



Minutes
Redondo Beach City Council
Tuesday, April 13, 2021
Closed Session - Adjourned Regular Meeting 4:30 p.m.
Open Session - Regular Meeting 6:00 p.m.

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Via teleconference, an Adjourned Regular Meeting of the Redondo Beach City Council was called to order by Mayor Brand at 4:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber, 415 Diamond Street, Redondo Beach, California.

B. ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present:	Nehrenheim, Loewenstein, Horvath, Obagi, Emdee, Mayor Brand
Councilmembers Absent:	None
Officials Present:	Michael Webb, City Attorney Joe Hoefgen, City Manager Vickie Kroneberger, Chief Deputy City Clerk

C. SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND INVOCATION

D. BLUE FOLDER ITEMS – ADDITIONAL BACK UP MATERIALS – NONE

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

Mayor Brand called for public comment via Zoom and eComment. There being no comments, Mayor Brand closed the public comment period.

F. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION: 4:34 p.m.

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

Name of case:
Granush Bkhchadzhyan v. City of Redondo Beach, et al.
Case Number: 20STCV29849

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:
Redondo Beach Waterfront, LLC v. City of Redondo Beach
Court of Appeal Case Number: B311039

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:
City of Redondo Beach, City of Hermosa Beach v. California State Water Resources Control Board

Case Number: 20STCP03193

- F.4. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED POTENTIAL LITIGATION - The Closed Session is authorized by the attorney-client privilege, Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)**

One potential case

- F.5. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERSONNEL MATTER/EVALUATION - The Closed Session is authorized by the attorney-client privilege, Government Code Section 54957(b).**

Title: City Manager

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

Name of case:

Redondo Beach Waterfront, LLC v. City of Redondo Beach, et al.

Case Number: BC682833

Motion by Councilmember Horvath, seconded by Councilmember Emdee, to recess at 4:34 p.m. to conduct Closed Sessions attended by City Manager Joe Hoefgen, City Attorney Mike Webb, Assistant City Manager Mike Witzansky, Assistant City Attorney Cheryl Park, Outside Legal Counsel Jon Welner, Anthony Nash, Damien Cappazzola and Lisa Bond, Waterfront and Economic Development Director Stephen Proud, Human Resources Director Diane Strickfaden and Civil Engineer Geraldine Trivedi. Motion carried unanimously with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Nehrenheim, Loewenstein, Horvath, Obagi, Emdee
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

G. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION: 6:05 p.m.

H. ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Nehrenheim, Loewenstein, Horvath, Obagi, Emdee, Mayor Brand
Councilmembers Absent: None
Officials Present: Eleanor Manzano, City Clerk
Michael Webb, City Attorney
Joe Hoefgen, City Manager
Vickie Kroneberger, Chief Deputy City Clerk

I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS – NONE

J. ADJOURN TO REGULAR MEETING

Motion by Councilmember Horvath, seconded by Councilmember Nehrenheim, to adjourn at 6:05 p.m. to a regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously with no objections.

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present:	Nehrenheim, Loewenstein, Horvath, Obagi, Emdee, Mayor Brand
Councilmembers Absent:	None
Officials Present:	Michael Webb, City Attorney Joe Hoefgen, City Manager Vickie Kroneberger, Chief Deputy City Clerk Khatirah Nazif, Administrative Specialist

C. SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND INVOCATION

At the request of Mayor Brand, the audience and Councilmembers rose to salute the flag followed by a moment of silence.

D. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Nehrenheim announced his Community Meeting taking place this Saturday in person outside at 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and his Community Meeting taking place on April 26 online.

Councilmember Loewenstein thanked the Redondo Beach Police Department for the birthday special and thanked them for all they are doing.

Councilmember Horvath announced his Community Meeting taking place on April 15 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. virtually discussing dogs in parks, zoning as it relates to the housing element and the GPAC decision, and a small presentation related to some green street projects in the Golden Hills.

Councilmember Obagi also thanked the Redondo Beach Police Department, noted they have cancelled their vacations and are on standpoint regarding the verdict in Minneapolis, and also maintained a presence at the anti-Asian hate rally at the RBPAC.

Councilmember Emdee announced free compost at Wilderness Park on April 17, shredding day at the RBPAC on April 18 and May 8, and noted a survey on her website regarding mail delivery service.

E. APPROVAL OF ORDER OF AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Horvath, seconded by Councilmember Emdee, to approve the Order of Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously, with no objections.

F. AGENCY RECESS - NONE

G. BLUE FOLDER ITEMS – ADDITIONAL BACK UP MATERIALS

Motion by Councilmember Loewenstein, seconded by Councilmember Obagi, to receive and file additional materials for Items H.6., J.1, N.1 and N.6. Motion carried unanimously, with no objection.

