



Minutes
Redondo Beach City Council
Tuesday, March 11, 2025
Closed Session - Adjourned Regular Meeting 4:30 p.m.
Open Session – Regular Meeting 6:00 p.m.

4:30 PM - CLOSED SESSION – ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

An Adjourned Regular Meeting of the Redondo Beach City Council was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Mayor Light in the City Hall Council Chambers, 415 Diamond Street, Redondo Beach, California.

B. ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Behrendt, Kaluderovic, Loewenstein, Nehrenheim, Obagi, Mayor Light

Officials Present: Mike Witzansky, City Manager
Melissa Villa, Analyst

C. SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND INVOCATION - None

D. BLUE FOLDER ITEMS – ADDITIONAL BACK UP MATERIALS - None

Analyst Villa reported there were no Blue Folder Items.

E. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Analyst Villa announced there were no public communications on Closed Session Items and Non-Agenda Items.

F. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION – 4:35 p.m.

F.1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION - The Closed Session is authorized by the attorney-client privilege - Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1).

Name of case:
Joshua St. Clair v. City of Redondo Beach
WCAB No: ADJ17581408

F.2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION - The Closed Session is authorized by the attorney-client privilege, Government

Code Section 54956.9(d)(1).

Name of Case:

**City of Redondo Beach v. Independent Cities Risk Management Authority,
et al.**

Case Number: BC674909

- F.3. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION - The Closed Session is authorized by the attorney-client privilege - Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1).**

Name of case:

Joshua St. Clair v. City of Redondo Beach

WCAB No: ADJ16478549

- F.4. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION - The Closed Session is authorized by the attorney-client privilege - Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1).**

Name of case:

Bryan Ridenour v. City of Redondo Beach

WCAB No: ADJ15365923

- F.5. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION - The Closed Session is authorized by the attorney-client privilege - Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1).**

Name of case:

Mark Chafe v. City of Redondo Beach

WCAB No: ADJ18094164

- F.6. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION - The Closed Session is authorized by the attorney-client privilege, Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1).**

Name of Case:

Mehta Mechanical Company v. City of Redondo Beach, and Does 1 through 100, inclusive

Case Number: 25TRCV00677

- F.7. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION - The Closed Session is authorized by the attorney-client privilege, Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1).**

Name of Case:

Venegas, Martha Sandoval v. City of Redondo Beach, and Does 1-25,

Inclusive
Case Number: 25TRCV00541

- F.8. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR - The Closed Session is authorized by the Government Code Section 54956.8.**

AGENCY NEGOTIATOR:
Mike Witzansky, City Manager
Elizabeth Hause, Community Services Director

PROPERTY:
309 Esplanade, Redondo Beach, CA 90277

NEGOTIATING PARTIES:
Made by Meg - Meg Walker

UNDER NEGOTIATION:
Both Price and Terms

- F.9. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR - The Closed Session is authorized by the Government Code Section 54956.8.**

AGENCY NEGOTIATOR:
Mike Witzansky, City Manager
Greg Kapovich, Waterfront & Economic Development Director

PROPERTY:
Portions of the Redondo Beach Marina Parking Lot, Seaside Lagoon, and California Surf Club
239 & 245 N. Harbor Drive, Redondo Beach, CA 90277 (portions of APN #s: 7503-029-900 and 7503-029-903)

NEGOTIATING PARTIES:
Allen Sanford, BeachLife Festival

UNDER NEGOTIATION:
Price and Terms

Analyst Villa read title to the items to be considered in Closed Session.

City Manager Witzansky announced that the following would be participating in Closed Session: City Manager Mike Witzansky, City Attorney Mike Webb, Assistant City Attorney Cheryl Park, Human Resources Director Diane Strickfaden, Community Services Director Elizabeth Hause, Assistant Community Services Director Kelly Orta, Outside Legal Counsel Carolyn Beliso and Robert Feldhake, Deputy City Attorney Christine Shin, Public Works Director Andy Winje and W.E.D. Director Greg Kapovich.

Motion by Councilmember Kaluderovic, seconded by Councilmember Loewenstein, and carried by voice vote, to recess to Closed Session at 4:35 p.m.

The motion carried 5-0.

G. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Mayor Light reconvened to Open Session at 6:04 p.m.

H. ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Behrendt, Kaluderovic, Loewenstein, Nehrenheim, Obagi, Mayor Light

Officials Present: Eleanor Manzano, City Clerk
Mike Witzansky, City Manager

I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS

City Manager Witzansky reported that under Item No. F.6, Council authorized the City Attorney to defend the City by a 4-0, with Councilmember Behrendt recused and under Item No. F.7, by a 5-0 vote, City Council authorized the City Attorney to defend the City.

J. ADJOURN TO REGULAR MEETING

Motion by Councilmember Loewenstein, seconded by Councilmember Nehrenheim, and carried by voice vote, to adjourn to the regular meeting at 6:05 p.m.

