance and advocated for explicit privacy protections to be mentioned in the ordinance.

The above ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

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

Adopt “AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA AMENDING TITLE 17 (ZONING CODE), CHAPTER 61 (PERMIT APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL), SECTION 17.61.030 (DESIGN REVIEW) OF THE PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE, AND ADDING SECTION 17.50.165 (OBJECTIVE DESIGN STANDARDS FOR HIGH-DENSITY HOUSING) TO CHAPTER 17.50 (STANDARDS FOR SPECIFIC LAND USES) TO THE PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE TO ADOPT OBJECTIVE DESIGN STANDARDS FOR HIGH-DENSITY HOUSING AND MODIFY THE DESIGN REVIEW PROCESS FOR SUCH PROJECTS” (Ordinance No. 7468)

The above ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

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

**RECOMMENDATIONS
FROM OFFICERS AND
DEPARTMENTS**

City Manager

CONSIDERATION OF RECONNECTING PASADENA 710 VISION PLAN FOR THE RELINQUISHED 710 STUB PROPERTY

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the action proposed in the agenda report is covered by the “Common Sense” exemption set forth in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) as CEQA only applies to projects that may have a significant effect on the environment; and
- (2) Review, discuss, and provide direction in the following areas:
Immediate Next Steps:
 - a. Transition the land use concepts from the Vision Plan to the Planning Department and initiate environmental analysis, entitlements, and regulatory requirements;

- b. Direct staff to continue to develop and recommend financing mechanisms for developing the 710 Stub area;
- c. Direct that the 710 Stub area become the City's first sustainable, resilient and carbon neutral district;
- d. Initiate work on options for City Council consideration of a governance structure to guide the development of the area;

Restorative Justice:

- e. Acknowledge past harms to former residents, businesses and institutions required to vacate the relinquishment and surrounding area to clear the path for the freeway construction;
- f. Consider and/or further research all targets, goals, and programs delineated in the Restorative Justice Framework of the Vision Plan report as part of consideration of a Citywide approach to restorative justice. This includes the draft definition of restorative justice, targets for affordable housing, the creation of a community oversight committee, a community benefits planning framework, policies for wealth generation through home and business ownership, business development support, workforce development, and other public benefits through Restorative Justice;

Land Use:

- g. Set a goal of developing a minimum of 1,800 residential units in the relinquishment area. This will include a mix of units for ownership and rentals of varying affordability and size;

Mobility, Access and Reconnection:

- h. To advance reconnection, accessibility, multi-modal and active transportation, and community safety, include the Boulevard and Paseos street and access concept as the working option to carry forward in the land use entitlement process (item "a" above);
- i. Direct staff to continue to work in partnership with Caltrans regarding the transition of the existing freeway-to-freeway to a local-to-freeway/freeway-to-local access system, as well as in the creation of Transit Mobility Hub on Caltrans property in the area immediately north of and connected to the relinquishment area;

Other Items:

- j. Direct staff to continue to work with Caltrans to identify a new location for the stormwater facility located in the southern portion of the relinquishment area; and
- k. Continue to grow existing partnerships – and seek new partnerships – with public, private, and non-profit agencies and entities that enhance the delivery of positive outcomes from the relinquishment area for the City of Pasadena and its residents and businesses.

Recommendation of the Reconnecting Communities 710 Advisory Group: At their final meeting on March 18, 2026, the Reconnecting Communities 710 Advisory Group voted not to take a position on the Vision Plan. They instead chose to submit their own report to the City Council "...to highlight, supplement and make

certain recommendations regarding the Vision Plan". Please see Attachment C of the agenda report.

Brenda Harvey-Williams, Assistant City Manager, provided introductory comments on the item, acknowledged the various departments that have collaborated on the 710 Stub project, and presented a clip from Amplify, the documentary commissioned by the City on the history of the 710 Stub. She also announced that the documentary won two awards, the 2025 Davey Award and the 2025 MarCom Award. Mayor Gordo commended Suzanne Madison and the entire Allegra Consulting team for winning these two prestigious honors.