H. CONSENT CALENDAR

H.1. APPROVE AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING FOR THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED REGULAR AND REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 13, 2021
CONTACT: ELEANOR MANZANO, CITY CLERK

H.2. APPROVE MOTION TO READ BY TITLE ONLY AND WAIVE FURTHER READING OF ALL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS LISTED ON THE AGENDA.
CONTACT: ELEANOR MANZANO, CITY CLERK

- H.3. APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CITY COUNCIL MINUTES:**
A. NOVEMBER 10, 2020 ADJOURNED AND REGULAR MEETING
B. NOVEMBER 17, 2020 REGULAR MEETING
CONTACT: ELEANOR MANZANO, CITY CLERK
- H.4. EXCUSE ABSENCE FOR COMMISSIONER DEBBIE HANNON ON THE LIBRARY COMMISSION.**
CONTACT: ELEANOR MANZANO, CITY CLERK
- H.5. APPROVE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE INGLEWOOD AVENUE AT MANHATTAN BEACH BOULEVARD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS (SOUTHBOUND RIGHT TURN LANE) PROJECT, JOB NO. 40960, AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY CLERK TO ADVERTISE THE PROJECT FOR COMPETITIVE BIDS**
CONTACT: TED SEMAAN, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
- H.6. APPROVE FIRST AMENDMENT WITH JOHN S. MEEKS COMPANY, INC. FOR A COMPANY NAME CHANGE TO JILK HEAVY CONSTRUCTION, INC. WITH THREE ADDITIONAL YEARS AND \$600,000 OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR ON-CALL REPAIR SERVICES FOR THE MUNICIPAL AND SPORT FISHING PIERS FOR A TOTAL CONTRACT NOT TO EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$1,909,000 EXTENDING THE TERM TO JULY 17, 2025**
CONTACT: TED SEMAAN, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Mayor Brand called for public comment via Zoom and eComment. There being no comments, Mayor Brand closed the public comment period.

Motion by Councilmember Nehrenheim, seconded by Councilmember Emdee, to approve Consent Calendar Items H.1 through H.6. Motion carried unanimously, with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Nehrenheim, Loewenstein, Horvath, Obagi, Emdee
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

Councilmember Emdee supported H.5 and moving forward with improvements on Inglewood and Manhattan Beach Boulevard.

I. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – NONE

J. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Brand called for public comment via Zoom and eComment.

Holly Osborne, District 5, reviewed AB1258 and SB765 and requested writing a letter of support.

Wayne Craig, District 1, spoke on a rally of support for the AAPI community that took place in Redondo Beach last weekend.

Dr. Andrew Lesser spoke on the City of Pico of Riviera regarding criticism of LA County DA Gascon and thanked Redondo Beach for having an independent City Attorney and City Prosecutor. He also said he attended Coffee with a Cop and looked forward in person attendance.

There being no further comments, Mayor Brand closed the public comment period.

K. EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS – NONE

L. PUBLIC HEARINGS - NONE

M. ITEMS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS AGENDAS – NONE

N. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION PRIOR TO ACTION

**N.1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING PROGRESS AND POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS OF THE ENHANCED RESPONSE TO HOMELESSNESS PILOT PROGRAM AND PALLET SHELTER
CONTACT: MICHAEL W. WEBB, CITY ATTORNEY**

Brad Fieldhouse, Executive Director and Founder of City Net, provided the Redondo Beach 2021 Homeless Census Report as follows:

- About the Census
- Methodology
- Limitations
- Geolocation
- General
- Demographics
- Income
- Benefits
- Community Ties
- Disabilities
- Services
- Other
- Summary
- Recommendations
- Appendix I- Data Tables
- Appendix II – Questionnaire

In response to Mayor Brand, Mr. Fieldhouse explained the purpose of connections and how they are established in the City. City Attorney Webb stated they borrow heavily from the administrative policy in Bellflower and the City's definition is virtually identical.

Mayor Brand asked about the breakdown of the homeless problem in general. Mr. Fieldhouse stated he breaks down the homeless problem into 10, 80 and 10, being in a crisis, severe mental health or chronic issues, to help with navigating the system.

Mayor Brand asked how Redondo Beach fits into the situation. Mr. Fieldhouse noted the transient nature is pretty consistent along with accessing health care and believed the pallet program has been successful.

Councilmember Horvath asked if City Net's work is being integrated into work already done. Mr. Fieldhouse stated they are fully integrated into the coordinated entry system and didn't believe there was any duplication, working in coordination with the other entities.

Councilmember Horvath referred to the 213 contacts. Mr. Fieldhouse believed it could be a duplicate number with many contacting several times.

Councilmember Horvath asked about the heat map and Dominguez Park and if people are living in their vehicles. He also asked about the transients in the North Redondo area near the Galleria. Mr. Fieldhouse explained that their teams stay together and cover the entire City and are focusing on case management in the north area.

Councilmember Emdee asked about the transients also sleeping in Orange County. Mr. Fieldhouse stated this could be people passing through or a recent arrival. He also said they stay connected to the individuals as needed.

Councilmember Emdee supported the report and the accomplishments that have taken place in such a quick turnaround.