The motion carried 5-0.

6:00 PM – OPEN SESSION – REGULAR MEETING

A. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Redondo Beach City Council was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Mayor Light in the City Hall Council Chambers, 415 Diamond Street, Redondo Beach, California.

B. ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Behrendt, Kaluderovic, Loewenstein, Nehrenheim, Obagi, Mayor Light

Officials Present: Eleanor Manzano, City Clerk
Mike Webb, City Attorney
Mike Witzansky, City Manager

C. SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND INVOCATION

Mayor Light invited Veterans and Active Military to stand and recognized them for their service.

Andy, 6th grader at Parras Middle School, led in the salute to the flag.

Mayor Light called for a moment of silence.

D. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/AB 1234 TRAVEL EXPENSE REPORTS

D.1. MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION OF MARCH 2025 AS RED CROSS MONTH

On behalf of City Council, Mayor Light presented a proclamation declaring the month of March 2025, Red Cross Month in Redondo Beach.

Red Cross representatives Heidi Ziegler and Tara, President of the RUHS Red Cross Club, received the Proclamation and thanked the City for its support.

Mayor Light reported there was a movie shot this weekend, at the King Harbor Yacht Club; stated he attended the Public Safety event this weekend; spoke about a sea lion release this morning.

Councilmember Nehrenheim addressed the recent District 1 Community Meeting; thanked the community for their support through the years; reported taking a trip to Santa Barbara for the Independent Cities Association meeting.

Councilmember Loewenstein reported attending the Independent Cities Association meeting in Santa Barbara; read a letter from Former Supervisor Janice Hahn regarding a panel held on homelessness; stated he spoke to Councilmembers from Hermosa and Manhattan Beach about a potential South Bay Joint Powers Agreement Road District where they could work together to build roads and not have to pay paving companies where they can all save a lot of money; stated he hopes to make a referral at the end of the meeting to talk about this item at a future Council meeting; announced his last upcoming District 2 meeting on March 20th from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm.

Councilmember Kaluderovic commended Public Works and Traffic Engineering for the installation of speed cushions on Flagler; thanked RBPD for a recent joint detail with Hermosa, Manhattan Beach and El Segundo regarding eBikes; congratulated the Redondo Union High School Boys' Basketball Team for their recent win against Mira Costa; thanked Coastline Cares for the recent clean up at another home in North

Redondo in conjunction with Coastline Covenant and Athens Services. In addition, she announced the upcoming online District 3 meeting on March 25th at 6:00 pm.

Councilmember Obagi thanked Coastline Covenant for their work in North Redondo; reported attending the Public Safety Fair, the Kite Festival; thanked Mike Klein and the Public Works Team for installing a pollinator fountain at the Civic Center; noted increased police enforcement on Ford Avenue and expressed his appreciation to residents of District 4 for their support.

Councilmember Behrendt spoke about the kickoff of AYSO Spring Season; recognized those who help get Region 17 up and running every year: Regional Commissioner Shawn Mahloch for the U16 and U19 Commissioner Mike Copnall; recognized the work they do to support the City's young athletes and recognized Youth Athlete Felipe Okasa.

Mayor Light reported attending a League of California Cities meeting attended by Senator Ben Allen and Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi; announced an upcoming Meeting of Mayors to discuss how to tackle World Cup and the Olympics on April 5th.

E. APPROVE ORDER OF AGENDA

City Manager Witzansky pulled Item No. H.15 from tonight's agenda.

Motion by Councilmember Loewenstein, seconded by Councilmember Obagi, and approved by voice vote, to approve the order of the agenda, as amended by removing Item No. H.15.

The motion carried 5-0.

F. AGENCY RECESS – 6:40 p.m.

Motion by Councilmember Loewenstein, seconded by Councilmember Obagi, and approved by voice vote, to recess to the Redondo Beach Housing Authority at 6:40 p.m.

The motion carried 5-0.

F.1. REGULAR MEETING OF THE REDONDO BEACH HOUSING AUTHORITY – 6:40 p.m.

CONTACT: ELIZABETH HAUSE, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

F.2. REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY FINANCING AUTHORITY – 7:05 p.m.

CONTACT: STEPHANIE MEYER, INTERIM FINANCE DIRECTOR

F.3. PUBLIC FINANCING AUTHORITY - REGULAR MEETING – CANCELLED

RECONVENE TO REGULAR MEETING FROM AGENCY MEETING – 7:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Behrendt, Kaluderovic, Loewenstein, Nehrenheim, Obagi, Mayor Light

G. BLUE FOLDER ITEMS – ADDITIONAL BACK UP MATERIALS

G.1 For Blue Folder Documents Approved at the City Council Meeting

Analyst Villa reported Blue Folder Items for Item No. H.11, J.1 and N.1.

Motion by Councilmember Loewenstein, seconded by Councilmember Nehrenheim, and approved by voice vote, to receive and file Blue Folder Items.

