

Minutes  
Redondo Beach City Council  
Tuesday, May 5, 2026  
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: Waller, Castle, Kaluderovic, Obagi, Behrendt, Mayor Light

Councilmembers Absent: None

Officials Present: Mike Witzansky, City Manager  
Joy Ford, City Attorney  
Emily Bodkin, Administrative Specialist/Liaison

### C. SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND INVOCATION - None

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

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

Liaison Bodkin reported no eComments for non-agenda items and no Zoom attendees; reported one eComment for item F.5 on the agenda.

### F. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

#### 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:**

**Warlie Corteza v. City of Redondo Beach, Quality Seafood, Inc., BC Urban, LLC and DOES 1 to 25**

**Case Number: 25TRCV00066**

**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:**

**Marcia St. Laurent v. City of Redondo Beach, Howard E. Wood, Susan C. Wood, The HS Wood Family Trust and DOES 1-100, Inclusive  
Case Number: 25TRCV01441**

**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:**

**Phillip Mack v. City of Redondo Beach; and DOES 1-20, inclusive  
Case No: 24TRCV03382**

**F.4. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR - The Closed Session is authorized by the Government Code Section 54956.8.**

**AGENCY NEGOTIATOR:**

**Mike Witzansky, City Manager  
Katherine Buck, Acting Waterfront & Economic Development Director  
Jon Goetz, Redwood Public Law**

**PROPERTY:**

**100 International Boardwalk, Redondo Beach, CA 90277**

**130 International Boardwalk, Redondo Beach, CA 90277**

**(a portion of APN: 7505-002-932)**

**NEGOTIATING PARTIES:**

**Jeff Jones, Quality Seafood, Inc.**

**UNDER NEGOTIATION:**

**Lease Status, Price, and Terms**

**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:**

**Feras Adamo, an individual; Manhattan Beach Smoke Shop Inc., a California Corporation v. City of Redondo Beach; Jim Light, an individual; and DOES 1 through 100, inclusive  
Case Number: 26STCP01367**

Liaison Bodkin read titles to be discussed at Closed Session.

City Manager Witzansky announced the following would be participating in Closed Session: City Manager Mike Witzansky, City Attorney Joy Ford, Assistant City Attorney Cheryl Park, Outside Legal Counsel Joshua Dale, Acting W.E.D. Director Katherine Buck, Outside Legal Counsel John Goetz, and Internal Legal Counsel Aleena Hashmi.

Motion by Councilmember Castle, seconded by Councilmember Waller, to recess to Closed Session at 4:33 p.m.

Motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.

**G. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

Mayor Light reconvened to Open Session at 6:06 p.m.

**H. ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Present: Waller, Castle, Kaluderovic, Obagi, Behrendt, Mayor Light

Councilmembers Absent: None

Officials Present: Eleanor Manzano, City Clerk  
Mike Witzansky, City Manager  
Joy Ford, City Attorney  
Emily Bodkin, Administrative Specialist/Liaison

**I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS**

City Manager Witzansky stated there were no reportable actions.

**J. ADJOURN TO REGULAR MEETING**

Motion by Councilmember Waller, seconded by Councilmember Castle, to adjourn to the Open Session at 6:06 p.m.

Motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.

**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 6:06 p.m. by Mayor Light in the City Hall Council Chambers, 415 Diamond Street, Redondo Beach, California.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Present: Waller, Castle, Kaluderovic, Obagi, Behrendt, Mayor Light

Councilmembers Absent: None

Officials Present: Eleanor Manzano, City Clerk  
Mike Witzansky, City Manager  
Joy Ford, City Attorney  
Emily Bodkin, Administrative Specialist/Liaison

**C. SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND INVOCATION**

Mayor Light invited veterans and active-duty military to stand and be recognized for their service.

Caden, 5<sup>th</sup> grader at Washington Elementary School, led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Light asked all to remain standing for a moment of silent invocation.

**D. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/AB 1234 TRAVEL**

Mayor Light reported an incident from that weekend’s BeachLife event; thanked the RBPd for their response in handling the situation and acknowledged the BeachLife organizers and the City for adapting to the incident; announced that he would be doing a public State of the City on May 20, 2026 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Library; reported as his first act as the representative for the SBBCOG he would be attending the General Assembly in Palm Springs on Thursday.

Councilmember Behrendt reported that Part 3 of the Pillars of Public Safety Joint Meeting with special guest City Attorney Joy Ford was a successful event; announced that the final Pillars of Public Safety with Councilmember Obagi will be held on Monday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the RBPAC with special guest LA District Attorney Nathan Hochman.

Councilmember Obagi echoed the appreciation to Joy Ford and her staff for speaking at their joint meeting; thanked the RBPd and RBFD for all their efforts keeping everyone safe during the events over the weekend; congratulated Allen Sanford and the BeachLife Festival for another great event; announced the North Redondo Farmers Market ribbon cutting scheduled for Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m.; encouraged everyone to fill out their ballots and vote in Redondo Beach, noted that the ballot can be overwhelming but that the most important offices to vote for would be their State Assembly and State Senate offices; urged everyone to do their diligence and mark their ballots in those fields.

Councilmember Kaluderovic reported participating in the Arbor Day tree planting at

Ensenada Parkette; noted that they planted five crape myrtle trees which will provide more shade as requested by the residents; thanked the Public Works team of Mark Garlock, Milton, and Juan for their assistance; attended Redondo Beach's 134<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration at Dominguez Park and acknowledged the Historical Society for bringing cake, the NRB Farmers Market in attendance, RBPD provided popcorn, and the RBFD provided a flag presentation; reported attending the first South Bay Housing Trust meeting where they went over bylaws, the structure of LACAHSAs, and how the sustained revenue would be implemented through their region; attended an Affordable Housing 101 meeting on Monday and noted that the City needs to understand what their affordable housing stock is in the City so they can maintain it; announced two upcoming community meetings that she is hosting, one on May 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at Fulton Playfield and the second one will be at Jefferson Elementary School on May 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 at the cafeteria.

Councilmember Castle spoke about the BeachLife Festival held in District 2 and stated it was a smooth and successful event; mentioned, when the threat was made on Sunday morning, it was evident that all the training the Police and Fire go through came into play and all the planning for the event made the effort between the response from RBPD, RBFD, and the BeachLife security team go smoothly; stated that it was incredible to watch RBPD and RBFD in action and insuring all were safe and gave them a big thank you.

Councilmember Waller echoed the comments regarding BeachLife and the First Responders; reported taking the Beach Cities Transit to the Farmers Market and recounted his trip, noted that finding out which stops to get off at and back on at would be helpful; reported attending the Clean Power Alliance Solar Celebration in Carson, stated that Carson City Hall will be saving about \$75,000 a year in electricity costs from having the project; attended the Water Replenishment District's Groundwater Festival on Saturday and met Regional Director Rob Katherman; announced that he will not be at next week's City Council meeting since he will be in Sacramento at the Cal CCA Conference as part of his duty as Director of Clean Power Alliance; announced the ribbon cutting for the North Redondo Beach Farmers Market for Wednesday at 2:30 p.m., the South Bay Artist Studio ribbon cutting on Wednesday at 4:00 p.m., and the Graze Craze ribbon cutting on Thursday at 3:30 p.m.

## **E. APPROVE ORDER OF AGENDA**

Motion by Councilmember Obagi, seconded by Councilmember Castle, to approve the order of agenda as published.

Motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.

## **F. AGENCY RECESS**

### **F.1. REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY FINANCING AUTHORITY**

**CONTACT: STEPHANIE MEYER, FINANCE DIRECTOR**

Motion by Councilmember Waller, seconded by Councilmember Castle, to recess to the Regular Meeting of the Community Financing Authority at 6:24 p.m.

Motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.

**RECONVENE TO REGULAR MEETING FROM AGENCY MEETING – 6:27 P.M.**

**ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Present: Waller, Castle, Kaluderovic, Obagi, Behrendt, Mayor Light

Councilmembers Absent: None

Officials Present: Eleanor Manzano, City Clerk  
Mike Witzansky, City Manager  
Joy Ford, City Attorney  
Emily Bodkin, Administrative Specialist/Liaison

**G. BLUE FOLDER ITEMS - ADDITIONAL BACK UP MATERIALS**

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

City Clerk Manzano reported Blue Folder items for H.6, H.10, H.17, H.18, J.1, L.1, and N.1.

Motion by Councilmember Waller, seconded by Councilmember Castle, to receive and file the Blue Folder items.

Motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.

**H. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**H.1. APPROVE AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING FOR THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AND REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 5, 2026**

**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:  
NONE**

**CONTACT: ELEANOR MANZANO, CITY CLERK**

**H.4. PAYROLL DEMANDS**

**CHECKS 30601-30606 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,895.88, PD. 4/24/26  
DIRECT DEPOSIT 310559-311202 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,401,668.18, PD.  
4/24/26  
EFT/ACH \$11,120.18, PD. 3/27/26 (PP2607)  
EFT/ACH \$488,813.56, PD. 4/6/26 (PP2606)  
EFT/ACH \$11,120.18, PD. 4/10/26 (PP2608)  
EFT/ACH \$1,653.70, PD. 4/20/26 (PP2606-2)  
EFT/ACH \$484,752.67, PD. 4/20/26 (PP2607)**

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE DEMANDS**

**CHECKS 124512-124682 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,729,706.32  
EFT CALPERS MEDICAL INSURANCE \$579,817.96  
DIRECT DEPOSIT 100010417-100010502 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$106,446.67,  
PD.5/1/26  
REPLACEMENT DEMAND 124510**

**CONTACT: STEPHANIE MEYER, FINANCE DIRECTOR**

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

**1. APPROVE A VOTE CENTER FACILITY USE AGREEMENT AND THE SAFE  
ELECTION PLAN WITH THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGISTRAR-  
RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK FOR USE OF THE ALTA VISTA PARK  
COMMUNITY CENTER FOR THE STATEWIDE DIRECT PRIMARY ELECTION  
TO BE HELD ON JUNE 2, 2026 AT NO COST TO THE CITY FOR THE TERM  
MAY 5, 2026 TO SEPTEMBER 1, 2026**

**CONTACT: ELEANOR MANZANO, CITY CLERK**

**2. APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH DOCUSIGN, INC. FOR ELECTRONIC  
SIGNATURE SERVICES IN AN AMOUNT OF \$14,274.00 FOR UP TO 1,500 E-  
SIGNATURE ENVELOPES AND \$8.80 PER EACH ADDITIONAL E-  
SIGNATURE ENVELOPE FOR THE TERM MAY 10, 2026 TO MAY 9, 2029**

**CONTACT: ELEANOR MANZANO, CITY CLERK**

**H.6. APPROVE A CONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH GOLD COAST  
PARTNERS, INC. FOR UTILITY USERS TAX ADMINISTRATION SERVICES  
FOR AN ANNUAL FEE OF \$10,000 AND A THREE-YEAR TERM**

**CONTACT: EUGENE SOLOMON, CITY TREASURER**

**H.7. APPROVE THE SIXTH AMENDMENT TO THE CONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH PACIFIC ADVANCED CIVIL ENGINEERING, INC. FOR THE YACHT CLUB WAY SANITARY SEWER PUMP STATION PROJECT, JOB NO. 50260, FOR AN ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF \$66,000, FOR A NEW TOTAL NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$943,512, AND TO EXTEND THE TERM OF THE AGREEMENT TO MAY 6, 2029**

**CONTACT: ANDREW WINJE, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

**H.8. APPROVE A CONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH DUDEK FOR LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM AMENDMENT ASSISTANCE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$500,000, PAID BY CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION GRANT FUNDS, FOR THE TERM MAY 5, 2026 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2028**

**CONTACT: KATHERINE BUCK, ACTING WATERFRONT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

**H.9. ADOPT BY TITLE ONLY RESOLUTION NO. CC-2605-023, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA, AWARDED A PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACT TO CALMEX ENGINEERING, INC., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,477,163.25 FOR THE RESIDENTIAL STREET REHABILITATION PROJECT CYCLE 2 PHASE 5, JOB NO. 40190**

**CONTACT: ANDREW WINJE, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

**H.10. APPROVE THE CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 STREET LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT**

**ADOPT BY TITLE ONLY RESOLUTION NO. CC-2605-024, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO ORDER THE MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENTS OF CERTAIN STREET LIGHTING FIXTURES, APPURTENANCES, AND LANDSCAPED AREAS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2026 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2027, AND SETTING A TIME AND PLACE FOR THE PUBLIC PROTEST HEARING**

**SET JUNE 2, 2026, AS THE DATE TO CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 STREET LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING DISTRICT ASSESSMENT**

**CONTACT: ANDREW WINJE, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

**H.11. Pulled by Mayor Light based on requests from two Councilmembers**

**H.12. APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH EPAX SYSTEMS, INC. FOR THE**

**PURCHASE OF AN ORGANIC WASTE COMPACTOR FOR THE CITY'S PIER/HARBOR AREA AND TO PROVIDE MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR A THREE-YEAR PERIOD FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$83,290**

**CONTACT: ANDREW WINJE, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

**H.13. ADOPT BY TITLE ONLY RESOLUTION NO. CC-2605-025, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING THE OFFICIAL BOOK OF CLASS SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE POSITION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR**

**CONTACT: MIKE COOK, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR**

**H.14. EXCUSED ABSENCES FROM VARIOUS COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**CONTACT: ELEANOR MANZANO, CITY CLERK**

**H.15. APPROVE THE CITY'S CONSENT TO RDR'S TWELFTH SUBLEASE AMENDMENT WITH PEGGY HIRAIZUMI, DBA KOBE PEARL, FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 100 "D" FISHERMAN'S WHARF**

**CONTACT: KATHERINE BUCK, ACTING WATERFRONT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

**H.16. APPROVE THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE LEGAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH MANNING & KASS, RAMIREZ, TRESTER LLP**

**CONTACT: JOY A. FORD, CITY ATTORNEY**

**H.17. APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH HOUSING, EMPOWERMENT, RECOVERY AND OUTREACH (HERO) COMMUNITY SERVICES TO ADD GRANT SUPPORT SERVICES AND RELATED DUTIES FOR AN ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF \$6,000**

**CONTACT: JOY A. FORD, CITY ATTORNEY**

**H.18. ADOPT BY TITLE ONLY RESOLUTION NO. CC-2605-026 OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA DIRECTING STAFF TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE CALIFORNIA COMMISSION FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH FOR THE INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP FUND TO SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ALL AGREEMENTS AND RELATED DOCUMENTS, AND AMENDMENTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE GRANT**

**CONTACT: JOY A. FORD, CITY ATTORNEY**

Motion by Councilmember Waller, seconded by Councilmember Castle, to approve items H.1 through H.18 with the exception of H.11.

Mayor Light invited public comment.

City Clerk Manzano reported one hand raised on Zoom for item H.11 and no other hands raised.

Motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.

City Clerk Manzano reported one eComment for H.9, one eComment opposed for H.10, and one eComment opposed for H.18

City Clerk Manzano read titles to items H.9 adopt by title only Resolution No. CC-2605-023, H.10 adopt by title only Resolution No. CC-2605-024, H.13 adopt by title only Resolution No. CC-2605-025, and H.18 adopt by title only Resolution No. CC-2605-026.

## **I. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS**

### **H.11. APPROVE REMOVAL OF THE NORTHBOUND STOP SIGN ON S IRENA AVENUE AT OPAL STREET**

**CONTACT: ANDREW WINJE, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

Councilmember Waller reported that he spoke to almost every resident along Opal and suggested they open the floor up to anyone from the public that wants to speak on the item so the Traffic Engineer could address the questions; stated that the residents are not opposed to the measures being proposed but they object to the stop sign being removed; noted that he spoke to the Traffic Engineer and understands his reasoning for removing the stop sign but wanted to give the residents an opportunity to have a discussion with the Traffic Engineer.

Councilmember Obagi asked to have Traffic Engineer Ryan Liu give his presentation first then take comments and questions from the public.

Councilmember Waller responded favorably to that suggestion.