Councilmember Obagi asked if people may be attracted to Redondo Beach due to services provided. City Attorney Webb noted there are many different services from different entities, and Mr. Fieldhouse noted best practices in the City.

Councilmember Obagi observed a hot spot near the Transit Center/Pallet Shelter. Mr. Fieldhouse noted food is an attraction in the City.

Mayor Brand asked about the homeless impacts in Redondo Beach if the program was terminated. Mr. Fieldhouse believed that homelessness is rare, brief and non-reoccurring which is the goal. He also referred to the Bellflower strategy.

Councilmember Nehrenheim informed of a white van at Veteran's Park that dumps food in boxes, and also noted hiding places in the pier area where the homeless go uncounted and unchecked. He also said the Venice cleanup will come to Redondo Beach.

Councilmember Loewenstein stated many of the people counted were located near transit lines which is playing an impact, and impacts to the new transit center could be a concern.

City Attorney Webb discussed the Enhanced Response to Homelessness Pilot Program as follows:

- Homeless Court
- Homeless Court Services
 - Department of Mental Health
 - Clear Recovery Center
 - Substance Abuse Counseling
 - Mental Health Therapy
- Pallet Shelter
- Donations
- Donated meals in addition to Beacon House
- Laptop Elf Project
- Easter Baskets
- Donated Services
 - Department of Mental Health Arrives every Wednesday
 - Alcoholics Anonymous arrives every Thursday
 - Monthly Haircuts from Green Room Barber Studio
- Next Steps for Enhanced Response to Homelessness Program
 - Continue Program under the City Attorney's Office for the next four years
 - Continue Program under a different department
 - Community Services Department
 - City Manager
 - Take no action
 - Effectively end program set to terminate in June
- Next Steps for Pallet Shelter
 - Terminate early with thirty days notice
 - Effectively end program set to terminate in June
 - Direct City Attorney's Office to investigate ways to keep Pallet Shelter program going

- Alternative sites
- Steps needed to keep the Pallet Shelter at the current site
- Additional funding for ways to keep the Pallet Shelter

Chief Kauffman supported the numbers provided by City Net, noted they are very thorough, and said they are sending out officers who are well informed of the situation. He said their nighttime count is relatively low in the 40 to 50 range, with the number being 176 last year. He also referred to the transit centers and noted people are visiting Redondo Beach for resources.

Quality of Life Prosecutor Joy Abaquin supported Public Works and reviewed their work with the pilot shelter and the homeless court. She also reviewed the donations from residents. She further thanked the Police Department, Public Works, the Fire Department and Community Services.

Sherry Weaver, Harbor Interfaith, gave a report and thanked the City for the opportunity to open up the pallet program for the homeless. She thanked the team and for having a priority list ready to go and thanked the City Attorney's Office. She said this is about changing people's lives and noted the outpouring from the community on how they can help.

Mayor Brand stated he attended the ICA Convention in the City of Santa Barbara and noted a proactive approach taken in the City of Bellflower. He also and thanked everyone involved for the great success with the Pallet Court, and thanked Councilmember Horvath for his help.

City Manager Hoefgen also noted the success in the City with the homeless indicated by Section Chief Phil Hansel in charge of the Measure H Homeless Initiative with the county.

Councilmember Horvath noted a proactive approach that took place and the success of the pilot program with everyone working in a coordination fashion along with the residents. He said people are now starting to realize what can happen in their own community, and the quality of life of the residents. He supported continuing the Enhanced Response Pilot Program.

Councilmember Obagi supported the program and thanked the Council and Public Works.

Chief Kauffman gave a report and said they have not seen a correlation between construction and occupation of the pilot program.

City Attorney Webb gave a report and reviewed his participation in the program and said it would make sense to transition long term.

Councilmember Emdee thanked the City Attorney and team, Public Works, and the Police Department and those who have contributed to the program. She also thanked the Salvation Army and Women's Club for their donations. She reviewed the programs in Long Beach and the City of LA, and also said there are sites in the City of Redondo Beach zoned for emergency homeless shelters. She believed the program would be more successful if it were closer to the geolocations of the majority of the homeless and suggested looking at other locations.

Councilmember Nehrenheim reviewed the successes of Project Room Key and helping those in need to include Nathaniel Traxler. He suggested looking at all locations in the City including the Beach Cities Health District back parking lot.

Captain Hoffman stated they are not seeing any significant impacts that are reportable.

Councilmember Horvath pointed out he has had conversations with the Health District regarding this issue and were not interested in the use of the empty lot on Flagler and Beryl. He suggested the program stay at the current location until looking at the appropriately zoned locations.

Councilmember Obagi supported the current location and expressed concern with other locations that were proposed in the past.

Councilmember Loewenstein thanked everyone involved including Public Works and suggested conducting business professionally among the Councilmembers.

Councilmember Emdee expressed concern with attacks on her leadership in her community and not being able to respond and supported being respectful of the citizens and supported the program.

Mayor Brand called for public comment via Zoom and eComment.