The motion carried 5-0.

H. CONSENT CALENDAR

H.1. APPROVE AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING FOR THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AND REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 11, 2025

CONTACT: ELEANOR MANZANO, CITY CLERK

H.2. APPROVE MOTION TO READ BY TITLE ONLY AND WAIVE FURTHER READING OF ALL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS LISTED ON THE AGENDA

CONTACT: ELEANOR MANZANO, CITY CLERK

H.3. APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CITY COUNCIL MINUTES: A. NOVEMBER 12, 2024 ADJOURNED AND REGULAR MEETING B. NOVEMBER 19, 2024 ADJOURNED AND REGULAR MEETING

CONTACT: ELEANOR MANZANO, CITY CLERK

H.4. PAYROLL DEMANDS CHECKS 30129-30144 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$16,285.17, PD. 2/28/25 DIRECT DEPOSIT 291434-292059 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,269,309.20, PD. 2/28/25 EFT/ACH \$9,423.24, PD. 2/14/25 (PP2504) EFT/ACH \$9,489.90, PD. 2/28/25 (PP2505) EFT/ACH \$530.00, PD. 3/1/25 EFT/ACH \$4,500.00, PD. 3/5/25

EFT/ACH \$455,586.06, PD. 3/10/25 (PP2504)

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE DEMANDS

CHECKS 118264-118463 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,926,287.31

EFT CALPERS MEDICAL INSURANCE \$504,741.93

**DIRECT DEPOSIT 100009176-100009264 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$102,882.17,
PD.2/28/25**

REPLACEMENT DEMANDS 118262-118263

CONTACT: STEPHANIE MEYER, INTERIM FINANCE DIRECTOR

H.5. APPROVE CONTRACTS UNDER \$35,000:

1. APPROVE A FIFTH AMENDMENT TO THE FUNDING AGREEMENT #920000000F5301 WITH LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (LACMTA) RECEIVED ON FEBRUARY 5, 2025 FOR THE GRANT AVENUE SIGNAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, JOB NO. 41090 TO EXTEND THE TERM TO FEBRUARY 28, 2025

CONTACT: STEPHANIE MEYER, INTERIM FINANCE DIRECTOR

H.6. APPROVE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR KINGSDALE AVENUE RESURFACING (BETWEEN GRANT AVENUE AND 182ND STREET) PROJECT, JOB NO. 40880, AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY CLERK TO ADVERTISE THE PROJECT FOR COMPETITIVE BIDS

CONTACT: ANDREW WINJE, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

H.7. ACCEPT AS COMPLETE THE INTERNATIONAL BOARDWALK SURFACE REPAIR PROJECT, JOB NO. 70810, AND THE RIVIERA VILLAGE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, JOB NO. 41310, AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY ENGINEER TO FILE A NOTICE OF COMPLETION FOR THE PROJECTS WITH THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY RECORDER AND RELEASE THE FINAL RETENTION PAYMENT OF \$92,408 TO CSI SERVICES, UPON EXPIRATION OF THE 35-DAY LIEN PERIOD AFTER SAID RECORDATION AND NO CLAIMS BEING FILED UPON THE PROJECTS

CONTACT: ANDREW WINJE, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

H.8. ADOPT BY TITLE ONLY RESOLUTION NO. CC-2503-009, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA, AWARDED A CONTRACT TO LCR EARTHWORK AND ENGINEERING, CORP., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,595,851 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE RESIDENTIAL STREET REHABILITATION PROJECT CYCLE 2 PHASE 4, JOB NO. 40190

CONTACT: ANDREW WINJE, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

- H.9. ADOPT BY TITLE ONLY ORDINANCE NO. 3291-25 ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 10, CHAPTERS 2 (ZONING ORDINANCE) AND 5 (COASTAL LAND USE PLAN IMPLEMENTING ORDINANCE) OF THE REDONDO BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE RELATED TO THE USE OF ELECTRONIC SIGNS WITHIN THE HARBOR/PIER SPECIAL DISTRICT FOR SECOND READING AND ADOPTION**

CONTACT: MARC WIENER, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

- H.10. APPROVE A THREE-YEAR AGREEMENT WITH CASHEL INC. DBA INTEGRATED MEDIA SYSTEMS FOR COUNCIL CHAMBER AND LIBRARY AUDIO-VISUAL EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE, LICENSING AND REPAIR FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$123,665**

CONTACT: MIKE COOK, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR

- H.11. ADOPT BY TITLE ONLY ORDINANCE NO. 3287-25 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 6 TO TITLE 6 OF THE REDONDO BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE TO REGULATE COMMERCIAL CANNABIS BUSINESSES. FOR SECOND READING AND ADOPTION**

ADOPT BY TITLE ONLY ORDINANCE NO. 3288-25 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING TITLE 10, CHAPTER 2 SECTION 10-2.1626 OF THE REDONDO BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE TO ALLOW COMMERCIAL CANNABIS ACTIVITIES INLAND ZONES OF THE CITY. FOR SECOND READING AND ADOPTION

