



Minutes
Redondo Beach Public Amenities Commission
Wednesday, March 19, 2025
Special Meeting 6:30 p.m.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PUBLIC AMENITIES COMMISSION – 6:30 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER

A Special Meeting of the Redondo Beach Public Amenities Commission was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Vice Chair Maroko in the City Hall Council Chambers, 415 Diamond Street, Redondo Beach, California.

B. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Edward (E.J.) Caldwell, Desiree M. Galassi,
Mara Lang, Christopher McCauley,
Vice Chair Ron Maroko

Commissioners Absent: Jeffrey E. Rowe, Chair Masood K. Yousufzai

Officials Present: Dana Vinke, Library Director
Becca McNeely, Library Program Coordinator
Sean Scully, Planning Manager
Andrew Svitek, Senior Planner
Kelly Orta, Deputy Community Services Director
Jack Meyer, Cultural Arts Manager

C. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Commissioner Lang led in the Salute to the Flag.

D. APPROVE ORDER OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner McCauley, seconded by Commissioner Lang and approved by voice vote, the order of the agenda, as presented.

The motion carried 5-0. Commissioner Rowe and Chair Yousufzai were absent.

E. BLUE FOLDER ITEMS – ADDITIONAL BACK UP MATERIALS

E.1 For Blue Folder Documents

Library Director Vinke reported there were two Blue Folder Items and described each.

Motion by Commissioner Galassi, seconded by Commissioner Caldwell, and approved by voice vote, to receive and file Blue Folder Documents.

The motion carried 5-0. Commissioner Rowe and Chair Yousufzai were absent.

F. CONSENT CALENDAR

F.1. APPROVE AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING FOR THE REDONDO BEACH PUBLIC AMENITIES COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING OF MARCH 19, 2025

F.2. Commissioner Galassi pulled this item from Consent for separate consideration.

F.3. Vice Chair Maroko pulled this item from Consent for separate consideration.

F.4. Vice Chair Maroko pulled this item from Consent for separate consideration.

Commissioner Galassi pulled Item No. F.2 for separate discussion and Vice Chair Maroko pulled Items No. F.3 and F.4 from the Consent Calendar, for separate discussion and consideration.

There were no public comments on this item.

Motion by Commissioner McCauley, seconded by Commissioner Lang, and approved by voice vote, the Consent Calendar, as amended, pulling Items No. F.2, F.3 and F.4 for separate discussion.

The motion carried 5-0. Commissioner Rowe and Chair Yousufzai were absent.

G. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

F.2. RECEIVE AND FILE REPORT FROM THE MINOR ALTERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING ON MARCH 7, 2025.

Planning Manager Scully introduced the item and deferred to staff for a report.

Senior Planner Svitek narrated a PowerPoint presentation with details of the City's Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) and landmarking processes and discussed properties requiring COAs and levels of review.

Vice Chair Maroko requested a copy of the summary slide and distinguished between COAs and landmarks.

Discussion followed regarding considering levels of review on a case-by-case basis, COAs for landmarking, landmarking preceding COAs, properties defined as "A" or "B" in

the Historic Resources survey being subject to the Preservation Ordinance and requirements to qualify for the Mills Act.

In response to Commissioner Galassi's request, Planning Manager Scully addressed the process of creating a Historic District; reported staff is actively exploring whether a neighborhood that has a number of "A" and "B" designated properties, can work together to form a Historic District. He added that more information will be made available in subsequent Commission meetings.

Commissioner Galassi recalled there were businesses on Catalina that were previously discussed (The Village Development) in terms of the possibility of forming a Historic District at the site.

Planning Manager Scully provided a brief history of that subject.

Vice Chair Maroko mentioned the Garnet/Carnelian properties becoming a Historic District; talked about Landmarking being different than the Mill's Act and the contracts associated with it on the website; addressed a potential Historic District discussed in last month's meeting and stated he would love for staff to enable the Commission to be more proactive. Furthermore, he noted old houses in his neighborhood that are being demolished, and he would love for the City to send that to the Alterations Subcommittee to review it and decide whether to bring it to the Commission, as a whole.

Planning Manager Scully reported the City's authority stops at the "A" or "B" in terms applying the Preservation Ordinance, then landmarking a property and subsequently potentially applying for the Mills Act or requiring COAs. He added the City does not have the authority, just because it may be an old home, to exert the Preservation Ordinance regulations on those structures.