Dr. Andrew Lesser stated he attended Coffee with a Cop and discussed the situation of the pallet shelter which didn't attract the homeless which were on the railroad track, a vacant lot and the Galleria and Target long before the Pallet Program which has been an improvement. He suggested looking at Redondo Beach as a united city with one centralized location for the program, and supported the current location.

Wayne Craig concurred with the program being very successful and opposed the north-south division and suggested moving forward. He also pointed out that Councilmember Obagi's district surrounds the Pallet Shelter which is not getting negative feedback.

Khatirah Nazif read comments submitted via eComment by:

Niki Negrete Mitchell
Michael Sachs
Lisa Soncotski
Michael Garlan
Michelle Cohen
James Melton
Sheila Lamb
Lezlie Campeggi

There being no further comments, Mayor Brand closed the public comment period.

Motion by Councilmember Obagi, seconded by Councilmember Loewenstein, to continue the Enhanced Response to Homelessness Pilot Program on a permanent basis and to continue the Pallet Shelter component beyond June 30.

Substitute Motion by Councilmember Horvath, seconded by Councilmember Emdee, to continue the Enhanced Response to Homelessness Pilot Program on a permanent basis and to continue the Pallet Shelter component beyond June 30, and to ensure that the project can continue during the emergency at the current site and to explore the other possibilities available for relocation from a zoning perspective and/or what are the steps that need to be taken to ensure that it could potentially stay in a permanent location where it exists right now. Motion failed with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Horvath, Emdee
NOES: Nehrenheim, Loewenstein, Obagi
ABSENT: None

Amended Motion by Councilmember Horvath to look at all options for any and all viable places if the program is to be relocated and that it continue to be viable at its existing location beyond the emergency order. Councilmember Obagi accepted the amendment. Councilmember Loewenstein did not accept the amendment.

Amended motion by Councilmember Nehrenheim to have staff reach out to the BCHD to utilize their back parking lot for the pilot program in the future. Councilmembers Obagi and Loewenstein accepted the amendment. Motion carried, with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Nehrenheim, Loewenstein, Horvath, Obagi
NOES: Emdee
ABSENT: None

**N.2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPROVAL OF AGREEMENTS TO PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES AS BOND AND DISCLOSURE COUNSEL APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH NORTON ROSE FULBRIGHT US LLP FOR LEGAL SERVICES AS BOND COUNSEL FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$146,800 FROM APRIL 13, 2021 UNTIL TERMINATED; AND APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH RICHARDS, WATSON & GERSHON PC FOR LEGAL SERVICES AS DISCLOSURE COUNSEL FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$36,500 FROM APRIL 13, 2021 UNTIL TERMINATED
CONTACT: MICHAEL W. WEBB, CITY ATTORNEY**

City Attorney Webb and Larry Kosmont of Kosmont Companies, gave a report and discussed the following:

- Retain two law firms – bond counsel and disclosure counsel – typically split
- Recommendation – continue with law firms from 2019 and have a similar structure to the pension obligation bonds being pursued
- Recognized firms in competitive market
- Retention of legal counsel

Councilmember Nehrenheim referred to the 2018 report and noted only one attorney. City Attorney Webb stated two separate agreements were used for both bond counsel and disclosure counsel. He said approval is the next step and they are ready to start working in cooperation with Mr. Kosmont and all figures have been provided to the attorneys. He also said the fees will be paid through the annual premiums.

Councilmember Loewenstein asked why different bond counsels were not pursued. City Attorney Webb stated staff can fully explore counsels but it will take time possibly until July and noted interest rates appear to be rising.

Mr. Kosmont stated the market is moving around and noted the benefit of working with the same revenue structure they have worked with similar to the proposed legal team. He said the sale of the issuance and absorption of the bonds is large and a key element and noted the benefit of keeping the legal team in place.

City Attorney Webb stated the team's knowledge of the City and similar structure will be a benefit.

Councilmember Loewenstein said it is important to look at all options and going forward to look at different firms.

Mayor Brand called for public comment via Zoom and eComment.

Eugene Solomon noted a concern of the Budget and Finance Commission that vendors would simply be selected automatically without a better process to control costs, and supported more of a bidding process be exposed. He also stated that Elisa Bond of Richards, Watson & Gershon PC donated \$399 to Mr. Webb's campaign and expressed concern with this impression as a possible conflict and reflecting poorly on the

City. He suggested to approve the first vendors and another firm to handle the disclosure to avoid any negative impressions.

Russ Trice, Norton Rose Fulbright, stated he is available to answer any questions and looked forward to working with the City.

Wayne Craig commented on Richards, Watson and Gershon and expressed concern with contracts being awarded to some vendors without full transparency. He reviewed his concerns with an event at City Hall last year, and expressed concern with Lisa Bond of Richards, Watson and Gershon giving a large donation to Mr. Webb's reelection campaign, being \$1 below the level which triggers an automatic 24-hour reporting to the public. He also supported due diligence performed for awarding of the \$36,500 contract. He asked Council to reconsider the selection and put the work through a competitive bid process.