ADOPT BY TITLE ONLY ORDINANCE NO. 3289-25 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING TITLE 10, CHAPTER 5 SECTION 10-5.1626 OF THE REDONDO BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE TO ALLOW COMMERCIAL CANNABIS ACTIVITIES COASTAL ZONES OF THE CITY. FOR SECOND READING AND ADOPTION

CONTACT: ELIZABETH HAUSE, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

- H.12. ADOPT BY TITLE ONLY RESOLUTION NO. CC-2503-010, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING THE SALARY RANGE FOR THE POSITION OF SENIOR RECREATION COORDINATOR**

CONTACT: ELIZABETH HAUSE, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

H.13. APPROVE THE BUSINESS LICENSE TAX WAIVER APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY BIH, LLC REQUESTING AN EXEMPTION FROM COMPLIANCE WITH THE BUSINESS LICENSE TAX RATES ESTABLISHED IN REDONDO BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 6-1.22, AS PER SECTION 6-1.08 OF THE REDONDO BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE, FOR THE HOLI BEACH FESTIVAL 2025 EVENT SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 15, 2025 AT THE SEASIDE LAGOON

CONTACT: LUKE SMUDE, ASSISTANT TO THE CITY MANAGER

H.14. APPROVE AMENDMENT TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA FOR USE OF ALLOCATED STATE OF CALIFORNIA GRANT FUNDS TO SUPPORT THE CITY'S HOMELESS COURT AND ENHANCED RESPONSE TO HOMELESSNESS FOR THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$500,000 TO EXTEND THE TERM TO FEBRUARY 28, 2027

CONTACT: MICHAEL W. WEBB, CITY ATTORNEY
JOY FORD, QUALITY OF LIFE PROSECUTOR

H.15. This Item was pulled from the agenda at the request of the City Manager.

Councilmember Obagi commented on the re-pavement of Kingsdale between Grant and 182nd.

Councilmember Behrendt pulled Item No. H.3 from Consent for separate discussion.

Motion by Councilmember Kaluderovic, seconded by Councilmember Obagi, to approve the Consent Calendar except for Items No. H.3 which was pulled for separate discussion and H.15 which was pulled from the agenda.

Mayor Light invited public comments.

Rachel Shekar, District 4, spoke in opposition to the Cannabis Ordinance and believed that Councilmembers who have financial conflicts of interest should recuse themselves from voting.

Jim Mueller spoke about Proposition 64 and Cities having the right to ban cannabis; talked about changes that have occurred since 2022 including increased cannabis contamination and the ability of the cannabis businesses to be profitable; noted most residents do not want cannabis businesses in the City; suggested that Council take no action and recommend to the new Council to determine the will of the people given the current issues; hoped the new Council will move forward in harmony with the will of the people.

Nikki Vasquez, District 3, opposed the Cannabis Ordinance; urged Council to respect

the wishes of the majority of Redondo residents; asked that they vote against it and allow the incoming City Council and Mayor to review all safety and economic data and pause all cannabis activity until the safety of commercial cannabis is assured by the Department of Cannabis Control; asked they do the right thing for the children and residents of the community.

Melissa Dechandt urged Council to pause all cannabis activity; referenced an article she previously submitted to Council about the City of Santa Cruz mandating that the Department of Cannabis Control secede their authority for regulation to agencies that can properly handle the safety and testing of cannabis; urged Council to consider changes in the industry and talked about the lack of funding and personnel to monitor the agency and do what needs to be done. She addressed back tax revenue currently owed to the State by the cannabis industry and reiterated her request to Council to pause or to refer this to the new Council with input from the various Commissions that are considering the matter.

Mary Claire Scanlon, District 1, thanked Council for their service; spoke in opposition to the Cannabis Ordinance; urged Council to oppose it or to send it to the next Council to review and to address safety concerns and increased youth use.

Daniel Nelson, District 2, opined that legal dispensaries will not drive out illegal dispensaries; felt it will increase the availability of cannabis in Redondo; urged Council to oppose the ordinance.

Jonatan Cvetko, District 1, disappointed that this item was not on the agenda but that the public had to bring it up; noted 61 of the 64 eComments opposed it; spoke about residents opposing the ordinance; felt Council wants to do what it wants instead of what residents want; talked about review of the matter by the Public Safety Commission and the Youth Commission and that a new Council will be coming in; opined it is not responsible for Council to approve this item tonight.

Brad Waller, District 1, explained that while campaigning and speaking with residents, cannabis was a topic of discussion; reported that a lot of residents had the misunderstanding that the last time they voted, they voted against cannabis, instead of against having three dispensaries in the City; asked that Council pause and explore having a vote of the people.