City Traffic Engineer Liu explained that the item before them that evening is to remove the northbound Irena stop sign at Opal St. and provided a slide of the area showing which stop sign; reported that the issue was brought to the City's attention from a traffic calming request by a member of the public, staff brought the item forward to the Commission with recommendations to remove the stop sign and implement traffic calming treatments, and the Commission was in support of the measures; explained that, in 1973, the Council voted to affirm that Opal and Irena should remain a two-way stop where the stop signs

are on Irena, but that it is unusual because that means there is only a stop sign on the northbound direction and not the southbound direction; showed a slide of what the street looked like back in 1916 and explained that the entire alignment of Torrance Blvd. was named Opal St. and that the street was as wide as Torrance Blvd. back then; reported that in 1986-1987, Torrance Blvd. was widened, curbs were removed, and the City vacated the land at the southwest corner of Irena and Torrance, which is most likely when the southbound stop sign was removed but the northbound stop sign was not addressed; stated that the street conditions are very different from the early 1900's to the 1980's and in 1988, the City Council approved the westbound Opal St. stop sign and did not address anything else on Irena; showed a slide of the area and explained that currently there is a cross gutter on Opal St. where drivers need to slow to about 15 MPH or less, then about 150 ft. away to the north is the stop sign, and then, after the stop sign at Opal, about 95 ft. away, there is a stop sign at Torrance Blvd.; explained that there are multiple slow downs in a row starting with the cross gutter dip and that the northbound stop sign is unusual to keep; explained how a conventional T-intersection normally flows and why the current situation causes dangers traffic conditions; provided staff's proposed recommendations to the City Council which were: a center line hardening to prevent drivers from cutting across the center line and make them slow down into the turns, additional bumps on the Opal approach so drivers make the turns at appropriate speeds, and the removal of the stop sign so drivers would have to yield to the northbound traffic.

Mayor Light invited the public to address the item.

Tracy McClain (via Zoom) stated there were nine comments regarding this item; commented that she felt the spirit of the original request made by a neighbor was missed; stated that the original request was to make Opal a dead-end or a cul de sac but the response from the City proposed two things: hardening measures and the removal of the stop sign; reported that all the neighbors came forward in March to support the hardening measure but did not support the removal of the stop sign, noted that the City went ahead and voted for it anyway, which upset the residents of that neighborhood; provided reasons why the stop sign should remain and said Torrance is terrifying to cross.

Christopher Bothwell (via Zoom) supported what Tracy McClain stated and found it disappointing that they don't read the comments out loud that people have submitted; agreed with Traffic Engineer Liu that it is a unique intersection but that is why it should not be treated as other intersections; stated that they can't expect people to do what is normal or right when experience has shown that people speed through the area all the time; noted that the area has many people, kids, and dogs walking around; opined if the stop sign is removed the situation will get more complicated and stated people cross at that stop sign all the time; noted that he has lived in the area over 10 years and fortunately there has not been an accident on that corner but felt that would change if they remove the stop sign.

City Clerk Manzano reported no more hands raised on Zoom and eight eComments opposed and one was a duplicate.

Greg McClain (via Zoom) reported that he submitted a comment hoping it would be read; proposed that if the Council is leaning toward removing the stop sign that the decision not be made that evening and felt more public comment was needed; said logically there should be more burden of proof that removing the stop sign would result in calming the traffic, couldn't understand how that would make the situation better for pedestrians, and the default should be to keep the stop sign there; requested that a study be done on removing the stop sign.

City Traffic Engineer Liu responded that a study was conducted at that intersection; stated that the burden of proof is that it is very unusual for a T-intersection, where the street that is continuing only has a stop sign in one direction; stated that the City is just trying to make the intersection more consistent with other intersections; noted that his job as a traffic engineer is to make streets consistent for the travelling public and this scenario is highly unique and should have been addressed in the 80's when Torrance Blvd. was realigned; reported that the original conditions that justified the stop sign being there are no longer the same and they are now trying to address the current condition of the area.

Mayor Light asked for the slide of the area to be put back up; asked Traffic Engineer Liu to address the comment about crossing from Opal to Irena for pedestrians.

City Traffic Engineer Liu noted that crossing at Opal to Irena is shorter and less busy than crossing at Torrance Blvd. but that there is enough visibility at the intersection along with an existing crosswalk; said whether they keep the stop sign or not there is still free flowing traffic coming south on Irena and what matters more is making the intersection more consistent.

Councilmember Behrendt stated that he shared and understood the concerns of the residents that called in and those that left comments; noted that Ryan Liu is the City's Traffic Engineer, has thoroughly studied the intersection and based his proposal on data, science, and engineering, and safety is his top priority so supported his recommendations; mentioned that it does seem counter-intuitive to remove the stop sign but given the details in the presentation it makes sense to remove it; said that if the District 1 and 2 Councilmembers want to keep the stop sign there, and there is no safety issue to leave it, then he is fine with doing that as well.

Councilmember Obagi echoed Councilmember Behrendt's comments; asked Traffic Engineer Liu if it was possible to do the traffic calming measures without the removal of the stop sign.

City Traffic Engineer Liu replied yes, it is possible and stated that the removal of the stop sign is a minor part of the traffic calming; explained that one reason for the proposed removal of the stop sign is because currently drivers take the southbound left turn from Irena to Opal at high speeds because they know everyone else has to stop for them but at a conventional intersection the left turns have to yield to opposing traffic first.

Councilmember Obagi stated that he is not inclined to vote against residents who would

like to keep their stop sign even if it will make traffic move in a more conventional manner; supported people feeling more comfortable keeping their stop sign.

Councilmember Castle reported that he walks the intersection at least twice a day; voiced concern that the study only focused on driving north on Irena but not from turning from Torrance Blvd. onto Irena, then onto Opal, and commented that it is a blind turn; stated that vans and cars park on the corner lot so you can't see cars coming and it is dangerous if there is no stop sign there so he supported keeping the stop sign; thanked Traffic Engineer Liu for the history regarding the area because that explained a lot but still felt given the nature of the area that keeping the stop sign there would be best; asked about the low-profile speed bumps and if the purpose was for the cars turning left on Opal onto South Irena.

City Traffic Engineer Liu stated that the whole point of the treatment would be to slow down the speed of vehicles turning from Torrance Blvd. and to properly yield to the opposing through traffic, pedestrians, and crosswalks; spoke of the faster turns, faster environment of Torrance Blvd. being mitigated by the traffic calming treatments proposed and the removal of the northbound stop sign as more of a cleanup.

Councilmember Castle asked about the short speed bump.

City Traffic Engineer Liu responded that it is to force drivers to actually make the turn around the speed bump and into the receiving lane of Opal St. and if the driver chooses to take that turn at a higher speed the speed bump will also slow them down; reported that they would test out the area with a couple of cones first.

Councilmember Castle supported the traffic calming measures but wanted to keep the stop sign in place.

Councilmember Waller wanted to clarify to the public that they read all the eComments, they just don't read them aloud into the record, but they are part of the record; asked what the negatives are to keeping the stop sign.

City Traffic Engineer Liu replied that a negative is that people who are making that southbound left turn still don't have to yield to northbound traffic, which runs counter to almost every other T-intersection in the City and it is not consistent to what they have throughout the City; stated that it is a through street with one side having a stop and not the other and said he can't name another intersection in the City or region that has a setup like that.

Councilmember Waller asked if there was any way to determine if not removing the stop sign was impeding the traffic calming improvement of the area; asked what the criteria in the future would be to remove the stop sign.

City Traffic Engineer Liu said if they see any collisions between left turn conflicting drivers with the northbound through; noted that no collisions are reported in the records.

Councilmember Waller said there is no east/west crosswalk at the intersection; asked if it would be reasonable to do a curb cut on the other side at Opal and Irena so there is a designated crosswalk there to make it safer for pedestrians.

City Traffic Engineer Liu stated it was possible but the City would need to build out the sidewalk there and they would need to rebuild the ramp.

Councilmember Waller asked Traffic Engineer Liu in his professional opinion if there are any negative effects of keeping the stop sign.

City Traffic Engineer Liu replied that the crash risk of the intersection will not go up dramatically by keeping the stop sign there but it is habit as a Traffic Engineer to want consistency.

Councilmember Waller noted that there will be signage alerting people to the new traffic pattern.

City Traffic Engineer Liu said signage alerting people of a change is typical.

Discussion followed.

Councilmember Kaluderovic commented that the intersection is unusual and confusing for her; asked if the City is trying to design the street to a standard that people are expecting or is the City designing and planning the street to what people are used to.

Some discussion followed regarding the different perceptions of people that live in the area and those that don't.

Mayor Light agreed with the rationale to remove the stop sign but stated he is concerned about the high speeds of people coming off Torrance and staying south on Irena; asked if there was a way to install a perpendicular speed hump to slow down the vehicles coming off Torrance.

City Traffic Engineer Liu responded it would not give people enough warning to put a speed bump that close to the intersection and they may lose control of their vehicle; stated that he is confident that hardening the center line will control most of the speed of drivers turning from Torrance Blvd.

Councilmember Behrendt agreed with both the Mayor and Councilmember Kaluderovic's comments and understood why Traffic Engineer Liu made his recommendations regarding the need for consistency but noted it is not his district and would defer to the Councilmember of that district; noted that the intersection is physically in District 1 but immediately adjacent to District 2, hoped that the two Councilmembers were in agreement but if not, he would support the decision of the District 1 Councilmember.

Councilmember Castle stated he would also defer to the District 1 Councilmember but

stated as someone who lives in the neighborhood, he would feel better if the stop sign remained.

City Manager Witzansky provided his insight on the discussion, noted that what residents want and what professionals suggest do not always align; suggested that they remove the stop sign, commit to observing the traffic movements, and come back with a status report; argued that it would be easier to make this movement change now in its entirety, based on Traffic Engineer Liu's recommendations, and report back with any final modifications, including potentially restoring the stop sign.

More discussion followed.

Motion by Councilmember Waller, seconded by Councilmember Obagi, to accept all the traffic hardening measures but do not remove the stop sign.

Councilmember Behrendt asked if there was any way to monitor it or have studies done.

City Manager Witzansky responded that it would be challenging to remove it later and now is the opportunity to correct the intersection and create a more consistent condition.

Motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.

## **J. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

### **J.1. For eComments and Emails Received from the Public**

Mitchell Gee, sophomore at RUHS, reported that he works for Redondo Union TV, a news broadcasting program; reported that, in December 2025, he came up with an idea to do a news package on Keep the Esplanade Beautiful (KEB) and later decided in January 2026 to submit the news package to Student Television Network for their Broadcast Excellence challenge; reported that in March 2026 they were awarded an Honorable Mention Award; noted that the video could be viewed on the KEB Facebook page and Instagram page.

Jim Mueller, District 5, provided background on his vision for the North Redondo Beach Farmers Market; reported that five other citizens led by Teresa Mitchell stepped up and met every requirement, got every permit and approval, bought or rented every traffic sign and cone, recruited vendors, and set up the signs and barriers as required by ordinance to establish the Farmers Market; noted that the crowds showed up and are spending, the South Bay Credit Union became a founding sponsor, NRBBA became a founding sponsor, and many people contributed through GoFundMe; acknowledged the Change.org petition with over 1,500 signatures in support of the Farmers Market; commented that the crowds affirmed the vision he presented to the City Council last year; stressed that residents will spend money locally if given the right opportunity and it doesn't have to be a place with fancy rooftop dining; commented that surveys have shown that North Redondo residents want a walkable Artesia Blvd. where they can gather with

neighbors, shop, and enjoy community events; urged Council to accelerate implementation of the AACAP that was approved in 2019 and suggested they start by closing off Green Ln. between Vanderbilt and Artesia temporarily and then permanently.

Steve Hage, 35-year resident, reported that he was at a car show in Torrance last week and noted that there were about six officers doing community engagement and commented that he wished Redondo Beach would do the same; stated that he was given a flier for Cruising at the Lagoon starting every Friday from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. starting May 22<sup>nd</sup> through September 11<sup>th</sup>; spoke about positive community engagement and the impact on the consumers, noted that he has engaged with the public at the car shows, has donated and volunteered, and hoped it would not die out; stated that he has sent the Councilmembers emails against the LGBTQ+ statue scheduled for Artesia; said that a high percentage of the public is against the concept and urged the City Council not to change the identity of the City.

Motion by Councilmember Obagi, seconded by Councilmember Waller, to receive and file materials.

Jimmy Erickson, District 1, stated that he spoke at the Public Works Safety & Sustainability Commission meeting last week and wanted to bring the topic before the City Council as well; noted that there is a lack of EV charging infrastructure in Redondo Beach, he drives an EV, and relies on the public charging stations; reported that Redondo Beach only has 41 public chargers, Hermosa Beach has 57, Manhattan has 119, and Torrance has over 250; commented that Redondo Beach is way behind on chargers and he found some resources for the City to pursue, notably a federal grant through the California Energy Commission that has up to \$79 million available; stated that the list he submitted has all the options he found; spoke about potential partnerships with ChargePoint, Blink, and EVGO; asked the Council to include EV infrastructure as an explicit objective for N.3.

City Clerk Manzano reported no one else on Zoom and two eComments for J.1.

Mark Nelson (via Zoom) spoke about the safety and sound wall on Prospect and noted that the residents of that area would like to get that item into the capital budget; requested speed tables be placed on big Prospect between Beryl and Diamond or Beryl and Del Amo; stated that he wrote an executive summary about recovering costs of false alarm calls and recalled an incident from December of last year regarding a call from someone that mistook spray-on-snow for smoke.

City Clerk Manzano reported no other hands raised on Zoom.

## **K. EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS**

Mayor Light reported speaking to the City Manager, the Community Development Department, all the Councilmembers, and with a couple of the Planning Commissioners for L.1.

Councilmember Waller reported speaking with the Mayor and the City Manager.

Councilmember Castle reported speaking with the Mayor, the City Manager, and City staff.

Councilmember Kaluderovic reported speaking to the Mayor, the City Manager, City Attorney, and City staff.

Councilmember Obagi reported speaking with the Mayor, City staff, and Councilmember Behrendt.

Councilmember Behrendt reported speaking with the Mayor, Councilmember Obagi, City staff, and members of the public.

## **L. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **L.1. A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY'S CERTIFIED 2021-2029 (6TH CYCLE) HOUSING ELEMENT AND ASSOCIATED AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY'S ZONING AND SUBDIVISION ORDINANCES REQUIRED FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND CONSISTENCY REPLACING THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING OVERLAY DISTRICTS ON THE CITY'S IDENTIFIED "HOUSING SITES" WITH HIGH-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (65 DU/AC) AND MIXED-USE ZONING DISTRICTS (65 TO 80 DU/AC)**

**ADOPT BY TITLE ONLY RESOLUTION NO. CC-2605-027, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING, PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT, AN ADDENDUM TO THE CERTIFIED "REDONDO BEACH FOCUSED GENERAL PLAN UPDATE, ZONING ORDINANCE UPDATE AND LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM AMENDMENT PROGRAM EIR" AND AMENDING THE CITY'S CERTIFIED 6TH CYCLE 2021-2029 HOUSING ELEMENT TO REPLACE THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING OVERLAY DISTRICTS ON THE CITY'S IDENTIFIED "HOUSING SITES" WITH HIGH-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (65 DU/AC) AND MIXED-USE ZONING DISTRICTS (65 TO 80 DU/AC).**

**INTRODUCE BY TITLE ONLY ORDINANCE NO. 3311-26, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING TITLE 10 PLANNING AND ZONING, CHAPTER 2 ZONING AND LAND USE OF THE REDONDO BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE TO IMPLEMENT AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY'S CERTIFIED 6TH CYCLE 2021-2029 HOUSING ELEMENT THAT REPLACE THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING OVERLAY DISTRICTS ON THE CITY'S IDENTIFIED "HOUSING SITES" WITH HIGH-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (65 DU/AC) AND MIXED-USE ZONING DISTRICTS (65 TO 80 DU/AC). FOR INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING**

**INTRODUCE BY TITLE ONLY ORDINANCE NO. 3312-26, AN ORDINANCE OF**

**THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING TITLE 10 PLANNING AND ZONING, CHAPTER 1 SUBDIVISIONS OF THE REDONDO BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE TO IMPLEMENT AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY'S CERTIFIED 6TH CYCLE 2021-2029 HOUSING ELEMENT THAT REPLACE THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING OVERLAY DISTRICTS ON THE CITY'S IDENTIFIED "HOUSING SITES" WITH HIGH-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (65 DU/AC) AND MIXED-USE ZONING DISTRICTS (65 TO 80 DU/AC). FOR INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING**

**PROCEDURES:**

- 1. Open the public hearing and receive all testimony and written materials regarding the proposed amendments from staff and the public, and deliberate on the proposed amendments;**
- 2. Close the public hearing; and**
- 3. Adopt Resolution No. CC-2605-027, approving the Addendum to the certified General Plan Update Final Program EIR and amending the City's Certified 6th Cycle 2021-2029 Housing Element;**
- 4. Introduce for first reading Ordinance No. 3311-26, amending Title 10 Planning and Zoning, Chapter 2 Zoning and Land Use of the Redondo Beach Municipal Code; and,**
- 5. Introduce for first reading Ordinance No. 3312-26, amending Title 10 Planning and Zoning, Chapter 1 Subdivisions of the Redondo Beach Municipal Code.**

**CONTACT:** MARC WIENER, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Motion by Councilmember Obagi, seconded by Councilmember Castle, to open the public hearing.