Vice Chair Maroko questioned the statement; talked about the Historic Resources survey being over a quarter-of-a-century old and the standard being five years and added there are a lot of properties entering the category that need to be addressed, before they all disappear.

Planning Manager Scully reported the Strategic Plan includes updating the Historic Resources survey and talked about CEQA triggering the Preservation Ordinance.

Senior Planner Svitek added that ratings are good, but property owners have the ability to submit Historical Evaluation Reports prepared by architects who specialize in historic preservation and talked about "C" and "D" properties that have been landmarked.

Commissioner Galassi reported two letters were sent to homeowners as a result of the subcommittee meeting, which were included in the Blue Folder Items.

Vice Chair Maroko invited public comments.

Scarlet asked about the last time the City did a Historical Survey and Vice Chair Maroko responded that it was in 1999.

There were no other public comments.

Motion by Commissioner McCauley, seconded by Commissioner Caldwell, and approved by voice vote, to receive and file the report from the Minor Alterations Subcommittee meeting on March 7, 2025 and the staff presentation.

The motion carried 5-0. Commissioner Rowe and Chair Yousufzai were absent.

F.3. RECEIVE AND FILE LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

In reply to Vice Chair Maroko's request, Library Director Vinke provided an update on Open Plus and addressed setting a date for Trivia Night and the possibility of broadcasting it.

There were no public comments.

Motion by Commissioner Galassi, seconded by Commissioner Lang, and approved by voice vote, to receive and file the Library Director's report.

The motion carried 5-0. Commissioner Rowe and Chair Yousufzai were absent.

F.4. APPROVE THE REDONDO BEACH PUBLIC AMENITIES COMMISSION MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 12, 2025

Vice Chair Maroko commented on corrections that need to be made regarding the minutes.

There were no public comments on this item.

Motion by Vice Chair Maroko, seconded by Commissioner McCauley, to table Item No. F.4 to allow for corrections and return to the Commission for review and approval.

The motion carried 5-0 with the following roll call vote.

AYES:	Caldwell, Galassi, Lang, McCauley, Vice Chair Maroko
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Rowe, Chair Yousufzai

H. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

H.1 For eComments and Emails Received from the Public

There were no public comments on this item.

I. EX PARTE COMMUNICATION – None

J. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

K. ITEMS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS AGENDAS - None

L. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION PRIOR TO ACTION

L.1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE VOLUNTEER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE's RECOMMENDATION TO FORMALLY RECOGNIZE MATTHEW MCCAULEY AND CARL LEACH FOR THEIR VOLUNTEER SERVICE

CONTACT: COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR ELIZABETH HAUSE

Commissioner McCauley recused himself from this item because of his relation to one of the applicants and left the chambers.

Deputy Community Services Director Orta presented details of the Administrative Report.

Commissioner Lang noted the service of Matthew McCauley and felt he deserves the acknowledgement.

Female Speaker spoke about the services of Carl Leach working with the South Bay Conservancy and felt he deserves to be recognized.

There were no other public comments on this item.

Motion by Commissioner Lang, seconded by Commissioner Caldwell, to formally recognize Matthew McCauley and Carl Leach for their volunteer service.

The motion carried 4-0. Commissioner McCauley was recused and Commissioner Rowe and Chair Yousufzai were absent.

AYES:	Caldwell, Galassi, Lang, Vice Chair Maroko
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	McCauley (recused), Rowe, Chair Yousufzai

Commissioner McCauley returned to the chambers.

L.2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE PRIORITIZATION OF MARKERS FOR THE PATH OF HISTORY PROGRAM

CONTACT: COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR ELIZABETH HAUSE

Cultural Arts Manager Meyer presented details of the Administrative Report.

Vice Chair Maroko added background information regarding the item; suggested three actions including prioritization, developing a process and generating designs in-house for cost savings and listed pros and cons of bringing it in-house.

Deputy Community Services Director Orta noted the first design will take time, but subsequent designs will be expedited; noted confidence in current staff resources and felt the cost savings makes sense.

Vice Chair Maroko spoke about previous private funding and noted that this time, the City has budget money; explained what he felt, the process should be; referenced Page 43 of the materials and talked about visualizing boundaries.

Discussion followed regarding whether the Commission can direct staff and the purpose of the subcommittee and its ability to make recommendations to staff to find a solution.

Motion by Vice Chair Maroko, seconded by Commissioner Galassi, to design all markers for the Path of History Markers, in-house.

Deputy Community Services Director Orta reported that for the purposes of having the markers designed in-house, no motion is needed.