Jess Money, District 3, noted that kids have been accessing marijuana since the 1970's, the same way they access alcohol; felt Council should consider medicinal cannabis instead of just recreational smoking and mentioned that probably over 50% of the City's employees and, perhaps current or former Councilmembers, have toked up at times. He urged Council not to be hypocritical and follow the law.

Joan Irvine, District 1, talked about how long it has taken to get to this point; explained Measure E; noted it was not against cannabis, but against a particular outside interest wanting to establish a cannabis business in the City; reiterated the time, money and

effort given to the topic in the last seven years; asserted that legal cannabis business drives out the black market and urged Council to move forward with this matter.

Andy Porkchop, Torrance, did not believe this would be a problem to the City; talked about getting together and fighting inflation; urged Council to concentrate on keeping the economy going and spoke about people needing food and services.

Susana Ortiz reported she has worked at Redondo Union High School and has seen the effect cannabis has on young people; urged Council to oppose the Cannabis Ordinance based on public health issues and allow the incoming Council to review all safety and economic data. Additionally, she referenced an article in the Wall Street Journal about the effect the cannabis industry has had in Colorado.

Courtney Carone (via Zoom) pointed out that presently, cannabis is being sold in Redondo Beach and nearby cities; stated the City is not spending huge amounts of money on youth prevention; noted most operators already have youth prevention programs in place; stated youth are already obtaining cannabis in the City from illegal sources and not legal sources; reported that most reports are showing that crime does not increase with legal stores, that there is 24-hour a day security, onsite and spoke about crime increasing in the operations of illegal cannabis stores. She believes the City should focus on stopping the number of illegal operators; stated passing this on to the next Council is unnecessary, as the majority of this Council remains intact and Council has discussed this "to death" and urged Council to pass the ordinance.

Marcy Guillermo (via Zoom) spoke in opposition to the Cannabis Ordinance; reported there is new and significant information that justifies a pause and reevaluation of the topic; urged Council to listen to the residents. Additionally, she talked about working with L.A. County Public Health and the Education Board to produce the right solution for the City.

Susan Ruben (via Zoom) spoke in opposition to the ordinance; questioned why Council is considering this after residents voted against having cannabis businesses in the City; and reported her husband observed a disheveled man smoking marijuana in front of Munchies on Artesia Boulevard.

Analyst Villa reported receiving 64 eComments: 1 in support, 61 opposed and 2 neutral.

There were no other public comments.

Councilmember Behrendt agreed with comments expressed by parents; reiterated he is personally against having cannabis retail shops in Redondo Beach; listed his reasons and concerns but pointed out that he is only one vote of the Council; stated his recommendation to exclude a portion of Artesia Boulevard was accepted so he will support it.

The motion carried 5-0, by voice vote.

Analyst Villa read titles to Resolutions No. CC-2503-009, CC-2503-010 and Ordinances No. 3291-25, 3287-25, 3288-25 and 3289-25.

I. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

H.3. APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CITY COUNCIL MINUTES:

A. NOVEMBER 12, 2024 ADJOURNED AND REGULAR MEETING

B. NOVEMBER 19, 2024 ADJOURNED AND REGULAR MEETING

CONTACT: ELEANOR MANZANO, CITY CLERK

Councilmember Behrendt reported he did not have an opportunity to speak with the City Clerk but did speak with the City Manager about a correction to one of the set of minutes regarding extension of time for a public speaker.

City Manager Witzansky reported speaking with the City Clerk who reviewed it and offered corrections.

Analyst Villa explained the correction and noted the minutes can be approved, as amended.

Motion by Councilmember Behrendt, seconded by Councilmember Kaluderovic, and approved by voice vote, Item No. H.3, as amended.

The motion carried 5-0.

J. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

J.1 For eComments and Emails Received from the Public

Mayor Light opened this portion of the meeting

Holly Osborne, District 5, spoke about her interest in housing and the initiative to restore zoning control to cities: The Our Neighborhood Voices Initiative. She listed State mandates relative to parking and ADUs; reported sending Council a photo of a home in San Diego with eight ADUs being built on the site, all with no parking; urged City Council to not increase what is allowed on residential property, not increase what is allowed on commercial properties next to residential neighborhoods and not increase height limits.

Gil Escontrias, District 1, representing Blue Line Dogs and Redondo Beach Dog Park, talked about an opportunity for the City to increase First Responder training opportunities and funding; offered scholarships to Animal Control or any First Responders interested in participating in the 8-hour course involving pets in emergency situations.

Walt Howells, District 2, thanked Councilmembers Loewenstein and Nehrenheim and Mayor Light and Councilmembers Behrendt, Kaluderovic and Obagi for their continued service.

Melissa DeChandt discussed the FDA's ban on flavored tobacco; talked about synthetic and non-tobacco derived nicotine products being sold in smoke shops that have no regulations or related data and addressed banning the new vape products in the City.

Motion by Councilmember Kaluderovic, seconded by Councilmember Nehrenheim, and approved by voice vote, to receive and file documents submitted by Melissa DeChandt.