Dr. Andrew Lesser pointed out by a huge landslide that the residents of Redondo Beach rejected allegations and suggestions and felt that City Attorney Webb can be trusted with selecting the best people for a reasonable price. He expressed concern with implying any collusion and effort to hide something being \$1 under to avoid triggering an automatic report, noting it is still public knowledge. He also said he stands by our City Attorney.

Khatirah Nazif read comments submitted via eComment by Kate Korman Sooper.

There being no further comments, Mayor Brand closed the public comment period.

Councilmember Obagi supported City Attorney Webb but agreed with an appearance of impropriety.

Councilmember Nehrenheim stated he trusts staff but expressed concern with rushing the job through and questioned not going through an RFP. He suggested being more proactive and to plan things out ahead of time, and to give Council options for the contracts.

Councilmember Obagi noted the ten-year bond rate and six month graph are rising and time is of the essence to lock in for a very long time for the City and future generations.

City Attorney Webb stated he was very transparent with his campaign financing and stated the real concern should be about the number of nontransparent anonymous social media sites that persist, preventing good people from entering politics. He said nothing wrong was done, noted Lisa Bond is not a disclosure counsel and addressed the overall take on impropriety and moving forward.

Motion by Councilmember Obagi, seconded by Councilmember Nehrenheim, to approve Agreement with Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP for legal services as bond counsel for an amount not to exceed \$146,800 from April 13, 2021 until terminated; and approve agreement with Richards, Watson & Gershon PC for legal services as Disclosure Counsel for an amount not to exceed \$36,500 from April 13, 2021 until terminated; subject to the condition that Richards, Watson and Gershon PC screens Lisa Bond from the disclosure representation. Motion carried, with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Nehrenheim, Horvath, Obagi, Emdee
NOES: Loewenstein
ABSENT: None

**N.3. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND DIRECTION REGARDING WHETHER TO PROCEED WITH A 4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS DISPLAY OR FIREWORKS SPECIAL EVENT
CONTACT: LAURIE KOIKE, INTERIM COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR**

Interim Community Services Director Laurie Koike gave a report and discussed the following:

- Exposhow Inc. – letter of interest
- Summary/introduction and event outline
- Lagoon option plot maps 1 & 11
- Harbor option plot map III
- Offshore option plot map IV
- Barge cost details
- References/endorsements

In response to Mayor Brand regarding the cancellation policy, Interim Community Services Director Koike reviewed the cancellation policy which states 45 days before receiving is 100% of the refund, 44 to 30 days is 90%, 29 to 15 days is 75% 14 to 8 days is 50%, and 7 to 1 day is 25% and cancelling on the day of the event there is no refund.

Councilmember Nehrenheim asked how long it has been using Exposhow Inc. without a bid. City Manager Hoefgen stated the fireworks program has been a concessionary arrangement with an outside vendor who made the decision about the barge and display, and when the City took it over, the same operator continued to be used.

Councilmember Nehrenheim believed the City is an event organizer for the 4th of July event and not having the workforce in place. He suggested the Pier Association and King Harbor Association have a lot of volunteers and can move the event and other organizations in the City. He supported a fireworks show in the harbor but did not believe the City should be the one running the show. He also suggested having the show outside the harbor with a larger audience space, allowing for social distancing. He also suggested more transparency.

Councilmember Horvath noted there is still some uncertainty regarding a surge, and suggested Plot Map I and have the firing location on land near the hand launch behind Seaside Lagoon but not opening the Seaside Lagoon. He also suggested parking spaces be used with social distancing and a BRR as it relates to the budget going forward regarding organizations wanting to run a show in future years.

Councilmember Emdee stated Option II has the same price as Option III and suggested a subtraction regarding ticket sales from the Seaside Lagoon. Interim Community Services Director Koike stated income doesn't offset the expenses and a limited capacity.

Councilmember Loewenstein noted \$34K to \$44K for admissions. Interim Community Services Director Laurie stated it was estimated at \$45K for 2018 and 2019.

Councilmember Emdee supported the choices, noted pushback for not having the show and switching the day. She suggested 80% immunity by May or June should allow having the 4th of July show and businesses at the pier would welcome it, but she questioned having enough time.

Councilmember Obagi expressed concern for North Redondo residents having difficulty getting to the event and supported going out for an RFP. He suggested two fireworks displays, one at the hand launch and one closer to the Yacht Club parking lot, or Perry Park.

Assistant City Manager Mike Witzansky stated staff has looked at different options in North Redondo but the challenge is not having a citywide event in the harbor and funding through Tidelands Funds. He suggested moving it away from King Harbor but doing two shows would require more expenses and resources.

City Manager Hoefgen also noted a revenue stream with parking.

Councilmember Loewenstein also said two locations would require more traffic control. He supported having an event but not at the Seaside Lagoon which is too enclosed. He asked about having a land based show

and agreed with setting a precedent and looking at multiple vendors, moving it to the King Harbor Association and/or shops for next year.