Discussion followed regarding having staff make that decision, being able to carry over funding for the project if it is not completed, the estimate used for budget allocation and the eight markers committed to by the City.

Ensuing discussion pertained to the ability to continue getting private donations for markers and prioritization.

Substitute motion by Commissioner Caldwell, seconded by Commissioner Galassi, to approve the sites, recommended by staff for the Path of History Markers.

The substitute motion carried 5-0, with the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Caldwell, Galassi, Lang, McCauley, Vice Chair Maroko
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Rowe, Chair Yousufzai

Discussion followed regarding having Commissioner Lang be part of the subcommittee.

Deputy Community Services Director Orta recommended officially adding Commissioner Lang to the subcommittee.

Commissioner Lang agreed to be added to the subcommittee.

Vice Chair Maroko listed recommendations for a process regarding the writing and the pictures, that the subcommittee compile the text and pictures for the sign with the help of the Research Librarian and the Historical Society, whatever is written gets approved by the Cultural Arts Manager or the Community Services Director, they can decide who they want to approve the draft language, once it is approved, it goes to Commissioner Lang for edits and then it gets back for final approval by the Cultural Arts Manager or the Community Services Director who will then direct it to the in-house design team that has been set up by the Community Services Director and once they finish the design, it is approved by staff to be able to be sent to the fabricator, whoever the City decides is the appropriate fabricator.

Commissioner Caldwell commented on his service on the Preservation Commission and now the Public Amenities Commission; expressed concern about conversations about the line between the Commission and staff; noted the City Manager runs the City and is responsible to City Council, the public and the Commissions and reported that staff works for the City Manager, the Commission can help, provide guidance and make recommendations, but, ultimately, it is up to staff, to implement signs in the community. He added that ultimately, staff is responsible for what that sign will look like; appreciated the input offered including having great editing but talked about making sure that as the Commission gives direction to staff, his expectation is that the City Manager will ensure that those things are implemented and that staff who works through the City Manager, will get things done. He suggested leaving things up to staff, so that they can be the implementers.

Commissioner Lang explained Members asked staff if the information being requested was appropriate, were cognizant of staff time and were concerned with overburdening them with requests, respect their position and understand where the line was drawn.

Commissioner McCauley talked about impacts from blending the various Commissions and noted that the Commission is here to advise and consent and provide assistance where needed.

Vice Chair Maroko provided background; talked about doing things as volunteers to alleviate staff's workload as much as possible and explained this item does need Council's vote of approval.

There were no public comments.

Motion by Vice Chair Maroko, seconded by Commissioner Lang, to adopt a process regarding the writing and the pictures, that the subcommittee compile the text and pictures for the sign with the help of the Research Librarian and the Historical Society, whatever is written gets approved by the Cultural Arts Manager or the Community

Services Director, they can decide who they want to approve the draft language, once it is approved, it goes to Commissioner Lang for edits and then it gets back for final approval by the Cultural Arts Manager or the Community Services Director who will then direct it to the in-house design team that has been set up by the Community Services Director and once they finish the design, it is approved by staff to be able to be sent to the fabricator, whoever the City decides is the appropriate fabricator.

Commissioner Caldwell stated he is supportive of the effort but preferred to allow staff to create and implement the process and allow Commissioners who want to be a part of the process to volunteer and work with staff to coordinate subsequent steps and stated he will not support the motion.

The motion failed 2-3, with the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Lang, Vice Chair Maroko
NOES:	Caldwell, Galassi, McCauley
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Rowe, Chair Yousufzai

In reply to Commissioner Lang's questions regarding the subcommittee's tasks, Commissioner Caldwell talked about allowing staff to implement Council directions; noted the recommended process seemed extensive and recommended that since the Commission has prioritized them for staff, City staff should be trusted in the implementation. He added that Commissioners could volunteer to assist but disagreed with making a motion to define the process as it would not allow staff to change it if necessary or even expedite it.

Discussion followed regarding formalizing that the Commission would like to help.

Deputy Community Services Director Orta added that staff's recommendations is for the Commission to consider assigning the Path of History work to the subcommittee and in doing so, staff would work with the subcommittee on developing a content, historical accuracy of the information, selection of the images and sign placement; noted the need for community input and buy-in and spoke in support of having staff work with the subcommittee on this project and offered an alternative to allow staff to work on the content and design and return to the Commission for approval. She hoped that involving the subcommittee on the front end and throughout, will help ensure the assistance and buy-in of the Commission and expedite the project.