Community Development Director Wiener provided some background on the item; stated that in recent years the state has taken away local control as it pertains to land use and housing; noted that having a compliant and certified Housing Element is important to retaining some level of local control; stated the draft amendments before them that evening would ensure that the City's Housing Element does remain compliant so they have that local control; thanked Veronica Tam (consultant), Diana Varat (City Attorney's office), and Planning Manager Scully for their help in putting the item together in a short time frame.

Planning Manager Scully stated that the public hearing is to consider amendments to the 6<sup>th</sup> cycle Housing Element; provided a slide with a brief overview of the topics he would be covering; reported that the updates are needed to further the City's strategies for meeting RHNA and to respond to a recent court decision; provided a slide with the summary of updates, noted that the big item is the amendment to the housing sites and went into further detail on the changes; highlighted that future new development will have a requirement for 50% of the floor area to be residential; reported that they are removing one of the housing sites (the North Tech Housing site) which will reduce the number from

six to five, they are increasing the maximum density on four of the sites from 55 dwelling units per acre to 65 units per acre for capacity, and on the fifth site (the CR Housing Element site) they are increasing the density from 55 to 80 dwelling units per acre; stated staff has commensurate changes to the zoning ordinance to reflect the changes to the Housing Element but that the development standards associated with the housing sites are almost identical to what they had before; noted that the City needs to make the land use element designations, the zoning, and the Housing Element designations all consistent; provided a series of slides on each of the housing sites (North Tech site, Kingsdale Housing site, South of the Transit Center Housing site, 190<sup>th</sup> Street sites, and South Bay Marketplace site) which provided views of both the existing zoning (on the left) and then the proposed zoning (on the right) and provided the changes that are before the Council that evening; provided a slide on additional updates that were also done and explained that most of it was updating statistics, updating tables since they adopted the Housing Element in 2021-2022, technical edits, and clarification on programs in the Housing Element; provided a slide showing the HCD coordination and public review process which reported: the draft Housing Element Update was initially released for a seven-day public review period from January 6, 2026 to January 13, 2026, City received comments from HCD, revised HEU was again released for public comment from February 13, 2026 to February 20, 2026 and it was reviewed by the Planning Commission; stated that the Planning Commission's recommendation was approval of the updates; reported that HCD reviewed the proposed amendments and issued their "Substantial Compliance" letter on March 13<sup>th</sup> which means the Housing Element is in substantial compliance with State Housing Law; provided details on the Environmental Review, stated that the City's environmental consultant did an addendum to the certified Final Program EIR for the General Plan Update; reported that after their analysis it was determined that the changes would not result in physical impacts that differ from what was analyzed in the approved PEIR; stated that staff's recommendation is to adopt the resolution approving the addendum to the Certified General Plan Update and introduce for first reading Ordinance No. CC-3311-26 and the first reading of Ordinance No. CC-3312-26.

Community Development Director Wiener wanted to add some clarification; stated that, currently, the six sites are zoned with overlay zones that were adopted by the City Council in November 2024, and the proposed changes that are before the City Council that evening would make the sites no longer an overlay zone and instead they would be zoned mixed-use; noted that future development would require 50% of the floor area to be residential and reported that they also increased the density in the development standards to offset the loss of the North Tech site.

Some discussion followed.

Mayor Light summarized for the public some details; explained that the City gets assigned housing allowance that they have to build into the City's zoning and into the Housing Element, which was approved in 2022; spoke about a lawsuit where the judge found that HCD's assessment on housing overlays didn't follow legislative intent so the City is responsible in correcting it, which is what they are doing that evening to keep the City's Housing Element certified; noted that they want to avoid Builder's Remedy; thanked City

staff, the consultants, and HCD for their responsiveness; reported that they have four things to rule on that evening: changes to the Housing Element, the update to the EIR, and two zoning ordinance changes to implement the changes to the Housing Element.

Councilmember Obagi thanked the Community Development Department, especially Planning Manager Scully, for all their hard work; wanted the public to understand that the City is not building anything but they are creating the conditions for housing to come into existence and to ensure that the City does not impose any impediments for developments; added that the plan has not changed drastically from the one submitted in 2022 and they continue to put future housing near transit and freeways on the east and north parts of the City for easier access and to reduce carbon footprint; commented that Redondo Beach does not have many sites they can put these zones down; asked staff the effects of a builder coming in that would prefer to build smaller, more affordable units, and not build to the maximum stated.

Planning Manager Scully responded that the City is required to maintain capacity so if that happens, they need to figure out if they have the capacity in the various income categories with the other sites to meet the RHNA allocation they are required to show capacity for or they need to look for another site.

Councilmember Obagi asked if they could get the South Bay Housing Trust involved to provide more expertise to the developer or more financial assistance to the developer so they can build more capacity into the sites.

Community Development Director Wiener stated that the City has a buffer in their Housing Element that accommodates sites not constructed to their maximum capacity; noted that, if for some reason the City is still under production on their sites, they have the ability to identify additional sites where housing could be provided to make up the difference; stated the City has quite a few sites right now with various housing laws that allow housing regardless of the Housing Element.

Councilmember Obagi also acknowledged HCD for their letter of Substantial Compliance and thanked them for working with the City on this endeavor.

Mayor Light commented that this is just accommodating the housing allocation but there are other bills that will tie the City's hands in other cases such as the PCH development, which doesn't fall under the Housing Element.

City Manager Witzansky added that there are bills that supersede the City's local zoning and planning and allow for housing in locations that the City is not even accounting for in their unit calculation; stated in the event someone builds fewer units or affordable units that are part of the City's Housing Element, the City can point to those sites to say capacity remains in the community due to a particular bill; used the projects in the corridors, which are mainly commercial corridors, as an example.

Mayor Light pointed out that it will impact the City fiscally because only 15% of the City's

private land is zoned commercial or industrial but that the City is being forced by the state so it is important how people vote.

Mayor Light asked if there are minimums to the number of units a developer could build.

Planning Manager Scully responded that the minimum is 20 dwelling units per acre for all the housing sites.

Councilmember Waller presented a scenario that if an industrial building had a fire would they be able to rebuild or would they have to follow the housing requirements.

Planning Manager Scully replied that they could rebuild since legal non-conforming privileges are still intact.

Councilmember Waller voiced his disappointment that they might lose the industrial section because of this item, but it is not their choice.

City Manager Witzansky commented that their fear is dealing with the seventh cycle, which is right around the corner, and they will hope to help people understand the impact of it.

Councilmember Kaluderovic stated that the majority of the City's RHNA numbers are for affordable units and the projects that are happening have just a few affordable units with market rate units; voiced concern that the sites identified for affordable housing aren't being used for it and the system that is in place is not providing what it's intended for.

Mayor Light stated that the City can't demand more affordable because that's an impediment to construction.

Mayor Light invited public comment.

Holly Osborne, District 5, reported that she turned in two items for the Blue Folder; referenced that Senator Glazier called for an audit of the RHNA in 2021 and the result was that the allocations released in March 2022 by the State Auditor found that HCD did not ensure its new assessments were adequate, which confirmed flaws in the process; reported that even though the audit found it flawed they did not redo the numbers; asked if the state should redo the allocations since they are way too high; asked that the City Council and the audience do their diligence and find out which senators and assembly people are going to support updating the RHNA allocations.

Mayor Light reported that they did receive a letter via email from COG asking the City to sign on to a letter related to RHNA and the flawed process.

City Manager Witzansky added that they will be working with SCAG, which is the regional agency that administers RHNA; stated that he and the Mayor have personally met with SCAG officials to begin dialog and express their concerns over how the state accounts

for units.

Mayor Light reported he would be attending SCAG on Thursday at the regional representative.

Alex Fineman, District 3, spoke about the housing crisis being a statewide issue and that is why there are statewide laws requiring certain housing production and RHNA in California; stated that there are reasons for the statewide laws and voiced frustration when he sees City leadership go to Sacramento and lobby politicians and support bills that would remove the enforcement mechanisms, such as Builders Remedy; said he doesn't want to see Builders Remedy but it is an enforcement mechanism to make sure that cities comply with their housing obligations; stressed the importance of each city following housing requirements; stated that California is losing congressional seats and electoral votes because we are losing population to states like Florida and Texas; stated that it bothers him to see the City fighting solutions statewide and the City needs to do better; noted that it is a statewide solution and local approaches need to recognize that everyone has a statewide obligation to support housing in the state.

Mayor Light asked Alex Fineman to send him an email so they could continue the discussion.

Mark Nelson (via Zoom) thanked Sean Scully and Marc Wiener and staff for all the hours they put into this item; noted that he has spent most of his career dealing with the State, Feds, and other agencies and understands how difficult it can be; supported doing the minimum required to be compliant and did not agree with Alex Fineman's comments; stated that the State does not play fair so the City needs to hold its ground without getting sued or wasting money on lawyers.

City Clerk Manzano reported no one else online and no eComments.

Motion by Councilmember Obagi, seconded by Councilmember Waller, to close the public hearing.

Motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.

Councilmember Obagi commented that the State is requiring zoning without being in touch with the market conditions for each area and knowing what makes financial sense for developers; supported Councilmember Kaluderovic's comment that the State could achieve its goals through other tools, but the blanket mandate is not working.

Motion by Councilmember Obagi, seconded by Councilmember Waller, to adopt by title only Resolution No. CC-2605-027, introduced by title only Ordinance No. 3311-26, and introduced by title only Ordinance No.3312-26.

City Manager Witzansky stated that this item has been a long standing issue for the City and City staff has worked incredibly hard throughout the effort; spoke of Redondo Beach

being housing diverse, with more than 11,000 residents per square mile, and the City provides a portfolio of housing at all levels; stated that they lobby in Sacramento for fairness and an equitable standard that should be appropriate for a community as dense as Redondo Beach; stated that Redondo Beach has been the model for housing in the state and has been nothing but supportive for housing.

Mayor Light added that Redondo Beach is the only beach city with more multi-family than single family units and the City's multi-family percentage exceeds the average across all of Southern California.

More discussion followed regarding all the housing diversity the City has including Section 8, live-a-board boaters, assisted living facilities, etc.

Mayor Light stated the bill that they put forward was not opposing the housing mandates, it was giving cities who followed HCD's guidance the opportunity to correct before Builder's Remedy applied to them.

Mayor Light did a roll call vote for the motion on the floor.

**ROLL CALL:**

AYES: Waller, Castle, Kaluderovic, Obagi, Behrendt  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None

Motion carried 5-0 by roll call vote.

City Clerk Manzano read by title only Resolution No. CC-2605-027, for introduction by title only Ordinance No. 3311-26, and introduction by title only Ordinance No. 3312-26.

Motion by Councilmember Obagi, seconded by Councilmember Behrendt, to take an 8-minute break at 8:14 p.m.

Motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.

**RECONVENE FROM RECESS – 8:24 P.M.**

**ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Present: Waller, Castle, Kaluderovic, Obagi, Behrendt, Mayor Light  
Councilmembers Absent: None  
Officials Present: Eleanor Manzano, City Clerk  
Mike Witzansky, City Manager

**M. ITEMS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS AGENDAS - None**

**N. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION PRIOR TO ACTION**

**N.1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO THE CITY'S CROSSING GUARD PROGRAM**

**CONTACT:** JANE CHUNG, ASSISTANT TO THE CITY MANAGER

Jane Chung, Assistant to the City Manager, stated that she would be joined by City Traffic Engineer Ryan Liu, Police Captain Brian Long, and Chief Sprengel; introduced the item and provided an outline for the presentation; stated that the Crossing Guard Program has a total of 27 locations, 22 are staffed by City-employed part-time guards, and 5 are staffed by ACMS; reported that the current fiscal year budget allocates \$552,600 of which is a mis of ongoing funding from the Police Department's operating budget, one-time appropriation for additional part-time guards and for contract services; reported that a City employed guard cost approximately \$18,954 per year vs the contracted crossing guard at \$27,631; stated that one of the biggest challenges for the Crossing Guard Program is the hiring and retention, the City employs 24 part-time guards but between August 2025 and April 2026 the City has had 675 call-outs; stated that due to call-outs the RBPD frequently ends up reassigning MSOs, code enforcement officers, and other sworn officers from their primary duties; noted that contract costs have also risen and they have experienced disputed terms with the contractor; stated, due to the challenges the City has experienced, they need a more sustainable and reliable program structure; stated that the Crossing Guard Subcommittee, comprised of Councilmember Behrendt, Councilmember Kaluderovic, herself, Police Captain Long, and Traffic Engineer Liu, met to focus on developing an equitable, data driven, sustainably staffed program that ensured an equitable allocation of resources and prioritized high need, high traffic, high risk intersections; noted that they also looked for opportunities to improve safety through traffic calming and visibility enhancements for locations where a guard may no longer be assigned; provided a slide with the Subcommittee's proposed modifications which were as follows:

- Reduce total locations from 27 to 18
- Maintain guards at highest need intersections
- Relocate guards where appropriate
- Remove guards where data shows lower need
- Implement tactical safety measures at removal sites

Jane Chung listed the safety measures that would be implemented at the removal sites which included: striped curb extensions, flexible bollards, cone based school time curb extensions, and targeted visibility enforcement such as hedge height compliance; provided a slide with a table that showed a summary of the proposed modifications; reported that the annual cost of the Crossing Guard Program would reduce from \$552,600 down to \$378,000 with the proposed modifications; noted that the decrease is primarily due to eliminating contracted guards and using only City staffed guards; announced that if City Council approved the proposed modifications they would take effect at the

beginning of the next school year and the City staff would begin implementing tactical safety measures by increased enforcement of visibility codes at the removal locations; stated that staff would monitor the effectiveness of the changes and evaluate if adjustments are needed; stated that staff will consider permanent curb extensions as part of the process, which would be funded through a Metro Measure M grant; noted that staff will continue to work with the School District to develop a joint communications plan to inform families of the changes before the start of the school year; concluded with the Subcommittee's recommendations to the City Council as:

- 1) Approve the proposed modifications to the Crossing Guard Program
- 2) Support development of a joint communications plan with RBUSD

City Manager Witzansky thanked all the members of the Subcommittee; noted that the crossing guard issue has grown over two budget cycles and has gotten to a point where it is no longer sustainable; stated that the changes are being made out of necessity, to save money, and create a program that the City can staff in perpetuity; highlighted points that Jane Chung covered in her presentation, notably the difficulty when they have call-outs in maintaining the 22 locations staffed by the 24 part-time City employees because it pulls full-time personnel from their normal duties; stated the recommendations made focused on what they think the City can sustain through part-time personnel and with 18 locations \$165,000 will still need to be added to the core budget to keep the program going.

Mayor Light thanked the Subcommittee members for their work; confirmed that the changes would take effect next school year and that they also get another shot during the next budget process.

City Manager Witzansky stated the direction they are looking for that evening is a target funding number so when he proposed the budget for the City Council in a couple of weeks he can factor that into the proposal.

Mayor Light asked if there was any way to prioritize the locations and shift crossing guards to higher priority locations if someone calls out instead of using Police staff to cover the position.

City Manager Witzansky responded that they want to commit to guarding locations and are uncomfortable leaving a location unguarded; stated that is why they are focused on identifying a sustainable number, which they have decided is 18.

Councilmember Behrendt thanked Jane Chung for the Administrative Report, the presentation, and for supervising the process; spoke about the data the Subcommittee reviewed, the importance of focusing on the safety and high volume areas where children need to cross, and equity in providing each school with at least one crossing guard; noted that City Traffic Engineer Liu worked and continues to work with the school principals to accommodate their preferences on where to locate the guards; reported that the Subcommittee met with all nine school principals at District HQ to discuss the item; stated

that the locations where they are removing a crossing guard is not being abandoned but instead being replaced with appropriate traffic calming measures and noted that is where they received the largest approval from the principals; mentioned that the approval and review by the Police Department, primarily Captain Long, was another important factor for the School District and the community; stressed that the City will still have a robust Crossing Guard Program, they will provide community outreach and proper noticing, and that the locations themselves are in the agenda packet; supported the product that the Subcommittee came up with.