The motion carried 5-0.

Jess Money, District 3, thanked and congratulated Councilmember Nehrenheim for 8 years of outstanding service; noted he was the Councilmember for District 1 but served the entire City and listed his many notable contributions; talked about the Mayoral race and spoke negatively about one candidate; predicted that on the next election, there will be a ballot measure to exempt the AES site from Measure C; stated "I'd also congratulate Joy Ford who is our newest corrupt conservery for the Redondo Beach organized crime family."; spoke about continued efforts against corruption.

Caleb Perkins, District 2 and Redondo Beach Union High School Student, spoke about interviewing Councilmember Loewenstein and speaking about ways to honor Former Mayor Bill Brand after his passing; reported he suggested naming the proposed park at the AES site after him; talked about Mayor Brand's vision for the City and suggested naming the park, "Bill Brand Oceanside Park" as a way to honor his contributions to the City; asked that City Council consider his proposal.

Andy Porkchop, Torrance, spoke about the Legado Project; talked about a private company buying the AES site and suggested that Council let the people know how much it spent on lawyers.

Joan Irvine discussed the Women's Day event at Veterans Park; noted this was the first mayoral election where two women have been on the ballot and asked the City to issue a proclamation recognizing International Women's Month, in the future.

Marcy Guillermo (via Zoom), District 1, spoke about Hermosa Beach approving an ordinance preventing homeless people near businesses or camping/living in a vehicle on a public street and wondered what the City is doing to prevent homeless people from adjacent cities to come into Redondo Beach.

There were no other public comments, and Mayor Light closed this portion of the meeting.

K. EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS

Councilmember Loewenstein reported speaking to members of the public regarding Item No. L.1.

Councilmember Obagi reported speaking to members of the public regarding Item No. L.1.

Councilmember Behrendt reported speaking with the Mayor and City staff.

Mayor Light reported speaking with City staff, Councilmembers and members of Shakespeare by the Sea and BCHD Management in the past.

Councilmember Kaluderovic reported speaking with Mayor Light.

L. PUBLIC HEARINGS

L.1. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER A LEVEL II ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT ALLOWING LIVE ENTERTAINMENT WITHIN AN EXISTING BUILDING LOCATED IN THE INSTITUTIONAL (P-CF) ZONE

PROCEDURES:

- 1. Open the public hearing and take testimony regarding the request of the Little Fish Theatre/Shakespeare by the Sea for approval of an Entertainment Permit (Level II) at 514 N. Prospect Avenue;**
- 2. Close the public hearing**
- 3. Approve the Level II Entertainment Permit requested for the Little Fish Theatre.**

CONTACT: MARC WIENER, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Motion by Councilmember Obagi, seconded by Councilmember Nehrenheim, and approved by voice vote, to open the public hearing.

The motion carried 5-0.

Community Development Director Wiener introduced Senior Planner Steven Giang and deferred to him for a report.

Senior Planner Giang narrated a PowerPoint presentation with details of the Administrative Report; stated it is regarding consideration of a Level 2 Entertainment Permit allowing live entertainment within an existing institutional building on 514 N. Prospect Avenue (property location in an institutional (P-CF) zone).

Mayor Light and Councilmembers Loewenstein and Kaluderovic spoke in support of the project.

Mayor Light invited public comments.

Suzanne Dean and Stephanie Coltrin, Co-Artistic Directors for Little Fish Theater/Shakespeare by the Sea, spoke about the organization; addressed performances, the importance of arts and culture in a community, recovery of the theater industry since the pandemic and urged City Council to approve their entertainment permit.

Andy Porkchop spoke in support of the project and urged Council to approve it.

Analyst Villa reported receiving 5 eComments in support of the item.

There were no other public comments on this item.

Councilmember Nehrenheim spoke favorably about the project.

Motion by Councilmember Loewenstein, seconded by Councilmember Kaluderovic, and approved by voice vote, to close the public hearing.

The motion carried 5-0.

Brief discussion followed regarding the waiver.

In reply to Councilmember Behrendt's inquiry, City Manager Witzansky addressed the purpose of the bond in relation to the potential overuse of Police resources due to incident responses; noted the City has no concern with issuing this particular permit as there are little risk factors; noted the group has been in financial distress because of circumstances beyond their control and wanted to ensure Council at least considered the fee waiver.

Councilmember Behrendt expressed concerns regarding setting precedence and City Manager Witzansky reported that given the circumstances and the infrequent type of request there is no significant reoccurrence, so he does not have precedential concerns.

Councilmember Obagi spoke favorably regarding the item.

Motion by Councilmember Kaluderovic, seconded by Councilmember Nehrenheim, and approved by voice vote, the Level 2 Entertainment Permit requested for the Little Fish Theatre and their request for a bond waiver.

The motion carried 5-0.