Interim Community Services Director Koike stated the Lagoon event is similar to the harbor in terms of time length, and the cost is \$26,500 compared to \$31,000 for the harbor.

Mayor Brand called for public comment via Zoom and eComment.

Dr. Andrew Lesser noted vaccine hesitancy and did not support jumping in too fast with hosting a fireworks event, noting the pandemic is still uncertain. He suggested saving money and putting it into 2022.

Wayne Craig agreed with the location presented by Mr. Jeff Ginsburg which can accommodate a larger group of people further apart.

Khatirah Nazif read comments submitted via eComment by:

Jeff Ginsburg, President Riviera Village Association
Maggie Healy
Mark Hansen

There being no further comments, Mayor Brand closed the public comment period.

Councilmember Nehrenheim stated the barge can be put outside of the harbor allowing the ability to team up with the RVA.

Mr. Ginsburg stated the Esplanade would be an excellent viewing location since it's more spread out and would allow more people with proper social distancing to view and enjoy the fireworks. This would also allow boaters to go out in the water. He supported the barge in front of the Riviera Village.

City Manager Hoefgen shared a survey regarding other cities and stated El Segundo, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, Inglewood, Peninsula Cities all have no plans for fireworks show. He also said that Torrance is in discussions bringing an item to Council, Carson is looking at the Sports Park for a fireworks display.

Councilmember Horvath believed there shouldn't be any issues with boats going in and out if the fireworks are fired on land. He also stated people can watch the show in the Golden Hills area up Prospect.

Councilmember Loewenstein did not support putting the show on land at the hand launch, noting a fallout zone is required, taking out open space, combining people into a smaller area. He also said there would be concerns with smoke. He supported the display on a barge outside the harbor far from people to allow for better viewing. He also said Anderson Park would be a good area for a small show.

Councilmember Obagi supported the show taking place off the hand launch for \$29,500 and also to gather private support for something in the Riviera Village.

Motion by Councilmember Loewenstein, seconded by Councilmember Obagi, to have the fireworks show with the Lagoon base show for \$29,500, eliminating the barge.

Substitute Motion by Councilmember Nehrenheim, seconded by Councilmember Obagi to direct staff to reach out to two other fireworks vendors for proposals, reaching out to the Riviera Village BID as well as the two harbor associations to take over the event if willing, and to come back with a staff report the first meeting in May, and to have fireworks off the hand launch location for \$29,500.

Amendment by Councilmember Obagi that the event planning also provide additional restroom facilities, with information on the location and costs be brought back as part of the May report. Councilmember Nehrenheim accepted the amendment.

Motion by Councilmember Nehrenheim, seconded by Councilmember Obagi, to come back on May 4 with staff to reach out to two other fireworks vendors for proposals, to do a show at the hand launch ramp, closing the Seaside Lagoon, to reach out to the Riviera Village BID as well as the two harbor associations regarding doing the show, and to explore having porta-potties at the Esplanade. Motion carried, with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Nehrenheim, Loewenstein, Horvath, Obagi
NOES: Emdee
NONE: None

Motion by Councilmember Nehrenheim, seconded by Councilmember Loewenstein, to only complete Items N.4, N.5., and P.1 on the agenda. Motion carried with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Nehrenheim, Loewenstein, Horvath, Obagi
NOES: Emdee
ABSENT: None

Substitute Motion by Councilmember Emdee, seconded by Councilmember Horvath, to only complete P.1. and N.4 on the agenda. Motion failed with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Horvath, Emdee
NOES: Nehrenheim, Loewenstein, Obagi
ABSENT: None

**N.4. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND DIRECTION REGARDING WHETHER TO PROCEED
WITH THE OPENING OF SEASIDE LAGOON FOR SUMMER 2021
CONTACT: LAURIE KOIKE, INTERIM COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR**

Interim Community Services Director Laurie Koike gave a report and said it was determined the Seaside Lagoon could open July 1 for 68 days and 51 days if Beach Live Festival takes place. She reviewed the departments involved and said the largest concern is having limited staff due to the covid shut down last year. She spoke on revenue and said the last full years of operation was July 2018 to June 2019 with a total of \$545K and revenue would probably be half if we stick to this modified timeframe from \$200K to \$250K. She also noted annual subsidy from Harbor Tideland funds, and further said the capacity or protocols are unknown at this time.

Mayor Brand stated that Allen Sanford has plans regarding activating the entire area beyond summer and said he could work around the Beach Live Festival.

Councilmember Horvath also supported Mr. Sanford's proposal and believed it is time to address the future of the Seaside Lagoon. He recommended not opening in the traditional sense this year and to look at how the site could become active throughout the year.

In response to Councilmember Nehrenheim, Interim Community Services Director Koike reviewed what would be needed to open in the summer and noted there are options.

Councilmember Nehrenheim suggested a mid-June opening.