Councilmember Kaluderovic explained that locations were added by the direction of the City Council over decades but once added they were never reassessed; noted this was the first time, that they are aware of, that all 27 locations had been systematically evaluated; stated that the community has changed, traffic patterns have changed, and resources need to be used effectively; emphasized it is not a cost issue but it is a staffing issue and opined it is irresponsible to deploy sworn officers to crossing guard posts when the community has other public safety needs; noted prior efforts to address the problem through social media recruitment campaigns, volunteer programs, pay increases to \$20 per hour, and School District partnership had not solved the shortfall; explained all the work the Subcommittee has put into assessing the Crossing Guard Program, locations, and how to execute the removal and relocations of the crossing guards; spoke about getting staff information on grant funding for infrastructure for safe streets or safe routes to school; announced she would be hosting a community meeting on May 20th at Jefferson Elementary to receive public feedback; asked that the Council receive the recommendations but proposed that they be flexible with the 18 or possibly 19 locations for the crossing guards between now and budget; hoped to address some of the concerns they still need solutions for before the upcoming school year.

Councilmember Obagi noted that this is a difficult issue to tackle and thanked the Subcommittee members for all their hard work; provided the data on the screen so the public could view what staff is working from to form their recommendations on the best utilization of the crossing guards; reported that he and Councilmember Waller both put the data into their different AI programs and the results were in agreement with what the Subcommittee recommended; stated that he does have some disagreements that are not based on data but based on biases and also mentioned he did not realize they would cut the crossing guard number from 28 to 18; suggested that they have 19 or 20 crossing guards and if a person calls out then that location will just be unguarded and opined that they should not pull RBPD personnel from their normal duties; noted that he spoke to Dr. Wesley and she asked that both crossing guard locations near Parras Middle School be retained and stated he looked at the data and both locations seem to have a significant amount of people crossing at them; mentioned he imagines a lot of people will have a strong reaction to the removal of the crossing guard at Harness and Carlson that serves the Jefferson kindergartners and first graders; stated that he did speak with the City Manager before that evening's meeting and understood why 18 is a firm number and he would be willing to let go of the crossing guard at Jefferson; supported the work from the Subcommittee and said he would vote in favor of the 18 and recommended solutions but would prefer as an alternative to add back in the crossing guard at Parras and Harness

and Carlson.

Councilmember Waller stated that he supports all the work the Subcommittee did and would vote in favor of the recommendations; noted for the public that most of the crossing guard removals are only one or two blocks from another crossing guard, so students aren't being abandoned and can choose to walk the extra distance to cross with a guard; stated his only argument would be half the students that go to Parras come from the north, and if the crossing guard at Vincent and Lucia is taken, then there will be no crossing guard for them to use; noted that the map showing the proposed crossing guard locations in the presentation had a very good representation of walking paths and suggested that the public take a look at the map; stated in reading some of the comments that the public had no idea that the City had to pay for the crossing guards and are not aware of the actual cost per year for each crossing guard; voiced support for the recommendations and said, if during budget, they can find a way to have 19 or 20 he would like that better.

Councilmember Castle voiced his preference to retain the crossing guard at Vincent due to the simultaneous pedestrian flow from both Parras Middle School and RUHS; added that it is not a controlled intersection and a crossing guard could ensure the proper flow of cars and pedestrians; commented to City Manager Witzansky that it is an issue for him that sworn officers are pulled to cover for crossing guard call-outs; asked if there was a way to have a substitute pool of crossing guards for that situation.

City Manager Witzansky responded that when they say they would staff 18 reliably that actually means they have a roster of 20-22 people for their part-time staffing pool; reported that they have had challenges with that pool due to illness, parenting conflicts, vacations, etc. so recruiting and retaining continues to be an issue for the program.

Councilmember Behrendt stated all the points that the other Councilmembers made were valid and they were points that the Subcommittee discussed over the last several months; noted that he also had a location that he wanted to retain but the data showed it had to be moved and that 18 is the number they need to meet; stated that he had a similar reaction to wanting to retain the crossing guard at Vincent and Lucia, but that Traffic Engineer Liu had already spoken to the principal and the principal preferred a crossing guard at Emerald and Lucia and opted for traffic calming and tactical safety measures at Vincent; opined that if the City says they will staff a location they need to be able to fill it or it creates inadequate expectations of residents and possible legal issues.

Motion by Councilmember Behrendt to support staff's recommendations for the 18 crossing guard locations shown on the map, support the outreach efforts with the School District, and to make the change effective as of the next school year.

Councilmember Obagi asked to discuss further the locations of MacKay/Nelson/Madison and Vincent/Lucia; spoke about the data points for each location and felt that some moves may be warranted; spoke out to the public and asked parents to form walking groups for each day of the school week so that their children's route would feel more safe, urged the community to find solutions so that they don't only rely on the crossing guards.

Councilmember Behrendt noted that there are more crossing guards in North Redondo because there are 50% more school sites in North Redondo; stated that the crossing guard placed at Madison Elementary was decided because they agreed that each school should have at least one crossing guard.

Councilmember Obagi seconded the motion to accept the Subcommittee's recommendations.

More discussion followed.

Mayor Light reiterated that it is more of a staffing sustainability issue for the Crossing Guard Program and not necessarily a budget issue; agreed with Councilmember Obagi and supported the idea of parents forming walking groups to school.

City Manager Witzansky said they have discussed a pedestrian safety concept to be tailored similar to the e-Bike program and they will commit to working on programming something for it.

Alex Fineman, District 3, stated he has a kindergartener at Beryl Heights and noted that they will be losing their crossing guard at Beryl and Prospect according to the list shown; stated that five of the locations losing guards, including four along Prospect, met state guidance thresholds from the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) for crossing guard use; reported that the leading cause of death for children in LA County is traffic accidents and argued the City should implement meaningful traffic calming at those sites before removing guards; voiced concern that the City is cutting \$175,000 by removing crossing guards but cautioned that the City may pay that in liability settlements if a parent loses a child at one of those sites; stressed that the City should follow state guidelines for crossing guards.

Councilmember Behrendt addressed the comments and clarified that the MUTCD is not a requirement for a crossing guard, it is addressing whether a child could be put there as a crossing guard.

Traffic Engineer Liu confirmed that the California MUTCD has recommendations for when an adult crossing guard should be considered but they give a lot of deference to local agencies for each unique and local circumstance; noted that the section Alex Fineman is referring to speaks about the threshold of whether an adult guard versus a child volunteer should be used.

Julie Young (via Zoom), District 4, stated taking away crossing guards will cause parents to start driving their kids to school and will put more vehicles on the road; reported she is on her 11<sup>th</sup> year of walking her kids to school and they have never had the privilege of crossing with a crossing guard due to the route they have to walk to get to the schools her kids attend.

Councilmember Behrendt reiterated that they are not taking away the Crossing Guard

Program.

City Clerk Manzano reported 19 eComments opposed and 1 in support.

Todd Loewenstein (via Zoom), former District 2 Councilmember and former School Board President, stated what is missing in this situation is a discussion about the School District's partial responsibility to support the program; noted that what the City is covering puts them in a position of structural deficit; stated that the City just passed a school bond of \$278 million and that school bonds are only supposed to be met for capital expenditures; explained that the School District has money in the School District budget to help pay for the crossing guards; voiced his support for what the Council is doing and reiterated that the School District should take some responsibility and help fund the replacement of some of the crossing guards.

Councilmember Behrendt reported that the School District has been very supportive and understanding of the changes and offered to help with all the communications of the changes.

Erin Al-Awar, District 4, reported that she lives in the neighborhood closest to Aviation and Ford and her children attend Jefferson Elementary School; voiced her concern about the reduction of crossing guards around the Jefferson area; stated that she supported the crossing guard at Aviation and Ford when the students petitioned for it but she was under the impression that they were adding a guard and not taking one away; read the data from the study aloud and it showed zero student pedestrians were observed crossing at that intersection during the morning peak period; argued the guard placed at Aviation and Ford isn't supported by the data so that guard should be returned to Jefferson.

Danielle Wagner voiced opposition to the reductions of the crossing guards; suggested looking into new staffing strategies since they said it is not a budget issue but a recruitment issue; noted that she is not supportive of leaning on the PTA or the parents to help with the crossing guard situation because they are too busy; commented that they did not put any traffic calming procedures where they moved the crossing guard from to place that guard at Aviation and Ford; agreed with the previous caller that the Aviation and Ford crossing guard should not count towards Jefferson and stated Jefferson needs two crossing guards.

Courtney Hughes, District 4, reported that she is a parent of a Washington Elementary student; spoke about the budget element of the issue and said children's safety should not be where the community is trying to save money; voiced concern about the objectivity of data if gathered by City employees and argued that August 2026 does not allow sufficient time to install traffic calming measures and communicate changes to families; suggested, as part of any future steps, the City shows the community what measures are going to be implemented at each specific crosswalk and the expected timeline for those to be put in place before the 26-27 school year to help the parents feel comfortable.

City Clerk Manzano reported no more hands raised on Zoom.

Councilmember Behrendt reported poling residents throughout the City and finding them supportive of the changes; stated that he is comfortable with the recommendations.

Councilmember Obagi addressed Erin Al-Awar point regarding Aviation and Ford and acknowledged the data from the report but highlighted the fact that all the kids came to the City Council meeting asking for a crossing guard at Aviation and Ford and then coming back to thank the Council for the crossing guard; noted that in the environment they are currently in parents need to step up and assist.

City Manager Witzansky added that the City has done a lot of BRRs on this issue and needed to note that Redondo Beach has a program that currently outpaces the neighboring cities by a significant per guard per site basis across the board; stated that even at 18 they exceed the neighboring cities in the region.

Mayor Light commented that in most cities he has lived in the schools took care of the crossing guards and noted that Redondo Beach has always overachieved in that respect and set community expectations.

Motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.

**N.2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH ARAKELIAN ENTERPRISES, INC. DBA ATHENS SERVICES APPROVE THE DRAFT TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT AND DIRECT STAFF TO PREPARE THE CONTRACT FOR FINAL APPROVAL AND EXECUTION FOLLOWING CONCLUSION OF THE MAY 19, 2026 PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER REFUSE RATE ADJUSTMENTS**

**CONTACT: ANDREW WINJE, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

Public Works Director Winje reviewed the item, recalled that they discussed pricing structure for the customer rates earlier in the year, and they were moving forward with Prop 218 process; stated that evening they are bringing an update on the additional terms that the City has been negotiating with Athens with the goal to have final approval of an amendment in two weeks; turned the floor over to Andrea Delap.

Andrea Delap stated that they are there that evening in consideration of the Athens Services second amendment in advance of the May 19<sup>th</sup> public hearing and formal consideration and approval of the Athens second amendment; announced in two weeks they will be back to open the public hearing, consider the rates, and formally review and consider the second amendment; stated that staff has been before Council at various stages of the process to provide updates and to solicit input from Council; reported that Athens has been the City's exclusive franchise hauler since 2011, their agreement is set to expire on June 30, 2028, and they are the largest service contract for the City and provide service to nearly every resident and business in the City; reminded everyone that there have been a number of external industry drivers that initially caused changes to the

agreement and reviewed some of those drivers; stated that Athens first approached the City in March 2024 with the need to amend the contract based on the closure of the waste energy facility in Long Beach, and then in March 2025 Athens approached the City in response to changes and clarifications to State mandated regulations and additional changes to the terms; noted that the proposal is in their packet that evening in the Second Amendment Draft and the Appendices; said in May 2025 staff received additional feedback from the Council and have been working with Athens to finalize the additional terms which they are bringing forward that evening; noted that, in advance of next week's meeting, Council gave staff direction to initiate the Prop 218 process, which they have done, notices have been mailed to all customers, and they have done all of the necessary public noticing; stated, in January 2026, the City Council tackled the rate structure and gave staff direction to move forward with the rates as noted with: the reclassification of multi-family five plus units as commercial, bundling of customer services, and single-family residential and multi-family (up to 4 units) rates would not be impacted; reported that Council gave staff direction to continue negotiations with Athens on the changes to the remaining terms and provided those changes:

- Term of the Agreement to be extended to June 30, 2036
- Transformation target removed
- Diversion requirement adjusted
- Roll-off exclusivity (after 5-year noticing period)
- Scout service fee
- SB1383 program changes

Andrea Delap reviewed the reasons staff fully recommends the proposed changes for the City which included the continuity of high value service from Athens, the value added services Athens provides to customers, the solid record Athens has for all their programs, free bulky waste and e-Waste pickups, HHW and document shredding events, street sweeping, and the partnership that they provide for many community events; stated that the contract will keep the City in good standing to address State regulatory changes with the implementation of the amendment; mentioned other positives to the contract for the City included the four annual compost giveaways and that Athens has agreed to support 100% the City's SB1383 recycling product purchase targets; stated that the amendment provides stability for the future and helps mitigate some of the impacts of rising costs in solid waste, it provides rate structure certainty for residents and businesses, it delivers mandated services efficiently, and it supports City administration of solid waste programs; noted that the City's HF&H consultants reported that Redondo Beach exceeds service levels in all reviewed areas and with competitive rates for residents and commercial customers; concluded the presentation with staff's recommendation for City Council to provide input regarding the proposed second amendment and then direct staff to return to City Council on May 19<sup>th</sup> for the public hearing.

Mayor Light stated he had missed a meeting and asked Councilmembers Behrendt and Obagi if they were satisfied with what they heard during the discussions they had earlier that day.

Councilmember Behrendt responded that he was satisfied with the answers they received from staff but had a few questions about the document.

Mayor Light asked a representative from Athens to come to the podium; asked if Athens would be converting their vehicles to electric since he read an article that said by 2042 all trash vehicles in California would need to convert to electric.

Christian Warner, Senior Vice President of Athens Services, responded that Athens is always looking ahead in regards to truck laws in California; noted that the electric vehicle industry is not quite there for large trash vehicles, testing is being done in other cities but there are still a lot of things for the industry to resolve; stated as soon as those laws come to fruition and the vehicle is available and it's efficient Athens will move in that direction; noted that the contract does require Athens to be in compliance with State laws.

Mayor Light said he wanted to make sure they were not committing a future Council to a big rate increase due to the State mandate they know is on the books today.

Public Works Director Winje stated that the potential extension for Athens goes until 2036 and a couple of years before that the City can reconsider; commented, as a point of reference, that the bus industry had been mandated to have all electric buses by 2028 but that has been unofficially deemed to be almost impossible.

Councilmember Obagi said regarding rate changes year after year, as part of the appendix includes an index for the cost of trucks; asked if the truck becomes too expensive then will it be part of the City's rate change.

Public Works Director Winje thought those provisions are available to Athens if it gets to that point in the 10-year period but that would be something the future Council would have discretion over.

Mayor Light asked if Athens tried to transition early and charge the City for the electric trucks, would the future Council have a way out.

Public Works Director Winje stated that the current contract doesn't include any provision for them to change the trucks without the City's consent.

City Manager Witzansky added that the vehicles have an eight-to-10-year replacement cycle, there isn't likely to be a transition to electric within the City's 10-year term, and the next transition to new vehicles would be on the next prospective amendment or extension.

Christian Warner stated when truck laws are passed, they are typically giving industries time to allow their vehicles to fully depreciate before purchasing new updated vehicles

Councilmember Waller referenced 5.3.1 in the contract and said it states that residential dwellings of three units or less shall receive cart service; asked how the cart service and rates are affected by that.

Public Works Director Winje responded that they have three categories of service and traditionally residential was single-family up to three units but now it is multi-family with four units; stated that it is its own category, but it is considered residential units and will have cart service as opposed to bin service.

Councilmember Waller reported that the biggest comment he receives from residents is they would like the street sweepers to use more water due to the dust

Gary Clifford, Athens Senior Executive Vice President, responded that all trucks have GPS-monitored water flow, noted that the City provides plenty of water for Athens, and Athens can take care of it if City staff could contact Athens when they receive that complaint.

Councilmember Waller highlighted that commercial customers will actually save money since Athens has promised to work with commercial customers to optimize the size of their bins; spoke of offices mainly having paper to dispose and restaurants mainly needing to dispose of green waste and paper so they can cut down on the use of the other streams of service.

Councilmember Behrendt reported that he and Councilmember Obagi had participated in an in-depth review meeting with Director Winje and Andrea Dunlap earlier that day, covering all major contract terms in detail and finding the agreement to be fair and balanced across the three primary interests: Athens, the City, and residents; acknowledged the agreement as a good bargain given the rising cost environment and noted that the primary adjustment is on the multi-family commercial category, which by nature has a more commercial character; asked Athens when they felt the electric vehicle requirement would take place.