M. ITEMS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS AGENDAS - None

N. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION PRIOR TO ACTION

N.1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE CITY'S 2025 FOURTH OF JULY FIREWORKS DISPLAY

CONTACT: ELIZABETH HAUSE, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

Community Services Director Hause narrated a PowerPoint presentation with details of the Administrative Report which included:

- Midyear Budget Discussion
 - BRR submitted for fireworks options
 - Landside options
 - Alternate barge providers and cost savings

W.E.D. Director Kapovich commented on the efforts to obtain sponsorships from various groups and asked for direction from Council.

Councilmember Obagi asked about the possibility of the City acquiring its own barge, getting contributions from neighboring cities, and doing a crowdfunding in planning for next year.

City Manager Witzansky spoke about the possibility of securing multi-year agreements and getting multi-year commitments from sponsors; reported he will work with counterparts from neighboring cities about partnering for future events and will seek opportunities for broader donations.

Discussion followed regarding the market rates for used barges and other considerations and working with nonprofit organizations.

Councilmember Nehrenheim thanked staff for their work, was excited to see contributions by partners, commented on other uses for a barge, in the harbor and spoke favorably about the project.

Discussion followed regarding partnerships with nonprofit organizations.

Motion by Councilmember Nehrenheim, seconded by Councilmember Obagi, to approve the updated budget amendment and contracts, as required, to move forward with the Fourth of July Fireworks Show and direct staff to seek multi-year agreements and contracts.

Mayor Light invited public comments.

Joan Irvine, District 1, thanked Council and staff for its work; spoke about the types of non-profits that can contribute; suggested that Council take care of the budget to ensure there will be fireworks in future celebrations.

Andy Porkchop spoke favorably about the fireworks; suggested the City buy a barge and commended staff.

Mark Hansen (via Zoom) , King Harbor boater, thanked staff to make this possible; spoke about the benefits of the event to the City and thanked the members of the business community for contributing; suggested listing them on flyers to publicly thank them for their contributions.

Analyst Villa reported receiving one eComment in support of the item.

There were no other public comments.

The motion carried, 5-0, by voice vote.

N.2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING OPTIONS TO INCREASE THE INSTALLATION OF NATIVE PLANTS AND POLLINATORS IN THE CITY AND CONSIDERATION OF THE INPUT PROVIDED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION ON THE OPTIONS

CONTACT: ANDREW WINJE, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Public Works Director Winje introduced City Engineer Lauren Sablan, Parks Maintenance Manager/Arborist Mark Garlock and Deputy Public Works Director Mike Klein and deferred to them for reports.

City Engineer Sablan narrated a PowerPoint presentation with details of the Administrative Report which included:

- Native Plants and Pollinators
 - Native Plants – Plants that grow naturally in the region or eco system
 - Pollinators – Any animal or insect that facilitates the reproduction of plants, including fruits and vegetables
 - Pollinator Fountain – Shallow dish or container filled with water designed to provide a water source for pollinators
- Background
 - Current Strategic Plan item
 - PWSC review and recommendations
- City Properties
 - Current practices and policy options
- Private Property Development
 - General Plan update discussion – Anticipated Summer 2025
 - State's Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO)
- Potential Policy Actions
- Recommendations
 - Provide resources to educate the community
 - Draft guidelines for maintenance practices on City-owned properties

- Prepare for 2027 State Commercial Development requirements
- Provide direction on any additional policy actions Council would like staff to pursue

City Manager Witzansky addressed steps to help educate the community; talked about the City controlling most open space areas; suggested direction for staff to follow up this report with the preparation of guidelines providing a decision-making framework for staff that will help determine where and when it would be appropriate to install native plants, where it is the most feasible with a high likelihood of success and opine on what Council wants to allow on City-owned parkways.

Discussion followed regarding the timeline for creating a tree palette and consideration by the Public Works and Sustainability Commission and preparing for 2027 requirements and necessary ordinance updates.

Mayor Light referenced Slide 2A; corrected misconceptions in the report and presented examples of native plantings in specific areas of the City.

Discussion followed regarding plantings at Wilderness Park, considering wind, soil and location, the need to use care in choosing the right species of plants, existing databases, upcoming legislation regarding watering restrictions, artificial turf, exception on trees, turf installation at Aviation Park Sports Field, using natural weed barriers (paper), decreased prices for California native plants and non-native plants and trees.

Councilmember Obagi spoke about prioritizing educating the public and developing a plant and tree guide; referenced Slide 2B with an example of a draft tree and plant guide and addressed best practices.

Councilmember Loewenstein talked about the median on Catalina and urged the City not to delay the project any longer.

Mayor Light invited public comments.

Andy Porkchop, Torrance, spoke about plantings along The Esplanade; talked about grass being the best ground cover; opined growing weeds in the front yard is good and mentioned the need to conserve water and implement water-saving features.

There were no other public comments on this item.

City Manager Witzansky confirmed Council's acceptance of recommendations 1-3 and commented on specific projects.