Vice Chair Maroko reiterated the process noting the only direction to staff is that staff has the authority to approve any language and any design.

There were no public comments.

Motion by Commissioner Caldwell, seconded by Commissioner Galassi, to approve staff's recommendation to assign the Path of History Markers project to the Bringing

History to the Public Spaces Subcommittee and that staff would work directly with the subcommittee to develop content, historical accuracy of the information, selection of the images and sign placement for the eight prioritized signs.

The motion carried 5-0, with the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Caldwell, Galassi, Lang, McCauley, Vice Chair Maroko
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Rowe, Chair Yousufzai

L.3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE CITY'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE TO ALLOCATE A NOT TO EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$3,000 FOR EXPENSES RELATED TO THE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION ON APRIL 26, 2025

CONTACT: COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR ELIZABETH HAUSE

Cultural Arts Manager Meyer presented details of the Administrative Report.

Discussion followed regarding costs for last year's event, publicity, the total and source of funding, a breakdown of expenses, participation by the Library, light snacks, and the possibility of having food trucks.

Vice Chair Maroko invited public comments.

Christina stated she has never heard of this event.

Vice Chair Maroko offered a description of the event, including entertainment, and participation by Public Safety.

Deputy Community Services Director talked about promoting the event.

There were no other public comments.

Motion by Commissioner McCauley, seconded by Commissioner Lang, to approve the recommendation of the City's Birthday Celebration Ad Hoc Subcommittee to allocate a NTE amount of \$3,000 for expenses related to the birthday celebration on April 26, 2025.

The motion carried 5-0, with the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Caldwell, Galassi, Lang, McCauley, Vice Chair Maroko
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Rowe, Chair Yousufzai

L.4. COMMISSION SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW AND PROJECT UPDATE

Commissioner McCauley commented on the Facilities Use Subcommittee, noted the leagues have not been active and stated no other updates.

Commissioner Lang asked about the Franklin Park Playground Subcommittee and asked to be part of it.

Vice Chair Maroko noted there were already three Commissioners and Commissioner McCauley offered to give up his seat.

Commissioner Lang was therefore, assigned to the Franklin Park Playground Subcommittee.

Motion by Commissioner McCauley, seconded by Vice Chair Maroko, to replace Commissioner McCauley with Commissioner Lang, on the Franklin Park Playground Subcommittee. Seeing no opposition, Vice Chair Maroko so ordered.

M. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Library Director Vinke announced the City Manager will be attending the next meeting of the PAC to discuss the budget and receive input from the Commission and address items in the Strategic Plan relevant to the PAC.

N. COMMISSION MEMBER ITEMS AND FUTURE COMMISSION AGENDA TOPICS

Commissioner Lang requested a report on Recreation and Parks and Deputy Community Services Director Orta affirmed it will be provided in future agendas.

Commissioner Lang spoke about letting Public Works know about the need for maintenance in the bathrooms at Alta Vista and requested including the Franklin Park Playground Subcommittee in future agendas.

Commissioner Galassi asked for an update on the RFP for the sound study at Alta Vista regarding pickleball and Deputy Community Services Director Orta provided a brief update.

Commissioner McCauley asked about speed mitigation at Alta Vista Park.

Vice Chair Maroko asked about the status of the following: Wilderness Park landmark, the walking timeline, getting access to resources in the Historical Museum for the Path of History markers, the status of the Ito Open Space, acknowledging Asian American Month, the Path of History Markers fabricator, the Museum census, the Certified Annual Report to the State, Riviera Park plaques, the Park Ranger program, dedicating

the grassy area in back of the Library as the Bill Brand Civic Center Park and including a mural. Additionally, he asked about having the minutes posted or having access to the minutes before meetings so Commissioners can make recommended changes and stated it would be nice to have a Landmark and Naming Subcommittee and commented on potentially related tasks.

Commissioner Galassi noted that in the past, staff took care of that task and spoke about an SCE property offered for City use and asked about the possibility of installing pickleball courts there.

O. ADJOURNMENT – 8:19 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Public Amenities Commission, motion by Commissioner Caldwell, seconded by Commissioner Lang, to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m. to a regular meeting to be held at 6:30 p.m., on Wednesday, April 9, 2025, in the Redondo Beach City Hall Council Chambers 415 N. Pacific Coast Hwy. Redondo Beach, California.

The motion carried 5-0. Commissioner Rowe and Chair Yousufzai were absent.

All written comments submitted via eComment are included in the record and available for public review on the City website.

Respectfully submitted:

Dana Vinke
Library Director