Wendy Macias, Project Manager, provided a PowerPoint Presentation on the historical data of the 710-freeway site, findings from a UCLA study on the impacts of the 710 Freeway on Pasadena, oral history gathered by Allegra Consulting, historical implications, and redress actions. Danny Parker, Chair of the 710 Advisory Group, thanked the City Council, City staff, the 710 Advisory Group, the meeting attendees, and everyone who collaborated on the 710 Stub project. Chair Parker provided a brief overview of the discussions had by the Advisory Group and subcommittees, and how they reached the proposed recommendations noting key themes of flexibility, community, and promoting the local economy, as well as the importance of placemaking and public art. Tina Williams, Chair of the Restorative Justice Standing Committee, and Wayne Brandt, Chair of the Land Use and Mobility Standing Committee, both provided recaps of topics and discussions held by their respective standing committees. Kate Howe, Perkins Eastman Consulting, provided a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the proposed 710 Vision Plan. She presented information on the concepts of the plan, including flexible land use, restorative justice elements, physical reconnection of the land, and transportation frameworks/goals for the project. Vaughan Davies, Perkins Eastman Consulting, presented the design principles and vision concepts for the street design framework and urban spaces. David Grannis, reported on the numerous regional partnerships involved in the ongoing project (Caltrans, SCAG, Metro, etc.). Jennifer Paige, Planning Director, reported on the next steps to develop a Specific Plan for the area.

Councilmembers Jones and Cole advocated for careful considerations regarding where traffic is redistributed in the project area to minimize impacts to surrounding areas.

Blair Miller, Pasadena resident, urged the City Council to take the 710 Advisory Group's recommendations into careful consideration and utilize suitable metrics to measure and define success.

Veronica Dolleschel, Pasadena resident, advocated for the City to consider elements of housing, traffic patterns, and repairing the harms of the past as the 710 Stub project moves forward.

The following individuals expressed support for the proposed restorative justice initiatives as a means of accountability for past harms and/or provided related comments:

Bert Newton, Pasadena resident
Jacqueline Kuykenball, Greenline Housing
Pastor Kerwin Manning, Pasadena resident

Wes Hampton, Pasadena Voices Orange Grove Residents Council, requested access to the traffic simulation study for the proposed project, and advocated for speed traffic cameras and implementing noise reduction technology.

Gabo Lizardo, Chair of Arts & Culture Commission, advocated for the City to prioritize public art and cultural infrastructure as part of the proposed project.

Thomas Tai, Pasadena resident, advocated for the City Council to prioritize increased housing objectives in the proposed project.

Michael Warner II, Pasadena resident, emphasized the importance of maintaining emergency access points to Huntington Hospital when implementing the 710 Stub Vision Plan.

Catherine Jurca, Pasadena resident, expressed concerns regarding the project and study area boundaries, and requested a more definitive study report.

Marcus Renner, Pasadena resident, advocated for larger public spaces, the creation of an interpretive center to preserve community history, and a community-driven planning process.

Michael Canavan, Pasadena resident, encouraged more ambitious housing goals as being essential to reconnecting communities and addressing past displacement.

Ed Riddle, Pasadena resident, expressed concerns regarding affordability of senior housing and its lack of emphasis in the proposed project.

Councilmember Madison thanked the 710 Advisory Group, City staff, and all stakeholders for their collaborative efforts on the project. He requested City staff to return in two weeks with a decision-making framework and recommended sequencing of such decisions.

Mayor Gordo also requested information on feasibility and financing for the entire project, various ownership models, governance models for long-term management, and potential impacts of SB79 implementation and increased density in the design and implementation of the 710 Vision Plan.

Following discussion, on the order of the Mayor, by consensus of the City Council, the information was received and filed, with the item to return on April 13, 2026.

BRIEF REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES/REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Gordo requested City staff to look into a permanent art piece to commemorate the LA Olympics taking place in 2028, possibly at the Rose Bowl Aquatic Center.

ADJOURNMENT

On order of the Mayor, the regular meeting of the City Council adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Victor M. Gordo, Mayor
City of Pasadena

ATTEST:

City Clerk