Christian Warner replied that, as City Manager Witzansky noted, it will most likely be addressed when the current term coming up is over.

More discussion followed on anticipating and planning for the electric vehicles during this term and pilot testing the electric vehicles. Councilmember Behrendt stated he felt confident that they would not have a big bump under the "Extraordinary Adjustment" heading.

Councilmember Kaluderovic acknowledged Athens' high level of service and attention to detail.

Councilmember Obagi commented that no one does garbage better than Athens and acknowledged the great customer service that Sharon Shapiro provides to the City; thanked Councilmember Behrendt, Director Winje, and Andrea Delap for the meeting earlier that day and noted all the questions were answered and the responses were very detailed; commented that, based on the poll he took with residents, everybody is happy with the excellent service Athens provides to the City.

Mayor Light commented that every step has been described throughout the whole

process and the extraordinary services Athens provides in comparison to other cities makes it a very good deal; voiced his support for the item but deferred to Councilmember Behrendt since he did more of the due diligence on the document.

Councilmember Behrendt stated no agreement is perfect but felt under all circumstances it is a good contract for the City and Athens' track record justifies it.

Motion by Councilmember Obagi, seconded by Councilmember Kaluderovic, to approve the draft terms of the agreement and direct staff to prepare the contract for final approval and execution following conclusion of the May 19, 2026, public hearing to consider refuse rate adjustments.

Mayor Light invited public comment.

City Clerk Manzano reported no eComments and no one online.

Motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.

### **N.3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPROVAL OF THE CITY'S UPDATED STRATEGIC PLAN INCLUDING THE THREE-YEAR PRIORITY AREAS, GOALS, AND TWELVE-MONTH OBJECTIVES**

**CONTACT:** LUKE SMUDE, ASSISTANT TO THE CITY MANAGER

Luke Smude, Assistant to the City Manager, provided a brief outline of what he would be discussing which included the strategic planning process, March 31, 2026 highlights, three-year priority areas and 12-month goals, and next steps and recommendations; reviewed the background on the Strategic Planning process and noted that this year, with Council's approval, they facilitated the meeting internally with the City Manager as the moderator; highlighted that the City had 125 accomplishments that year and using an abbreviated SWOT analysis established that they have 70 objectives; stated that Priority Areas have not changed and listed them as: 1) Economic Vitality, 2) Public Safety and Community Well-Being, 3) Infrastructure and Public Spaces, 4) Customer Centered Service Delivery, and 5) Community Stewardship; reported that under Economic Vitality they added Goal 1.4: Enhance the City's Fiscal Sustainability, Future Goal 1.6: Identify Efforts to Enhance Business Retention, and Future Goal 1.7: Identify programs that have shown success on Artesia Blvd. and report on steps to implement them on PCH; noted that under Priority Area 2: Public Safety and Community Well-Being most of the focus was on Measure FP and enhancing facilities and Goal 2.4 was changed to add Community Resilience to it; stated under Priority Areas Goal 3.1 added Infrastructure but the rest remained the same; stated that Priority Areas 4 and 5 were unchanged and continue to focus on the City's climate resilience, historic resources, and preserving the neighborhood character; reiterated that the City has 70 objectives and under each objective they have another level of the hierarchy under the goals and they hope they are measurable and achievable in the 12-month period; stated that staff's recommendation is that Council review the proposed matrix, confirm priority areas, goals, and objectives,

and approve the Strategic Planning Matrix; added that staff will provide updates at the last Council meeting of each month on progress made towards the objectives.

City Manager Witzansky noted the twelve-month period of the plan would cover May 2026 through April 2027; commented that 70 objectives is a lot and would caution them to add any more to that list, unless it is wordsmithing and fine tuning; noted that most of the objectives are actionable items and they are reportable back to the Council.

Mayor Light commented that he liked the streamlined process they used this year and stated he felt that the Council's comments were captured in the process; voiced concern regarding the discussion on how they manage the Harbor and asked that follow up be done regarding what other harbors do with their organizations and updates be shared with the Council.

City Manager Witzansky replied that they understood and would follow up.

Mayor Light referenced and agreed with the item regarding the lack of EV charging stations in the City.

City Manager Witzansky responded that staff has been trying to get them installed; reported that staff has applied for multiple grants and that Luke Smude has been in charge of at least two or three of them; stated they have a CIP set aside to fund additional EV charging stations in the facility; reported that they are having trouble with the underlying infrastructure that needs to be provided by Edison; stated that Edison can't support the requests that they have made and reported that Edison officials said they can't provide power to the Harbor area; stated that they will continue to have EV charging stations in the CIP and they are currently working on electric infrastructure at the Yard, which will be a carryover project for 26-27.

More discussion followed.

Councilmember Obagi reported that Tesla put a supercharging station on 190<sup>th</sup> near Starbucks and asked if it is available there, why can't they provide it in other parts of Redondo Beach.

City Manager Witzansky responded that it depends on the service area and that the areas they have asked about the providers are not ready to deliver service there yet.

Councilmember Obagi asked about charging stations on the empty parcels SCE has on the right-of-way along 190<sup>th</sup>.

City Manager Witzansky stated that SCE won't put them under their transmission corridor.

Mayor Light added that he called SCE and SCE said all that land is leased.

Luke Smude mentioned that staff had an established list of sites that Council was interested in a couple of years ago but for various issues none of the programs or grants

they have explored have worked out but they will continue to explore ways to bring more charging stations to the City.

Councilmember Behrendt reported that he and Councilmember Obagi have been working on private investment regarding charging stations and said they have had some development but nothing concrete to report yet.

Councilmember Obagi asked for Strategic Plan item #20 to be pulled up on the screen; commented on the numerous properties that are vacant on Artesia Blvd. and stated that the City should be reaching out to restaurant owners and hoteliers in the South Bay to ask them to consider opening up restaurants on Artesia Blvd.; noted that the land would be cheaper than other areas, they would benefit from the robust consumers attending the Farmers Market, the entitlement changes haven't been priced into the land yet, and the City eliminated parking regulations; asked how they can proactively reach out to owners in the South Bay to try to get them interested in doing something on Artesia and Aviation.

City Manager Witzansky said that they could try to put it into the work that AREAS is already doing and see if they can't identify and recruit local purveyors to invest in Artesia Blvd.; added that staff can try to do some self-initiating along with Council.

Councilmember Castle commented that, in regard to the Strategic Planning Session, he felt the process they followed this year worked well and as they decide how they move forward next year they may want to consider if they are capable of doing it on their own and without the consultant.

Motion by Councilmember Obagi, seconded by Councilmember Castle, to adopt the proposed changes provided, approve the Strategic Planning Matrix and Objectives, and have staff finalize the document for a June meeting where staff will give their first update.

Mayor Light invited public comment.

Alex Fineman noted that housing is not mentioned in the Strategic Plan in the Priority Areas or the goals and felt that is an oversight; stated that housing ties into a lot of the Priority Areas and goals that are mentioned: Environmental Stewardship, Public Safety, and Economic Vitality; said that it was stated earlier that residential development is a net negative in the budget but argued if the City cannot encourage more businesses to open then the reality should be more housing or cutting services; commented that the City has been resistant to housing for a while and they are beginning to see service cuts and used the \$300 EMS fee and cutting crossing guards as examples; spoke of all the reasons the City should consider more housing and asked that when they revisit the Strategic Plan in the future to consider where housing fits into it.

Councilmember Obagi pointed out that Goal 2.3, 35, and 37 all have housing elements in them.

Jimmy Erikson said he found it hard to believe that all the City's avenues have been

looked at in regards to charging stations because Torrance, Hermosa, and Manhattan all have ongoing programs that are currently working; noted that Southern Edison has a program to work with municipalities and all of the vendors have programs to work with cities and private companies to make it work.

Councilmember Waller responded that he has referred private companies to places such as the Riviera Village Association and other businesses there and wanted the speaker to know they are working the private side as well.

City Clerk Manzano reported no one else online and no eComments.

Motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.

#### **O. CITY MANAGER ITEMS**

City Manager Witzansky wanted to acknowledge the work the Public Safety Team did over the weekend, especially Brian Regan with the RBFD and Brian Long with the RBPD; thanked Chief Sprengel and Chief Butler for their proactive response to the crisis that happened on Sunday morning and was pleased with their communication with IT Director Cook, who was also involved in the situation; thanked the FBI for their assistance throughout the day.

Mayor Light stated that he fully supported the way the First Responders reacted and noted that the First Responders need to be focused on public safety and not on what is being texted out to the public; mentioned that detailed text is also not helpful since it may help the bad actor instead.

City Manager Witzansky added that people do need to understand that a lot of thought is put into what is communicated, how it is communicated, and what is said and what isn't said because they do not want to reward the bad actors for their bad behavior through recognition.

#### **P. MAYOR AND COUNCIL ITEMS - None**

#### **Q. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REFERRALS TO STAFF**

Mayor Light requested a BRR for the ADA lift for the Teen Center and a BRR for a ADA electric wheelchair to be used on the terrain at Wilderness Park.

Councilmember Waller requested a BRR for estimated costs of either closing southbound Irena at Torrance Blvd. or the cost of making it a full Cul de sac for the concerns of the residents on Opal.

Councilmember Kaluderovic asked to amend the BRR she had for Ensenada Parkette; noted her original request asked for climbing items, shades, and trees; reported that trees have already been planted so she would just like to see the cost of adding a shade

structure; requested a BRR to replace the Vapor Wake dog they recently retired and asked for the cost of the dog, the training, and other ongoing costs associated for it; noted that there may be grants or funding available to assist.

Councilmember Obagi requested a BRR on the cost to rewrap a tile that still has the old Redondo Beach logo at the PAC in the lobby.

**R. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION**

**R.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:**

**Warlie Corteza v. City of Redondo Beach, Quality Seafood, Inc., BC Urban, LLC and DOES 1 to 25**

**Case Number: 25TRCV00066**

**R.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:**

**Marcia St. Laurent v. City of Redondo Beach, Howard E. Wood, Susan C. Wood, The HS Wood Family Trust and DOES 1-100, Inclusive**

**Case Number: 25TRCV01441**

**R.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:**

**Phillip Mack v. City of Redondo Beach; and DOES 1-20, inclusive**

**Case No: 24TRCV03382**

**R.4. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR - The Closed Session is authorized by the Government Code Section 54956.8.**

**AGENCY NEGOTIATOR:**

**Mike Witzansky, City Manager**

**Katherine Buck, Acting Waterfront & Economic Development Director**

**Jon Goetz, Redwood Public Law**

**PROPERTY:**

**100 International Boardwalk, Redondo Beach, CA 90277**

**130 International Boardwalk, Redondo Beach, CA 90277**

(a portion of APN: 7505-002-932)

**NEGOTIATING PARTIES:**

Jeff Jones, Quality Seafood, Inc.

**UNDER NEGOTIATION:**

Lease Status, Price, and Terms

**R.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:**

Feras Adamo, an individual; Manhattan Beach Smoke Shop Inc., a California Corporation v. City of Redondo Beach; Jim Light, an individual; and DOES 1 through 100, inclusive

Case Number: 26STCP01367

**S. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION – None**

**T. ADJOURNMENT – 10:43 P.M.**

Motion by Councilmember Waller, seconded by Councilmember Kaluderovic, to adjourn the meeting at 10:43 p.m.

Motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.

The next meeting of the City Council of the City of Redondo Beach will be 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, May 12, 2026, in the Redondo Beach City Hall Council Chamber, 415 Diamond Street, Redondo Beach, California.

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

Respectfully submitted:

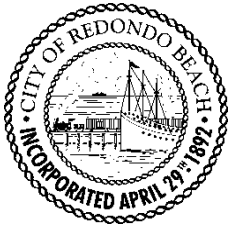
DocuSigned by:

*Eleanor Manzano*

72F2AC716C214CF...

---

Eleanor Manzano, CMC  
City Clerk



Minutes  
Redondo Beach City Council  
Tuesday, May 12, 2026  
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: Castle, Kaluderovic, Obagi, Behrendt, Mayor Light

Councilmembers Absent: Waller (in Sacramento for a meeting)

Officials Present: Mike Witzansky, City Manager  
Joy Ford, City Attorney  
Derek Kalish, Assistant City Clerk  
Emily Bodkin, Administrative Specialist/Liaison

**C. SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND INVOCATION - None**

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

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

**F. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION**

**F.1. 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:**

**Portions of the Redondo Beach Marina Parking Lot and Seaside Lagoon (portions of APN #s: 7503-029-900 and 7503-029-903)  
Portions of Harbor Drive, Pacific Avenue, Catalina Avenue, Torrance Boulevard, Knob Hill Avenue, Vista Del Mar, Camino de la Costa, Gertruda**

**Avenue, Herondo Street, and Esplanade**

**NEGOTIATING PARTIES:**

**Kellie Hawkins, Englander Knabe & Allen on Behalf of Nike, Inc.**

**UNDER NEGOTIATION:**

**Price and Terms**

**F.2. 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:**

**Portions of the Redondo Beach Marina Parking Lot**

**(portions of APN #s: 7503-029-900 and 7503-029-903)**

**Portions of King Harbor turn basin and hand launch**

**NEGOTIATING PARTIES:**

**Adam Brzyski, Game On Live Studio, Water Polo Program Coordinator**

**UNDER NEGOTIATION:**

**Price and Terms**

Liaison Bodkin read titles to be discussed at Closed Session.

City Manager Witzansky announced the following would be participating in Closed Session: City Manager Mike Witzansky, City Attorney Joy Ford, Assistant City Attorney Cheryl Park, and Community Services Director Elizabeth Hause.

Motion by Councilmember Obagi, seconded by Councilmember Castle, to recess to Closed Session at 4:35 p.m.

Motion carried 4-0-1 by voice vote. Councilmember Waller was absent.

**G. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

Mayor Light reconvened to Open Session at 6:07 p.m.

**H. ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Present: Castle, Kaluderovic, Obagi, Behrendt, Mayor Light

Councilmembers Absent: Waller

Officials Present: Eleanor Manzano, City Clerk  
Mike Witzansky, City Manager  
Joy Ford, City Attorney  
Derek Kalish, Assistant City Clerk

**I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS**

City Manager Witzansky stated there was no reportable action that evening.

**J. ADJOURN TO REGULAR MEETING**

Motion by Councilmember Kaluderovic, seconded by Councilmember Castle, to adjourn to the Regular Meeting at 6:08 p.m.

Motion carried 4-0-1 by voice vote. Councilmember Waller was absent.

**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 6:08 p.m. by Mayor Light in the City Hall Council Chambers, 415 Diamond Street, Redondo Beach, California.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Present: Castle, Kaluderovic, Obagi, Behrendt,  
Mayor Light

Councilmembers Absent: Waller

Officials Present: Eleanor Manzano, City Clerk  
Mike Witzansky, City Manager  
Joy Ford, City Attorney  
Derek Kalish, Assistant City Clerk

**C. SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND INVOCATION**

Mayor Light invited veterans and active-duty military to stand and be recognized for their service.

Councilmember Kaluderovic led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Light asked all to remain standing for a moment of silent invocation.

## **D. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/AB 1234 TRAVEL**

### **D.1. MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION OF MAY 17 - 23, 2026 AS NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK**

Mayor Light invited Public Works Director Andy Winje, Senior Mechanic Fernando Casimiro, and Senior Administrative Specialist Christine Gillette to the podium; acknowledged that Public Works is involved in all aspects of daily life in Redondo Beach; reported that the department has 114 full-time and 3 part-time employees who maintain 127 miles of roadways, 6.7 million sq. ft. of sidewalk, more than 11,600 street signs, 35 miles of storm drains, 116 miles of sewer lines, 16 sewer pump stations, over 130 acres of parks and landscaped green space, over 11,800 City owned trees, the Pier, three parking structures, Marina basins, seawalls, Harbor docks, vessel moorings, more than 250 City vehicles, 23 generators, and over 433,000 sq. ft. of City building space; stated the department is supported through an operating budget of approximately \$36 million per year and a capital budget of approximately \$94 million which reflects the City's investment in maintaining and improving the City's infrastructure; stated that National Public Works week is an opportunity to recognize the individuals whose work happens behind the scenes; presented the proclamation on behalf of the City Council and the community.

Public Works Director Winje introduced Christine Gillette and Fernando Casimiro; explained the critical roles that each of them plays in the department; thanked all the Public Works employees for their hard work, dedications, and expertise in keeping the City moving forward.