In response to Councilmember Nehrenheim, Interim Community Services Director Koike stated the pay for senior lifeguards is \$14 and \$24 part-time.

Mayor Brand called for public comment via Zoom and eComment.

Khatirah Nazif read comments submitted via eComment by:

Michael Sachs
Peter Aziz

There being no further comments, Mayor Brand closed the public comment period.

Motion by Councilmember Horvath, seconded by Councilmember Emdee, to not open Seaside Lagoon in the traditional sense this year, explore other options with Allen Sanford and that staff bring back a report.

Substitute Motion by Councilmember Nehrenheim, seconded by Councilmember Loewenstein, to have the Seaside Lagoon open by June 15 until Labor Day on September 6, and to engage with Allen Sanford on Beach Live Festival and any other plans in the harbor for that area. Substitute Motion carried, with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Nehrenheim, Loewenstein, Obagi
NOES: Horvath, Emdee
ABSENT: None

N.5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION RELATED TO THE CITY'S REVIEW OF SITES FOR A COMMUNITY GARDEN
CONTACT: LAURIE KOIKE, INTERIM COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

City Manager Hoefgen stated the current direction to staff is to look for one or more sites for a community garden to be put in the form of a BRR and brought back as part of the budget.

Public Works Director Ted Semaan stated they can work with Interim Community Services Director Koike and the South Bay Parkland Conservancy, noting Alta Vista looked the most promising and a report can be brought back.

City Manager Hoefgen stated a BRR would be brought back in mid May.

City Attorney Webb explained that the City has been reimbursing the South Bay Parkland Conservancy without an MOU since early 2020 at over \$18K and he said it's important to make certain direction is clear to staff.

Mayor Brand called for public comment via Zoom and eComment.

Sandra Segal questioned conflicts of interests and trusting politicians voting in the best interest of all residents. She also did not support giving another \$53K to an organization partnering to take \$1M from CAFRS and ignoring inquiries about its finances. She suggested South Bay Parkland Conservancy open its books before asking for any further funding or public land.

Arnette Travis, 30-year resident, supported a community garden but questioned why the City is trying to set a new precedent by funneling money to a non-profit organization. She questioned transparency, an accounting analysis of the \$53K, an amount determined before a location is discovered, and asked why a community garden isn't under the Public Works Department. She did not support allocating any amount of

tax payer dollars to the South Bay Parkland Conservancy which should be able to raise funds for a community garden.

Eileen Kallish, volunteer group Redondo Beach Community Garden, supported the garden and noted a great amount of support.

Brianna Egan stated they don't represent any political causes and have reached out to all of the City Councilmembers to be able to form relationships and develop partnerships. She said the South Bay Parkland Conservancy has been their partner since the start and provided support and connections and financial documents have been submitted. She also said they are not seeking \$53K from the City and are just asking to be involved in the process.

Lisa Rodriguez suggested looking at all opens before entering into contracts, supported due diligence, transparency, and questioned why this Initiative was not open for request for proposals. She also suggested going directly to bid.

Wayne Craig supported parks and gardens and did not agree with the accusations being proposed, and constant display and disparagement of character. He also supported the South Bay Parkland Conservancy and fighting for what is right for the City. He also suggested each Councilmember pick a site in their district.

Dr. Andrew Lesser spoke on the Heart of the City and CenterCal final version which the residents didn't want. He said there is now a proposal to do a community garden involving a nonprofit organization composed of people who volunteer their time and there is no political cache running a community garden. He supported South Bay Parkland Conservancy being involving with the City's project for a community garden.

Eugene Solomon supported transparency and suggested if money goes from the City to the South Bay Parkland Conservancy and the community garden, their organization and the FPPC should be willing to provide financial transparency to account for every single nickel spent and show that all is going to support the community garden.

Khatirah Nazif read comments submitted via eComment by:

Maggie Healy
Eileen Kallish
Mara Lang
Stephanie Holst
Nick Jones
Jim Light
Menya Cole
Peter Aziz
Pat Healey

There being no further comments, Mayor Brand closed the public comment period.

Mayor Brand supported the Parkland Conservancy and gave a history, noted a rejection letter, stated he has been paying for the billbrand.org account since 2008 which had nothing to do with the Parkland Conservancy, supported a resident focused group moving forward and doing volunteer work, supported the Community Garden group, stated there are no contracts, said the complaints are personal vendetta's and should be ignored, noted his wife's involvement with the environment, stated there are no conflict of interests taking place, supported staying the course and said he's proud of the Parkland Conservancy which can raise funds and file lawsuits if they feel the mission statement is being violated.

Councilmember Obagi also said this does not require an RFP and said his firm donated \$1K and didn't receive any campaign involvement in return. He also stated the City is strapped for personnel and volunteers are needed, referred to Registry of Charitable Trusts.doj.ca.gov which shows the South Bay Parkland Conservancy is registered as current. He referred to CEQA lawsuits and said the developer will be required to recover the fees owed. He also said there was no MOU in place and believed it is just the product of oversight.