Public Works Director Winje reported staff has a working draft of the parkway guidelines and talked about distinguishing between the things that can be done with and without a permit; suggested inventorying City facilities and prioritizing of specific locations.

Discussion followed regarding the City already requiring native plants, broadening the diversity of the plants the City already utilizes and investing in expanding the palette, and placing it in the right places.

Motion by Councilmember Behrendt, seconded by Councilmember Obagi, and carried by voice vote, to direct staff to move forward with recommendations 1-3 as presented on the slide, including compliance with all State requirements.

The motion carried 5-0.

O. CITY MANAGER ITEMS

City Manager Witzansky reported that starting two weeks from yesterday the new Assistant to the City Manager, Jane Chung, will be starting; reported she will also provide administrative project management assistance work to help with the implementation of Measure FP.

P. MAYOR AND COUNCIL ITEMS

P.1. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF MAYOR LIGHT'S APPOINTMENT OF ANNEKE BLAIR TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION FOR A PARTIAL TERM ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

Mayor Light provided a brief report and appointed Anneke Blair to the Public Safety Commission for a partial term ending September 30, 2025.

Councilmember Nehrenheim reported Anneke Blair will do an amazing job and has been a major advocate for the City for many years.

Motion by Councilmember Nehrenheim, seconded by Councilmember Loewenstein, to approve Mayor Light's appointment of Anneke Blair to the Public Safety Commission for a partial term ending September 30, 2025.

Councilmember Kaluderovic noted the need to represent District 3.

Mayor Light invited public comments.

Austin Carmichael, District 5 and Chair of the Public Safety Commission, expressed excitement and support for the appointment; voiced some previous concerns for the appointment; wished the Councilmembers that would be leaving his best.

City Attorney Webb addressed Commission membership in the Charter and noted that appointing a Commissioner for a partial term is not a Charter violation, if Council approves the item.

Mayor Light stated there is no District 3 representative at present.

There were no other public comments on this item.

The motion carried 5-0, by voice vote.

Q. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REFERRALS TO STAFF

Mayor Light asked the City Attorney to look into inclement weather shelters for the homeless.

Councilmember Kaluderovic stated she would be open to a discussion and hoped to hear recommendations and suggestions from the City Attorney.

City Attorney Mike Webb joked about the timeline (since he is retiring on April 1st) and mentioned he would do his best to come up with some recommendations/suggestions.

More discussion followed on ideas for the homeless.

Councilmember Loewenstein reported going to ICA and talking to Councilmembers from Hermosa and Manhattan Beaches and City Manager Witzansky about entering into a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) with the three Beach Cities that involves buying equipment and paving roads in the future.

Motion by Councilmember Loewenstein, seconded by Councilmember Obagi, and approved by voice vote, to direct staff to explore entering into a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) with the three Beach Cities that involves buying equipment and paving roads in the future.

The motion carried, 5-0.

Motion by Councilmember Kaluderovic, seconded by Councilmember Behrendt, to direct staff to return with a discussion with the new Council, regarding whether to release RFPs for cannabis retail shops in the City.

Discussion followed regarding waiting until the new ordinance is in effect.

The motion carried 4-1, by voice vote. Councilmember Nehrenheim was opposed.

Councilmember Obagi requested a BRR regarding asphalt zippers and other repaving alternatives and including whether spot treatment is feasible in the worse parts of Grant Avenue, maintenance and training costs and whether funds could come from the Vehicle Replacement Fund. Additionally, he requested another BRR on the feasibility of raised crosswalks on Ford Avenue.

Motion by Councilmember Obagi, seconded by Councilmember Kaluderovic, and approved by voice vote, to direct staff to return with a discussion about enrolling BCT

and RBUSD in Metro Go Pass and related cost impacts and another discussion about issuing an RFP, RFQ or RFI for potential licensees of the Redondo Beach logo.

The motion carried 5-0.

Councilmember Behrendt mentioned comments by Gil Escontrias, District 1, representing Blue Line Dogs and Redondo Beach Dog Park and his offer to provide free training.

Discussion followed regarding the quality of his services.

Motion by Councilmember Behrendt, seconded by Councilmember Nehrenheim, and approved by voice vote, to direct staff to return with a future discussion regarding the free services offered by Blue Line Dogs.

The motion carried 5-0.

R. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

The Closed Session meeting was cancelled.

S. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION - None

The Closed Session meeting was cancelled.

T. ADJOURNMENT – 9:47 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, motion by Councilmember Loewenstein, seconded by Councilmember Nehrenheim, to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 p.m. to an Adjourned Regular meeting to be held at 4:30 p.m. (Closed Session) and a Regular meeting to be held at 6:00 p.m. (Open Session) on Tuesday, March 18, 2025 in the Redondo Beach City Hall Council Chambers, 415 N. Pacific Coast Hwy., Redondo Beach, California.

The motion carried, 5-0.

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

Respectfully submitted:

Eleanor Manzano, CMC
City Clerk