Mayor Light reported attending the Fire Service Day on Saturday, the Southern California Association of Governments General Assembly on Thursday (no cost associated for elected officials and representatives of cities), and the ribbon cutting for the North Redondo Farmers Market; announced, on May 20, 2026, he would be doing a State of the City for the residents from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the conference room at the Library.

Councilmember Kaluderovic recognized Mike Klein, the Public Works team, and IT Director Mike Cook for their response to the situation during the BeachLife festival; reported attending the Internet Safety Event hosted by the Redondo Beach PTA along with the RBPD; announced her Community Meeting for May 13, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at Fulton Playfield, her joint community event at the cafeteria at Jefferson Elementary School on May 20, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. with Councilmember Behrendt to discuss the Citywide Crossing Guard Program.

Councilmember Castle reported attending the Fire Service Day at Station 1 over the weekend, the Farmers Market ribbon cutting on Wednesday, Graze Craze ribbon cutting in the King Plaza, and the ribbon cutting for The Glass House event space for the South Bay Artists Studio on Francisca and Catalina.

Councilmember Obagi thanked Public Works for bringing out the truck that clears out clogs in the sewer drains and for their around the clock service; explained to everyone not to put oils and fats down the drain because it hardens up and clogs drains; thanked IT Director Mike Cook for fixing the internet problem down at the Pier.

Councilmember Behrendt announced part 4 of the Pillars of Public Safety event at the RBPAC on Wednesday, June 3, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. featuring LA District Attorney Nathan Hochman and refreshments will be served.

**E. APPROVE ORDER OF AGENDA**

Motion by Councilmember Castle, seconded by Councilmember Kaluderovic, to approve the order of the agenda as published.

Motion carried 4-0-1 by voice vote. Councilmember Waller was absent.

**F. AGENCY RECESS - None**

**G. BLUE FOLDER ITEMS - ADDITIONAL BACK UP MATERIALS**

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

City Clerk Manzano reported Blue Folder items for H.10, N.1, and N.2.

Motion by Councilmember Kaluderovic, seconded by Councilmember Castle, to receive and file the Blue Folder items.

Motion carried 4-0-1 by voice vote. Councilmember Waller was absent.

**H. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**H.1. APPROVE AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING FOR THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AND REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 12, 2026**

**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. MARCH 31, 2026 ADJOURNED AND STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING**
- B. APRIL 14, 2026 ADJOURNED AND REGULAR MEETING**

**C. APRIL 21, 2026 ADJOURNED AND REGULAR MEETING**

**CONTACT: ELEANOR MANZANO, CITY CLERK**

- H.4. ADOPT BY 4/5THS VOTE AND BY TITLE ONLY RESOLUTION NO. CC-2605-028 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING A 2025-2026 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET MODIFICATION APPROPRIATING \$25,000 IN GRANT FUNDS FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION OF BOATING AND WATERWAYS TO THE CITY'S WATERFRONT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT BUDGET FOR THE DISPOSAL OF ABANDONED OR SURRENDERED VESSELS IN KING HARBOR**

**CONTACT: KATHERINE BUCK, ACTING WATERFRONT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

- H.5. APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH FEHR & PEERS, INC. FOR A MARINA PARKING REQUIREMENT ADJUSTMENT STUDY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$35,000 FOR THE TERM MAY 12, 2026 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2026**

**CONTACT: KATHERINE BUCK, ACTING WATERFRONT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

- H.6. ADOPT BY TITLE ONLY, RESOLUTION NO. CC-2605-029, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA APPROVING THE SUSPENSION OF PREFERENTIAL PARKING HOURS IN THE VINCENT AND VINCENT 2 PREFERENTIAL PARKING DISTRICTS FOR LIMITED HOURS ON JUNE 11 AND JUNE 12, 2026, FOR THE REDONDO BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT'S MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT AND HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONIES**

**CONTACT: STEPHEN SPRENGEL, CHIEF OF POLICE**

- H.7. APPROVE THE THIRD AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH MELAD AND ASSOCIATES, INC. TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CHECK SERVICES AND INSPECTION AND PERMIT TECHNICIAN STAFFING SUPPORT AS NEEDED, ADDING \$500,000 TO THE AGREEMENT, FOR A NEW NOT TO EXCEED TOTAL OF \$1,000,000 FULLY OFFSET BY FEES**

**APPROVE THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH BOWMAN INFRASTRUCTURE ENGINEERS LTD. TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CHECK SERVICES AND INSPECTION AND PERMIT TECHNICIAN STAFFING SUPPORT AS NEEDED, ADDING \$500,000 TO THE AGREEMENT, FOR A NEW NOT TO EXCEED TOTAL OF \$970,000 FULLY OFFSET BY FEES**

**APPROVE THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH TRANSTECH ENGINEERS, INC TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CHECK SERVICES AND INSPECTION AND PERMIT TECHNICIAN STAFFING SUPPORT AS NEEDED, ADDING \$500,000 TO THE AGREEMENT, FOR A NEW NOT TO EXCEED TOTAL OF \$700,000 FULLY OFFSET BY FEES APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH TRUE NORTH COMPLIANCE SERVICES, INC. TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CHECK SERVICES AND INSPECTION AND PERMIT TECHNICIAN STAFFING SUPPORT AS NEEDED, ADDING \$500,000 TO THE AGREEMENT, FOR A NEW NOT TO EXCEED TOTAL OF \$600,000 FULLY OFFSET BY FEES**

**CONTACT: MARC WIENER, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

- H.8. ADOPT BY 4/5THS VOTE AND TITLE ONLY, RESOLUTION NO CC-2605-030 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING A 2025-2026 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET MODIFICATION APPROPRIATING \$60,000 IN GRANT FUNDS FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION TO THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL GRANTS FUND**

**CONTACT: LUKE SMUDE, ASSISTANT TO THE CITY MANAGER**

- H.9. ADOPT BY TITLE ONLY ORDINANCE NO. 3311-26, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING TITLE 10 PLANNING AND ZONING, CHAPTER 2 ZONING AND LAND USE OF THE REDONDO BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE TO IMPLEMENT AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY'S CERTIFIED 6TH CYCLE 2021-2029 HOUSING ELEMENT THAT REPLACE THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING OVERLAY DISTRICTS ON THE CITY'S IDENTIFIED "HOUSING SITES" WITH HIGH-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (65 DU/AC) AND MIXED-USE ZONING DISTRICTS (65 TO 80 DU/AC). FOR SECOND READING AND ADOPTION**

**ADOPT BY TITLE ONLY ORDINANCE NO. 3312-26, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING TITLE 10 PLANNING AND ZONING, CHAPTER 1 SUBDIVISIONS OF THE REDONDO BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE TO IMPLEMENT AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY'S CERTIFIED 6TH CYCLE 2021-2029 HOUSING ELEMENT THAT REPLACE THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING OVERLAY DISTRICTS ON THE CITY'S IDENTIFIED "HOUSING SITES" WITH HIGH-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (65 DU/AC) AND MIXEDUSE ZONING DISTRICTS (65 TO 80 DU/AC). FOR SECOND READING AND ADOPTION**

**CONTACT: MARC WIENER, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

- H.10. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN A LETTER TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO OPPOSE A BOARD MOTION**

**REGARDING A MORE ACCOUNTABLE HOMELESSNESS GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE FOR LOS ANGELES COUNTY INTRODUCED BY SUPERVISOR LINDSEY HORVATH**

**CONTACT:** JOY A. FORD, CITY ATTORNEY

Motion by Councilmember Obagi, seconded by Councilmember Kaluderovic, to approve the Consent Calendar in its entirety.

Mayor Light invited public comment.

Nancy Skiba (via Zoom) asked if the Mayor and Council could explain why they would be opposed to the governance structure for item H.10.

City Clerk Manzano reported no one else online and no eComments.

Councilmember Kaluderovic offered to address Nancy Skiba's question; stated that it seems the intention is to address the JPA that is with LAHSA and the City of Los Angeles but it doesn't seem to have a clear understanding of who is doing what in the system; commented that the Responsive Regional Plan seems to be more of an inventory and not a plan of the programs in the entire system and it is incomplete; explained that the City has collaborated on a letter to advocate for changes to the motion so that cities can be represented, maintain flexibility with the spending, and advocate that they complete the Regional Plan Inventory before making any decisions.

Councilmember Obagi agreed with the comments made by Councilmember Kaluderovic; added that they discussed it at the COG and the impression they got from the motion is that homeless money intended for Redondo Beach and for the South Bay COG would be taken and used for administration; noted that would go against what they have been learning from the City's functional zero homelessness and what has been advocated because it would deprive local agencies from being able to retain Housing Navigators and resources; commented that they would disempower the local agencies and go back to the centralized theme that has failed with LAHSA.

Motion carried 4-0-1 by voice vote. Councilmember Waller was absent.

City Clerk Manzano read H.4 adopt by 4/5ths vote by title only Resolution No. CC-2605-028, H.6 adopt by title only Resolution No. CC-2605-029, H.8 adopt by 4/5ths vote and by title only Resolution No. CC-2605-030, H.9 adopt by title only Ordinance No. 3311-26 and adopt by title only Ordinance No. 3312-26.

**I. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - None**

**J. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

**J.1. For eComments and Emails Received from the Public**

Pam Abscho reported she spoke in December about construction issues and this week the issue has to do with an air conditioning unit being installed on the side setback by a neighbor; stated that the other issue has not been resolved, Director Wiener went out to their home and promised to take care of it but nothing has been done in five months so they have had to retain counsel to try to resolve the construction issues with her neighbor at 1019; reported that this week her neighbor at 1011 is installing an a/c unit that is 62 decibels and in April 2023 a new code stated that no unit can be put into a side setback at a level greater than 55 decibels.

William Nevarez, husband of Pam Abscho, spoke about the noisy environment of their area and when a/c is put in the units it generates sound pressure and noise; stated they have lived there since 1988 and have the right to quiet enjoyment of their home; said they don't like to do litigation but that the City has forced them in that direction; explained all the measures they have taken with the City but they are not getting the support from the City; reported that a seller of one of the properties lied about the a/c unit being pre-existing on the plans and threatened them with litigation if they said anything to jeopardize the sale of the home; stated that they obtained a permit report which showed there have been 15 permits issued for air conditioning and only one on this side of the City; reiterated that they have asked for help from the City and they are dissatisfied.

Councilmember Obagi asked if they have contacted Code Enforcement or Quality of Life Unit.

William Nevarez responded that they have and Code Enforcement has been involved; noted that the inspector said they don't have sound equipment to measure noise, but the a/c unit is 65 decibels.

Wayne Craig, District 1, referenced the Pearl St. mixed-use housing controversy in South Redondo and explained that the developer stated that adding another subterranean parking level would make the project financially infeasible; stated it mattered to residents because it eliminated approx. 40 parking spaces while increasing impacts on surrounding neighborhoods; reported that the Planning Commission rejected the project due to concerns over the parking shortage and public safety concerns regarding the proximity of the project to the Fire Station and the impact it would have on emergency vehicles trying to negotiate the crowded intersection at Pearl and PCH; stated due to the threat of litigation the City Council approved the project and granted entitlements; reported now the property is on the market for \$14 million and it reinforces that from the beginning the project was not about providing affordable housing, it was to maximize land use and profit; reported that the same developer has proposed a 79 unit project on the corner of 190<sup>th</sup> St. and Inglewood Ave. and will bypass a Planning Commission review due to State Housing Laws; recommended that the City pursue every legal option before the project goes through final approval through the Planning Commission; highlighted that the broader issue extends to local governments surrendering authority to Sacramento mandates which may increase large scale developments with inadequate parking that will impact neighborhoods and quality of life; stated that affordable housing should benefit

working families and not just create opportunities for developers to obtain entitlements, inflate property values, and not build anything at all.

Mayor Light commented that it is beyond the control of the City but they receive letters from the State, HCD, and the Coastal Commission; reported that the developer did remedy the parking shortages with the commercial development; stressed that until people vote for the right people in Sacramento or support Our Neighborhood Voices the future may continue to see more State mandates.

Jeff Jones, Quality Seafood & President of the King Harbor Business Association, stated that his business relied on a strong collaboration with Public Works and was happy to be there on a night they were being honored; spoke of running for the role of president because he wanted to change the way the Association was being led; reported that, over the past year, they have staged some great events at the Waterfront, worked on beautification projects and safety projects, and brought in several new members into the Association; stated that they amended the bylaws of the King Harbor Association, namely they expanded the area of the Association that encompasses and brings in more voices and more people; noted that the Association's voice has been absent and with the changed hoped that they could help Council with decisions as they relate to the Waterfront; announced that the Association will be more present and they will provide monthly updates to the Council going forward.

Councilmember Obagi referenced the approved \$11 million plan for the Seaside Lagoon and asked Jeff Jones if he felt that the Association was left out of the decision or that their voice was reflected in the plan.

Jeff Jones replied that they did not feel their perspective was related to the Council and they intend to do better in making a collaborative effort with the Council.

Councilmember Obagi said he would follow up with Jeff Jones.

Mayor Light asked if there was a chance they would include the Pier as they expand their role.

Jeff Jones replied that they intend to make that opportunity available to everybody on the Pier and it is included in the map they drew out for their area.

Discussion followed that it would be ideal for the Pier Association and the King Harbor Association to work together as one big group to run events.

Georgette Gantner, District 2, spoke about the expansion of the LA County Art Museum and the changes they have made being controversial; said Michael Govan, the curator, justified the changes were needed to attract the best art in the country and it will make more money for the City; stated she is still advocating and hoping that the AES Plant might be a place for art or be a satellite location for LACMA, the Geffen, the Broad, or the Hammer; asked that they visit the footprint when they have a chance.

City Clerk Manzano reported no eComments and no hands raised on Zoom.

## **K. EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS**

Mayor Light reported speaking with multiple members of the Council and the City Manager.

Councilmember Castle reported speaking with the City Manager.

Councilmember Kaluderovic reported speaking with staff for L.1.

Councilmember Obagi reported none.

Councilmember Behrendt reported speaking with the Mayor and City staff.

## **L. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **L.1. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING TO SOLICIT FEEDBACK ON PUBLIC SERVICES GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS AND TO ADOPT THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FY 2026-27 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN**

#### **PROCEDURES:**

- 1. Reconvene the Public Hearing and take testimony**
- 2. Close the Public Hearing;**
- 3. Consider the public services grant recommendations; and**
- 4. Adopt the FY 2026-27 Annual Action Plan.**

**CONTACT:** ELIZABETH HAUSE, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

Motion by Councilmember Obagi, seconded by Councilmember Kaluderovic, to reconvene the public hearing.

Motion carried 4-0-1 by voice vote. Councilmember Waller was absent.

Community Services Director Hause introduced Deputy Director of Community Services Kelly Orta; explained that Kelly Orta manages the City's CDBG Program and will present the item; reported that Redondo Beach is a recipient of the CDBG funds and due to that they need to memorialize what they will do with the funds in the form of the Annual Action Plan; turned the floor over to Kelly Orta.

Deputy Director Orta reminded the Mayor and Council that this is the second series of public hearing on the item and a lot of the information would be the same; noted that staff did update the number and they received their final allocation from HUD since the last meeting; reported that they are at \$296,580, which is a slight increase from their estimation; provided a visual history slide of the City's CDBG funding and stated that they are still in good standing with HUD; stated for the proposed budget the breakdown is

about \$152,777 for public facilities, \$40,000 would go towards the MA/ER Program, \$44,487 would go to the City's public service agencies, and \$59,316 for administration and Fair Housing; provided a slide of the proposed public service agencies funding and noted that they did proportionately reallocate the funding based on the new amount given but they were the same agencies that were presented at the last meeting; noted that they need to submit the City's Annual Action Plan by May 15<sup>th</sup> so staff hoped for approval that evening; stated staff's recommendations for that evening were to: 1) Open the public hearing, 2) Close the public hearing, 3) Consider the public service grant recommendations, and 4) Adopt the FY 2026-27 Annual Action Plan.

Mayor Light invited public comment.

City Clerk Manzano reported no one online and no eComments.

Motion by Councilmember Obagi, seconded by Councilmember Kaluderovic, to close the public hearing.

Motion carried 4-0-1 by voice vote. Councilmember Waller was absent.

Motion by Councilmember Obagi, seconded by Councilmember Kaluderovic, to adopt the 2026-27 Annual Action Plan.

Motion carried 4-0-1 by voice vote. Councilmember Waller was absent.