Mayor Brand pointed out that the Riviera BID lost their 501(c)(3) status several years ago because they failed to file some forms but regained their status.

Councilmember Emdee expressed concern with the dais attacking the public who are just providing an opinion. She said the report written wasn't clear as to who will provide the money and the detailing of the \$53K, who will do the ongoing garden operations, questioned if all the park spaces will be considered versus just Alta Vista, BRR's and Decision Packages will not be done until June and breaking ground of May 2021, suggested a community garden should be considered in District 4 with no R1 zoning, noted limited park space in all districts, the real costs need to be vetted out, supported transparency, an RFP could be discussed and vetted out, supported putting in a community garden in a location that satisfies all requirements, did not support the dais being political, said stated staff is creating a BRR to say what are the locations.

In response to Councilmember Emdee, Community Services Director Koike stated Community Services and Public Works checked out different sites, further expanding on the information and should be ready when BRR's are due to Council in May with the release of the budget.

Councilmember Emdee asked if community gardens were on the Strategic Plan. City Manager Hoefgen stated it was listed as one of the objectives and rankings for prioritizing.

Councilmember Emdee supported moving forward with a community garden and a location, and also supported the South Bay Parkland Conservancy.

Councilmember Nehrenheim supported the South Bay Parkland Conservancy and fighting for open space and park space and development.

Councilmember Loewenstein did not support slander by lies created which needs to be stopped.

City Attorney Webb asked for Council direction and advised that staff shouldn't be reimbursing someone if there is no MOU or contract approved by Council to do so.

Motion by Councilmember Nehrenheim to start working with the South Bay Parkland Conservancy to choose the Alta Visa Location and to come back with community garden plans and to have each Councilmember find a location and recommend to staff two or three locations.

Substitute Motion by Councilmember Obagi, seconded by Councilmember Nehrenheim, to direct staff to work with the South Bay Parkland Conservancy to develop plans for a community garden at Alta Vista and once this comes to fruition, work with the South Bay Parkland Conservancy or any other organization plus City Councilmembers to identify if they want a location within their district to launch a similar community garden.

Councilmember Emdee stated she will vote no due to restricting staff into one location.

AYES: Nehrenheim, Loewenstein, Horvath, Obagi
NOES: Emdee
ABSENT: None

N.6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION DIRECTING STAFF TO SEEK FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING STATE RELINQUISHMENT OF HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD, STATE ROUTE 107, WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY

This item was continued.

O. CITY MANAGER ITEMS

This item was continued.

P. MAYOR AND COUNCIL ITEMS

P.1. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION DENOUNCING XENOPHOBIA AND ANTI-ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER SENTIMENT AND AFFIRMING THE CITY'S COMMITMENT TO THE WELL-BEING AND SAFETY OF ASIAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

Mayor Brand called for public comment via Zoom and eComment.

Brianna Egan thanked the City and City Attorney for introducing the resolution and noted a solitary rally took place this last Sunday. She also suggested investigation reports in the City and noted resources are available.

Steve Takemoto supported the resolution.

Jerome Chang, Redondo Beach, thanked Council for proposing the resolution and also thanked Brianna Egan for organizing the rally from this past weekend. He said there are many incidences that are under-reported and xenophobia occurs in many forms. He also supported adopting other action items for the City, and said Hermosa Beach will be hosting the county level event on May 1.

Chief Deputy City Clerk Vickie Kroneberger read comments submitted via eComment by:

Michael Sachs
Charlie Szymanski

There being no further comments, Mayor Brand closed the public comment period.

Councilmember Emdee stated we all need to speak up when seeing aggressive behaviors, bullying and other events.

Motion by Councilmember Emdee, seconded by Councilmember Horvath, to adopt a resolution denouncing Xenophobia and anti-Asian American and Pacific Islander sentiment and affirming the City's commitment to the well-being and safety of Asian-American communities with amendments presented by Jerome Chang.

Chief Deputy City Clerk Kroneberger read by title only Resolution No. CC-2104-033 , as amended.

AYES: Nehrenheim, Loewenstein, Horvath, Obagi, Emdee
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

Q. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REFERRALS TO STAFF - NONE

R. CLOSED SESSION – NONE

S. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION – NONE

T. ADJOURNMENT 12:38 A.M.

T.1. ADJOURN IN MEMORY OF FORMER REDONDO BEACH RESIDENT NATHANIEL TRAXLER

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Motion by Councilmember Nehrenheim, seconded by Councilmember Horvath, to adjourn the meeting at 12:38 a.m. April 14, 2021 to an Adjourned Regular meeting to be held at 4:30 p.m. (Closed Session) and a Regular meeting to be held at 6:00 p.m. (Open Session) on Tuesday, April 20, 2021, in the City Hall Council Chambers, 415 Diamond Street, Redondo Beach, California, via teleconference. Motion carried unanimously, with no objection.

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

Respectfully submitted,


Eleanor Manzano, City Clerk