**M. ITEMS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS AGENDAS - None**

**N. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION PRIOR TO ACTION**

**N.1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION TO INCLUDE AN LGBTQ-THEMED ART SCULPTURE IN THE ARTESIA BOULEVARD STRATEGIC ART PLAN PROVIDE DIRECTION TO STAFF ON THE PROPOSED SCOPE OF THE LGBTQ-THEMED ART PROJECT**

**CONTACT: ELIZABETH HAUSE, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR**

Community Services Director Hause recalled that in December 2025 staff presented to the City Council the Artesia Strategic Art Plan, the Council provided direction, selected some modalities and types of art, and locations for the art; noted that the Council spoke to the consultant and also considered the Cultural Arts Commission's recommendation to include an LGBTQ themed sculpture at the North Branch Library; stated that the Cultural Arts Commission wanted Council to consider including the sculpture as part of the Artesia Project and allocate funding for it and at the December meeting the City Council did approve and allocate funding for the sculpture; reported that as part of the motion the Council wanted public outreach done specific to the sculpture itself; stated staff's first step for outreach was to do a community survey, which was launch on March 16<sup>th</sup>, but within

days they noticed unusual activity with the survey, discovered bots and automatic replies were responding, and they shut down the survey; reported that once the survey was launched, they received feedback from the community and Council for more information on what the City was trying to accomplish and that is why the item is back that evening; stated that staff is looking for additional direction from the Council on these items:

- 1) Does Council wish to proceed with the CAC's recommendation to include an LGBTQ themed artwork as part of the Artesia Blvd. Art Plan?
- 2) If so, what specific type of artwork, topics, elements would the Council like the scope of the project to address?
- 3) Does the City Council want staff to seek any follow-up community feedback regarding the project?

City Manager Witzansky reported that he worked with IT Director Cook to see if they could determine responses from the data given by the survey; stated of the 500 responses mentioned, 160 of those or more were likely invalid due to repetition; said the question that would probably give them the best sense of feeling from the community was: How supportive are you on a scale of 1 to 5 of the proposed project?; reported that the results showed more people opposed to the project than supported it; noted that the data was not overwhelming due to the inaccuracies of the responses.

Mayor Light asked the public to be respectful, noted that the topic could get heated on either side.

Councilmember Behrendt recalled that on December 16, 2025 the City Council's motion was for an inclusive art installation at the North Branch Library and not an exclusively LGBTQ statue or exclusively anyone else statue; added it was supposed to be an artwork that serves as a tribute to the inclusive nature of the City as a whole and to recognize the many diverse individuals and groups in the community plus obtain resident feedback through community outreach and input; reported that the resident feedback he has received has been overwhelmingly no for a variety of reasons; spoke of the online comments being misguided and inappropriate and out of line, but stated it is not reflective of who they are as a City or community; noted that even if he personally is in favor of the LGBTQ+ statue, he does not feel comfortable overriding and ignoring the sentiments of the residents; added that it is also part of a bigger project and he would not want to cause issues for the Artesia Artwork Project; said they have two realistic options: 1) pause on this potential component of the Artesia Art Project and instead execute and implement the Artesia Project elements that the Council has unanimously agreed to and approved; suggested they take a holistic approach to the North Branch Library location by waiting to see what the other art projects look like and then see what would work for that location, or 2) propose to the community the original direction by the City Council of an inclusive artwork at the North Branch Library that recognizes and honors the diverse elements of the City's community and not exclusively one group or identity and along with that do a proper community outreach and uncorruptible poll on what type of inclusive art work

residents would like to see; stated that regardless of the outcome of that evening, it is clear that the City supports the LGBTQ+ community and noted that they raise the flag every year and they are happy to stand with all types of communities.

Councilmember Obagi reported that it was his screen with the motion on December 16, 2025 and it said inclusive; clarified that the City was funding a project that the CAC had sent to the City Council or recommended to them, which was for an LGBTQ installation plus installation and he intended it to be inclusive; noted that by inclusive he meant subjectively family friendly and not offensive to anyone; said he looked back at the video and realized he left it ambiguous; explained his thoughts on community outreach for the project, clarifying what he had hoped was for staff to get proposals on various works of art, narrow them down, then present them to the community for feedback before the City commissions the artwork for hundreds of thousands of dollars; added that he doesn't want another situation similar to the skatepark at Perry Park where they spent lots of money and had to remove it due to unhappy residents; reported that he did his own poll, which gets sent out to only registered voters on his list, and has been consistent over the past with results done by paid consultants; noted that he may have a more progressive district since it is made up of younger families; asked to share his screen, showed the poll he sent out to 8,873 people, in which 67% opened it; stated the question he asked was: Do you support an art installation that recognizes the LGBTQ+ community?; reported that 189 responded (58% of the respondents) said yes and added that his poll was only done via email and not social media and the poll only allows one-time use; stated his next question was: What type of LGBTQ+ art would you support, if any? Options: Rainbow Sealife/Beachy art, Statue of People, Flag-like Installation, I do not support; reported 58% voted for the Rainbow Sealife/Beachy art and showed examples of images he presented on his email that he generated from AI; noted that he Brown Acted with Councilmember Kaluderovic on the topic and they discussed various types of art pieces and said she preferred that it be only for the LGBTQ+ community and he wanted to be more inclusive of all groups; spoke about the progressive flag and whether it had staying power since the artwork would be in the community for a long time; returned to the Direction Requested slide from the presentation and read through the questions provided by staff and answered questions 1 through 3 as follows: 1) yes, 2) Sculptures, mural tile installations and options they can fit within budget, and 3) wanted the staff to present options and then get feedback from the community on those 1 to 2 options.

Councilmember Kaluderovic provided some background on the discussions they have had about the Pride flag and regarding an installation recognizing the LGBTQ community; noted that the referral was sent to the CAC with direction and intention from the Council; spoke about the whole of the community and that the LGBTQ is part of the whole and went into further detail about the various groups the City has recognized, such as the Ito Family open space and Native Americans at Wilderness Park; referred back to the CAC and asked if they were adamant about a sculpture or if they would be open to other art installations.

Community Services Director Hause reported that there were CAC members in the audience, that the Pride flag was raised in 2022, and that is when the CAC formed a

subcommittee for the LGBTQ art work; recalled that they did community outreach and connected with the South Bay as well, they went over several types of art and modalities, and after some meetings they settled on a sculpture because of the location and space; mentioned if other locations are explored on Artesia Blvd. that may change the type of art that is chosen.

Councilmember Kaluderovic said she preferred that they keep the options open and explore different locations across Artesia Blvd. and add crosswalks as an option for the artwork again.

Councilmember Castle suggested that they put out an RFI to artists with the budget and capture some options so that the residents can provide feedback on what the artwork may look like; opined that the art on Artesia Blvd. should be something that garners broad community support.

Mayor Light reported that he spoke to Councilmember Waller in Sacramento and he had specific thoughts he wanted to interject; noted that Councilmember Waller has not heard the debate that evening; stated that Councilmember Waller prefers it to be LGBTQ+ specific but is open to any form of art; speaking on his own behalf, Mayor Light noted that the motion was ambiguous and the vote may have been different if it was more narrowly defined; mentioned that he rewatched the video and read the minutes from the December meeting and his interpretation was that the art was for broader consideration of inclusivity; said personally he has no problem with it being LGBTQ+ and mentioned the other pieces they have throughout the City such as the Tongva at Wilderness Park and the Martin Luther King Little Plaza at the Police Station; opined that the pieces can proliferate over time, it gets diluted if they say it is for everybody, and felt it should be bolder; stated that polling people on art is difficult since people can like or dislike based on a number of reasons so it is too unclear; hoped that they could send options back to the CAC based on what they receive from the RFP or RFQ and then the public could comment on it during that public meeting, which would then go back to the Council and then the public can comment during that meeting; stated that he supports an LGBTQ art for this item, prefers a wide range of options, and supported the process of it going through the CAC and back to the City Council with the ability for the public to comment at both meetings.

Councilmember Castle asked for clarification on how the public weighs in at the CAC meeting.

City Manager Witzansky replied that they would provide their input at the actual meeting itself.

Councilmember Obagi suggested that whatever results they receive from the RFI's go to the CAC, they narrow it down, host a workshop that invites the public, they narrow down the opinions, and then make recommendations to the Council on their finalists for each art project along with a runner up option; mentioned that they had received feedback from someone that crosswalks would be difficult to maintain for Public Works and they were glad they didn't support it and asked the City Manager for his thoughts.

City Manager Witzansky recalled in the 1990s the City had a renovation effort but noted that light colored paint shows tire markings; stated that now they are able to do thermoplastic types of installation that avoid some of that but warned that the crosswalk art will fade over time; stated they can be installed and last for a reasonable amount of time.

More discussion followed on keeping the options open to any type of installation, assistance from LeBasse, and considerations on maintenance for whatever art they choose.

Deputy Director Orta clarified that staff has already issued the RFQ and they are actually at step four in the process; provided a slide of the process which showed that after the RFQ an RFP would follow and the steps in the process where the Council and the Commission are included; reported that there is a community panel consisting of two community members, two CAC members, and one City staff from Public Works along with herself, Jack Meyer, and LeBasse to filter down all the submissions; stated that they received something around 180 responses from the RFQ, LeBasse filtered that down to about 20 to 30 artists, and those recommendations will be taken to the community panel to be narrowed down further, and the Commission will review those and bring it to the Council for approval; reported that for the RFP process a stipend needs to be provided to the artists because they would be producing a mock up of their design; explained that staff has already gone through steps 1 through 4 and the RFQ has already been issued prior to the survey for the LGBTQ statue, so they do have a pool of artists interested in doing that piece if they choose to move forward with it.

Discussion followed. Deputy Director Orta noted that they have pools of artists for various types of pieces and could pull from the different pools depending on what type of art piece they want at each location.

Mayor Light stressed that he did not want to hold up the rest of the Strategic Plan execution based on what they decide that evening; asked if they do go a different direction if a separate RFQ or addendum to the RFQ need to be issued.

Deputy Director Orta responded that she would need to look back to see what staff submitted in the RFQ but stated based on the number of submissions they received they may already have a pool of artists they can pull from regardless of the type of installation the City decides on.

More discussion followed and Mayor Light asked if they are able to do a workshop as Councilmember Obagi suggested.

City Manager Witzansky replied that any steps can be added to the process if desired; noted that they have no intention of slowing down the overall Artesia Strategic Planning process just for this item.

Councilmember Obagi asked if the community panel received drawings from artists at step 4.

Deputy Director Orta clarified that they only received qualifications and past work that is related to the type of material the artists envision but not specific work for Artesia.

Mayor Light asked to hear from the public before a motion is made.

Betty Lecinen, Board member of the South Bay LGBTQ Center, spoke in support of including an LGBTQIA+ art installation in the Artesia Blvd. Strategic Art Plan; explained that the project should not be abstract or controversial because it is rooted in documented local history; noted that the Artesia corridor has served as a gathering space for the LGBTQ+ community in the South Bay and was the original location of the South Bay LGBTQ Center and sits between multiple gathering spaces that the LGBTQIA community have frequented for over 50 years; spoke of public art telling a story and acknowledging history and not promoting politics; noted that LGBTQIA+ people are members of the past, present, and future and have historically had to remain invisible and argued that recognizing the group is not exclusion but inclusion and does not take anything away from anyone else; noted that Redondo Beach already has public art that reflects the community and urged that the City provide visible recognition for the LGBTQ+ community; to address the Library location and the concerns regarding children, spoke of growing up surrounded by people who were gay or transgender and it did not influence her identity (reported that she is straight and cisgender) but that it helped her respect and include others; stated that the project does not divide us but shows that everybody deserves to be seen.

Ellie Navarro reported that her pronouns are she/her and that she has lived in Redondo Beach all 23 years of her life; spoke in support of the creation of an LGBTQ artwork for the Artesia Blvd. project; spoke of growing up as a transgender teen and the lack of visibility for the Redondo Beach LGBT community was very isolating for her; stated that the plans for an LGBTQ themed art installation on Artesia Blvd. would show that Redondo Beach doesn't just tolerate people like her, it would show LGBTQ citizens that they are loved, accepted, and included in the City; added that it would show the naysayers that hate has no home in Redondo Beach.

Isabel Schwartz, Torrance resident, spoke in support of those who spoke in favor of the LGBTQ+ art installation; stated she is excited to see this art in the community and wanted to thank the City for being forward thinking and inclusive and setting the standard for the South Bay.

Rev. Lisa Telomen, Redondo Beach resident, spoke in favor of the art installation being LGBTQ+ specific and supports the LGBTQIA community and leadership; felt that the inclusion of the history of the group being made public is important and applauded the City in moving forward with a specific sculpture to recognize the history and the community's contributions; reported that her church is an inclusive, reconciling congregation and they sponsor the Shared Bread Ministry Outreach; hoped that the City would move forward with the project.

Scott Houston, Vice President of the West Bay Municipal Water District Board, speaking on his own behalf, spoke in support for the concept of an LGBTQ themed art installation; spoke of growing up in the area, living in the closet, being a void, and not being able to find other members of the LGBTQ community in the region; stated that the Artesia corridor was a place that they knew was welcoming and had safety; reported that the first South Bay LGBTQ Center was located on Artesia and then moved to Torrance; noted that he served on the Board and was really proud to be a part of that group; commended the City for having this conversation, commended them for potentially having a permanent installation for the LGBTQ+ community, and said it would be truly meaningful to a lot of people in the region to have an LGBTQ+ installation in the City; urged the Council to consider it being LGBTQ themed for this location.

Eddie Aldonna, Redondo Beach resident, reported that she has lived in the City for 20 years with her husband and two children; voiced her opposition for the LGBTQ themed art; noted that she is a Hispanic woman and is not asking for a sombrero to be placed in front of the Library; said she doesn't mind an art structure placed at the North Redondo Beach Library area but she doesn't see the LGBTQ+ statue as inclusive; commented that she knows and works with people from the LGBTQ community but would prefer money spent on art to represent the beach lifestyle of the City; stated that she strongly believes it doesn't include everyone and that there are many cultures in Redondo Beach.

Mayor Light wanted to clarify that the money being spent on the art installation comes from the John Parson's Art Fund so it cannot be spent on anything else except for art for the City.

Steve Hay, Redondo Beach resident, commented that this topic has been discussed for a year now and that a decision should just be made and it can move forward; stated that his thought regarding Artesia was to bring people in and not if you lived in the community here is your vote; said he gave them all numbers and 90% of the people are against it.

Georgette Gantner, former Public Arts Commissioner, said she found it interesting that they were getting the public's opinion and said when she was on the Commission the greater majority of the art projects were passed and successful without public feedback; in response to people's opinion that it is not family friendly, commented that gays and lesbian's have families too and it's humanity and diversity; opined that the art piece may become the most inspirational artwork in the City; asked, with the World Cup and Olympics coming, how does the City want to project themselves to the world; commented that different people should be represented and this is a good way to do it.

Kristina Christian-Kelly, Cultural Arts Commission, spoke on behalf of the Commission to clarify the background on the item; reported that the directive came from the City and the Council to work with the LGBTQ community and have a permanent established art installation; stated that the Commission did their due diligence to represent the community and created a subcommittee that worked a lot of hours and with a lot of community members; stated that the subcommittee did a lot of research into the longevity of the

artwork, the established area, and what type of art would work well and came to the conclusion a sculpture would have longevity and be at the appropriate cost; commented that she feels there has been a lot of miscommunication and that things are being translated incorrectly; noted that the proposal was for a sculpture for the North Branch Library and it was voted on but now it feels that they are treading backwards; stated they have been working on this since 2023 and she would like it to move forward as proposed.

April Pritchard, Redondo Beach resident, spoke in favor of the LGBTQ art installation; stated that if you try to include everyone then it becomes very generic and ends up including no one; spoke about parents and kids and that LGBTQ is not only about sex but it is about love; commented on the double standard of society and not wanting to see anything other than straight couples; asked that the City take a stand and support the LGBTQ art installation.

Alex Fineman, District 3, stated that the intersection of Artesia and Green has long been a cultural center for the City's LGBTQ community and that it deserves the public acknowledgement that the art installation would provide; recalled an incident that happened about 10 years ago, where a small group of about five or six people from the Westboro Baptist Church came to protest at RUHS with hateful signs and rhetoric and about 300 people, including students, outnumbered them; commented that is the community of Redondo Beach and the Redondo Beach community support and defend their queer neighbors; opined recognizing their contribution and their history is important; noted that the location is culturally significant, the funding is identified, and supported moving forward with the art installation.

Marie Puterbaugh (via Zoom) spoke in favor of the project and applauded those who spoke in favor of the project that evening; said she posted a positive comment online and people came back with a lot of awful comments so hearing people come forward that evening and speak in favor of it made her day; explained that in the 1980's she witnessed two gay guys at her high school be bullied when she lived in New Jersey; noted that people still have views opposing the project but it just takes courage to do it; commented that the picture Councilmember Obagi posted that day was misleading since it wasn't of the project but people thought it was; opined that Councilmembers Obagi and Behrendt do not support the project but they can solicit what they want and people can either support it or not; urged the Council to be courageous and move forward with the project.

Daniel Lynch (via Zoom) stated that Manhattan Beach has their cool sidewalk, Hermosa has their cool lifeguard tower, and Redondo Beach should have the statue; opined that the statue should be something like a dolphin riding a rainbow wave or something like that; noted that he often stops at the Artesia Bar and the people are very nice and friendly and the bathrooms are the cleanest of any bar; stated that he fully supports the project and he is excited to see artwork along Artesia; spoke of the history of his family in Redondo Beach and felt no one should oppose the project.

Anna Mavromati-Duncan (via Zoom), North Redondo Beach resident, spoke in support of the LGBTQIA artwork; stated that she has two children and wants them to live in a city

that has art like what is being proposed and to know no matter who they grow up to be they will be loved and accepted and included; said she wants to honor the LGBT community that is in the City; noted that she heard the comments opposed to the art project due to children but said she wants her children to see the art and know and acknowledge and respect communities that are different; stated that she is strongly in favor of being bold and making sure the City has artwork that honors the LGBTQIA family.

Nancy Skiba (via Zoom) stated a different theme, a more universal theme, would have a broader appeal for the general population and more appreciated if all groups and communities were acknowledged for inclusivity rather than just one interest group.

Mariam Butler (via Zoom), District 4, said she counted 37 eComments in support and 15 eComments opposed to the LGBTQIA+ art installation and based on what she heard that evening the majority are for the project; said that she appreciated Professor Leinen for her eComment and coming in person to educate everyone on why the location for the art installation is important for the LGBTQ community by explaining that it was the location of the LGBTQ Center in the 1980's; commented that the location is very important and a way of honoring the LGBTQ community and its history; stressed that the art is important and that parents should educate their children that not everyone is the same and that is fine.

Melissa DeChandt (via Zoom) referenced the Pride Flag raising by the City and commented that it was a long time coming and was met with some negativity; opined that inclusion and recognizing specific communities doesn't mean that they are neglecting other groups, it means that they are recognizing the groups that have been marginalized; spoke on behalf of the LGBTQIA youth, stated data shows they have the highest self-harm and suicide rates and efforts to support inclusion positively impacts those statistics; gave kudos to the Cultural Arts Commission for putting forth the project and hoped it would be moved forward quickly.

Mark Hansen (via Zoom) stated that the City of Redondo Beach has a proud history of demonstrating inclusivity and hoped the City Council would continue to lead in that direction; referred to comments made that the LGBTQ artwork would somehow be exclusive and disagreed with those comments; stated that there is nothing about artworks that support different marginalized communities that somehow exclude the majority; commented that if they try to make gray artwork that is supposed to represent everyone then they are representing no one; agreed with Councilmember Kaluderovic's comments about artwork being intentional and purposeful; commented that all the art pieces throughout the City are inclusive and hoped the Council would continue to lead the community in a manner to demonstrate to marginalized communities that the City welcomes them.

Pablo Orozco-Castro (via Zoom), District 4, stated that he works at the Venice Family Clinic close to the proposed location for the art installation; said that he and his coworkers are excited about the proposed mural; spoke in support of the art piece and said the clinic serves a lot of the LGBTQ youth and parents in collaboration with the BCHD and they

have expressed more visibility would be welcomed and events; questioned what it meant for those that commented that they wanted a more inclusive art piece and felt that was something to reflect on.

City Clerk Manzano reported a total of 52 eComments: 37 in support and 15 opposed.

Woman speaker, she is a mother of two kids in Redondo and said she thought the discussion was a false narrative; commented that teaching children that they are born in the wrong body is brainwashing and going to backfire in many ways down the road and statistics show it is; stated it is sexualization of minor children in front of a public library where many children visit; asked how they are supposed to explain LGBTQ+ with a child without discussing sex and said it is forcing a conversation; noted that the City took a great step forward with the farmers market and questioned their decision to blast Artesia with a gay dolphin and gay sea life; suggested using the money for an art piece for the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our country; commented that what people do in their bedrooms should stay in the bedrooms; stated she does not want to see a sexual art piece in front of the library where children visit; asked where the boundaries would be drawn with LGBTQ; explained that on the first day of school her daughter was asked what her pronoun was and said it is forcing her hand to explain all of this to her daughter; stated it is not inclusive, it is exclusive.

Josh Conlon, District 5, stated he has a trans youth in high school that has lots of friends in the LGBTQ community; spoke in support of the art installation and agreed with Mayor Light that it is a bold move; noted that the LGBTQ community battle every day and the support is needed to show strength.

Mayor Light closed public comment; stated that he and the Council respect the testimony and feelings of both sides of the argument; said there are valid concerns from people about the location and there is fear of what the art will look like; assured everyone that the art will not be explicit or sexual in nature and it would not get through the process that it will be put through; spoke of a post he made that received negative comments and stated there is an underlying current that LGBTQ people face regardless of how accepting the City is and opined it is not a bad thing to affirm the City's commitment to inclusivity; stated that he doesn't mind taking the extra step to show that they are welcome; said he doesn't disrespect those that spoke respectfully against the action of the Council but doesn't tolerate the hatred.

Councilmember Obagi asked Ms. Puterbaugh to stop bullying him on social media, said he supported the resident who talked about the sombrero and would be in favor of honoring the Mexican American past in North Redondo; stated that the LGBTQ art installation is overdue and they have been talking about it for many years; asked City staff, if Council directs the CAC and staff, to host a workshop would it only be on this item or could it be for all the stuff on Artesia Blvd.

City Manager Witzansky responded that they have a good approach laid out for the work associated with Artesia Blvd. and it was a deliberative part of the City's Strategic Plan

discussion, but they could have a workshop for this project and add other items if needed.

Councilmember Obagi withdrew the workshop idea based on a comment made by a resident who said no other art had ever required a workshop; stated he would just go with staff's normal process; apologized for the ambiguity in his prior motion.

Motion by Councilmember Obagi to direct staff to proceed with the Cultural Arts Commission's recommendation to include an LGBTQ themed artwork as part of the Artesia Blvd. Plan, noted that Council is open to all art mediums, including specifically an LGBTQ art installation implemented as a crosswalk, the location should be at Green St. and Artesia, crossing Artesia Blvd., or around the North Branch Library, along or visible from Artesia Blvd., Council is open to any permanent artwork with staying power within budget that will not put significant recurring maintenance cost on the John Parsons Art Fund, overall size and scale should be dictated by the budget of \$35,000.

Councilmember Kaluderovic wanted to clarify that the location at Green St. and Artesia is because of the history of that space and if so, can that be articulated in the motion.

City Manager Witzansky added that the \$35,000 budget included the fee for LeBasse.

Councilmember Kaluderovic seconded the motion.

Substitute motion by Councilmember Behrendt to issue an RFP for an inclusive artwork, either at the North Branch Library or elsewhere on Artesia Blvd., open to all art mediums that recognizes and honors diverse elements of the City's community, including LGBTQ+ but not exclusively one group or identity and for the Cultural Arts Commission to obtain and review the RFP responses and provide recommendations to the City Council to consider for final decision.

Councilmember Castle said he is not seconding the motion because he felt the process the City has in place already covered a lot of the steps that Councilmember Behrendt listed in terms of going to the community and getting feedback; noted that the public would have an opportunity to comment on the pieces through the CAC; stated what is causing concern is the ambiguity around what the actual art will be but once they have some clarity on that then the public will be able to weigh in.

Councilmember Behrendt clarified that it would be reviewed by the CAC and not independent public review or polling; noted that an RFQ went out for an exclusively LGBTQ+ artwork and his motion was for an RFP for an inclusive artwork that includes LGBTQ+ as a component, and the CAC would review, and send the Council recommendations, and the City Council will make a final decision.

Discussion followed that City Council has not approved an RFP for any art yet and that an RFQ would be seeking qualified artists, then an RFP would be the next step, and then a specific proposal with pay would be after that for the artists to come up with concepts; confirmed that an RFQ went out and artists responded for various artwork on Artesia Blvd.

including for the LGBTQ piece.

Councilmember Behrendt asked if the artists could modify their proposals to include LGBTQ + as a component but not exclusively that one group.

Community Services Director Hause replied that they could have that done.

Councilmember Castle stated there is art of all types up and down the Blvd. and this one location has been chosen for the LGBTQ+ art installation; commented that other locations will be chosen for other installations and will represent other groups or the community.

The substitute motion died for lack of a second.

Councilmember Obagi stated he didn't want people to be confused but the image of the dolphins were not the actual proposal but an AI generated image just to give people an example of what might come back; said the main goal of his post was to make people aware of the discussion that evening; reiterated that 71% of the eComments were in support of the project and that whether parents like it or not there are people that identify as LGBTQ+ and they need to feel loved and at home in Redondo Beach.

Motion carried 3-1-1 by voice vote. Councilmember Behrendt was opposed and Councilmember Waller was absent.

Motion by Councilmember Obagi, seconded by Councilmember Kaluderovic, to take a break to allow the students in attendance to be signed off at 8:41 p.m.

Motion carried 4-0-1. Councilmember Waller was absent.

**RECONVENE TO REGULAR MEETING FROM BREAK – 8:54 P.M.**

**ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Present: Castle, Kaluderovic, Obagi, Behrendt, Mayor Light

Councilmembers Absent: Waller

Officials Present: Eleanor Manzano, City Clerk  
Mike Witzansky, City Manager  
Joy Ford, City Attorney  
Derek Kalish, Assistant City Clerk

**N.2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING DRAFT RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING THE IMPORTANCE OF LOCAL CONTROL OF REDONDO BEACH WATERFRONT AND COASTAL RESOURCES IN RESPONSE TO THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE'S REQUEST FOR CITY INPUT AS PART OF THE LOS ANGELES COASTAL SPECIAL RESOURCES STUDY**

**CONTACT: JANE CHUNG, ASSISTANT TO THE CITY MANAGER**

Jane Chung, Assistant to the City Manager, stated that the discussion that evening would be about the study itself; provided an outline of the items she would be presenting which included: background, City participation and response, next steps, and recommendation; reported that in 2019 Congressman Ted Lieu authored a bill which was passed and it directed the National Park Service (NPS) to study whether the Santa Monica Bay watershed should be added to that area or become a new recreation area; described the study area for the 2019 legislation and stated in 2023, Congress expanded the scope through the Consolidated Appropriations Act, which created the Los Angeles County Special Resources Study and was the topic of that evening's discussion; stated the evaluation was expanded to include the larger segments of the L.A. County coastline and whether it meets criteria for inclusion in the National Park System; stated that the study looks to gather information on coastal resources, recreation, environmental conditions and cultural assets; noted that the study does not change local land use authority or impose new regulations, does not transfer a city property or automatically create a national park; reported that the NPS will present their final studies to Congress and Congress will make the action as to what they will do with the findings of that study; stated that the NPS reached out to City staff and asked the City to provide input on a series of questions that are included in the Staff Report; said the overall themes were related to the ownership and management of coastal properties, current use, interest in participating in historical significance analysis or a future national park unit analysis, concerns about historical interpretation or maintaining the physical appearance, and the willingness to donate or sell property (voluntary only); noted that Redondo Beach Waterfront is one of the City's most important public resources and participating in the study ensures that the City's values are represented in the federal study; stated that staff had attached a draft resolution that reaffirms the City's values, as well as the importance of municipal management and control of waterfront and coastal resources, highlights the public value of the waterfront, the City's responsibility for operations, maintenance, and long term planning, expresses the City's willingness to collaborate with regional, state, and federal partners, and clarifies that local management and control must remain intact; stated that staff is asking for direction and feedback as it relates to the draft resolution from City Council; announced the final resolution would be presented to City Council for approval at the next Council meeting on May 19<sup>th</sup>, then staff will submit it for final resolution during the National Park Service public comment period, which is May 23<sup>rd</sup>; stated staff's recommendation for that evening is for the City Council to provide direction on the draft resolution.

Mayor Light wanted to confirm that the study group called the City and asked staff to participate.

City Manager Witzansky confirmed that the study group reached out and staff scheduled a meeting to get a better understanding of the genesis of the study and what its implications might be; reported that they had a good group discussion and provided more explanation; said staff thought it was important for City Council to provide input and then

staff would bring it back as a Consent Calendar item on the 19<sup>th</sup>; noted that Councilmember Behrendt provided some suggested modifications which were in the Blue Folder.

Mayor Light asked if the list of topics for discussion could be put up on the screen.

Discussion took place regarding the topics, the opportunity to provide more information to the study group, and what to provide in the resolution.

Mayor Light wondered how they could give accurate input to the group so it could be reflected in the decision making.

City Manager Witzansky stated if follow-up directions are given to staff to provide a list of resources or historic features, they could do that and noted that is part of the reason they are there that evening.

More discussion followed.

Mayor Light supported the resolution as written with Councilmember Behrendt's red lines included.

Councilmember Castle agreed with Mayor Light regarding the resolution as written with Councilmember Behrendt's modifications; spoke of the input in the coastal zone from various state level agencies that have some decision making power over the waterfront and opined that adding another layer at the federal level would only complicate things further; felt that they understand the waterfront needs and maintaining that over time is critical to the City's future.

Motion by Councilmember Castle, seconded by Councilmember Behrendt, to direct staff to bring the resolution back for formal approval on May 19<sup>th</sup> with the modifications from Councilmember Behrendt.

Mayor Light invited public comment.

Wayne Craig, District 1, wondered if the item was in preparation for a land grab and voiced concern that a Congress person proposed it; spoke about national parks in the U.S. that are being taken away by the federal government; felt it was important that the City put their position out that they are the stewards and should be maintaining it; stressed that they should be concerned about getting an administration that is unfavorable to California and didn't like the idea of giving up control of something the City has historically been in control of for the last 100 years; stated the City has done a good job and they need to do what they can to try to keep control of it and be prepared to legally defend it.

City Clerk Manzano reported no hands raised online and no eComments.

Motion carried 4-0-1 by voice vote. Councilmember Waller was absent.

**O. CITY MANAGER ITEMS**

City Manager Witzansky recognized the entire IT Department for receiving one of eight national awards in the Tyler Excellence category known as Digital Services and Cloud Technologies; reported that IT Director Cook brought home the award, and they would see if they could display it somewhere.

Mayor Light noted that it was mentioned earlier about the quick reaction to the school's debacle with their testing and that Board Members from the school were very appreciative.

City Manager Witzansky thanked IT, Mike Klein's team, and Director Vinke with Library for their response to the situation.

**P. MAYOR AND COUNCIL ITEMS - None**

**Q. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REFERRALS TO STAFF - None**

**R. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION**

**R.1. 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:**

**Portions of the Redondo Beach Marina Parking Lot and Seaside Lagoon (portions of APN #s: 7503-029-900 and 7503-029-903)**

**Portions of Harbor Drive, Pacific Avenue, Catalina Avenue, Torrance Boulevard, Knob Hill Avenue, Vista Del Mar, Camino de la Costa, Gertruda Avenue, Herondo Street, and Esplanade**

**NEGOTIATING PARTIES:**

**Kellie Hawkins, Englander Knabe & Allen on Behalf of Nike, Inc.**

**UNDER NEGOTIATION:**

**Price and Terms**

**R.2. 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:**

**Portions of the Redondo Beach Marina Parking Lot  
(portions of APN #s: 7503-029-900 and 7503-029-903)  
Portions of King Harbor turn basin and hand launch**

**NEGOTIATING PARTIES:**

**Adam Brzyski, Game On Live Studio, Water Polo Program Coordinator**

**UNDER NEGOTIATION:**

**Price and Terms**

**S. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION – None**

**T. ADJOURNMENT – 9:11 P.M.**

Motion by Councilmember Castle, seconded by Councilmember Obagi, to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 p.m.

Motion carried 4-0-1 by voice vote. Councilmember Waller was absent.

The next meeting of the City Council of the City of Redondo Beach will be 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, May 19, 2026, in the Redondo Beach City Hall Council Chamber, 415 Diamond Street, Redondo Beach, California.

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

Respectfully submitted:

DocuSigned by:

*Eleanor Manzano*

72F2AC716C214CF...

---

Eleanor Manzano, CMC  
City Clerk