

**MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the
City of Gardena City Council
Tuesday, May 26, 2020**

In order to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus Governor Newsom has issued Executive Orders that temporarily suspend requirements of the Brown Act. Please be advised that the Council Chambers are closed to the public and that some, or all, of the Gardena City Council Members may attend this meeting telephonically.

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Gardena, California, was called to order at 8:20 p.m. on Tuesday, May 26, 2020, in the Council Chamber of City Hall, 1700 West 162nd Street, Gardena, California: Mayor Tasha Cerda presiding.

1. ROLL CALL

Present via teleconference: Mayor Tasha Cerda; Mayor Pro Tem Mark E. Henderson; Council Member Rodney G. Tanaka; Council Member Art Kaskanian; and Council Member Paulette C. Francis. Other City officials and employees present via teleconference: City Manager Clint Osorio; City Attorney Carmen Vasquez; City Clerk Mina Semenza; and Deputy City Clerk Becky Romero. City Treasurer Ingrid Tsukiyama was not present.

At 7:15 p.m., the City Council recessed into Closed Session with the following present via teleconference: Mayor Tasha Cerda; Mayor Pro Tem Mark E. Henderson; Council Member Rodney G. Tanaka; Council Member Art Kaskanian; Council Member Paulette C. Francis. Other City officials and employees present via teleconference: City Manager Clint Osorio; City Attorney Carmen Vasquez; and Police Chief Mike Saffell.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION - None

2. CLOSED SESSION

A. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

Government Code Section 54957.6

(1) Agency Designated Representative:

Clint Osorio, City Manager

Employee Organizations:

Gardena Police Officers Association (GPOA)

Matt Hassholdt, Association President

Gardena Management Employees Organization (GMEO)

Vicky L. Barker, Attorney

Gardena Municipal Employees Association (GMEA)

Fred G. Quiel, Attorney

Confidential / Unrepresented Employees

B. THREAT TO PUBLIC SERVICE OR FACILITIES

Government Code Section 54957

Consultation with Gardena Director of Emergency Services and City Manager Clint Osorio, Chief of Police Michael Saffell, and City Attorney Carmen Vasquez.

2. CLOSED SESSION (Continued)

Mayor Cerda reconvened the meeting to the Regular Open Session at 8:20 p.m., and the City Clerk noted the return of all Council Members who were present at the meeting.

When City Attorney Vasquez was asked if there were any reportable actions from the Closed Session, she stated that no reportable action had been taken.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE& INVOCATION

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Henderson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. INVOCATION

Council Member Rodney G. Tanaka led the Invocation.

4. PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, & APPOINTMENTS

A. PRESENTATIONS - *None*

B. PROCLAMATIONS - *None*

C. APPOINTMENTS

(1) Council Appointments to Commissions, Committees, Councils, and Boards
(Appointees to be Ratified and Sworn In)

- (a) Human Services Commission
- (b) Planning and Environmental Quality Commission
 - (1) **Rachel C. Johnson** (Council Member Paulette C. Francis)
- (c) Recreation and Parks Commission
- (d) Senior Citizens Commission
- (e) Gardena Youth Commission
- (f) Gardena Beautification Committee
- (g) Gardena Economic Business Advisory Council
 - (1) **Carlos Lifosjoe** (City Manager Clint Osorio)
- (h) Gardena Rent Mediation Board, Owner Representative
- (i) Gardena Rent Mediation Board, Tenant Representative
- (j) Gardena Rent Mediation Board, At-Large Representative

There was a motion made by Mayor Cerda regarding the Appointment of Ms. Rachel C. Johnson to the Planning and Environmental Quality Commission at the recommendation of Council Member Paulette C. Francis. Mayor Cerda voted "No" on the appointment. The motion did not receive a second.

It was moved by Mayor Cerda, seconded by Council Member Tanaka, and carried by the following roll call vote to Appoint Mr. Carlos Lifosjoe to the Gardena Economic Business Advisory Council:

Ayes: Mayor Pro Tem Henderson, Council Members Tanaka, Kaskanian and Francis, and Mayor Cerda
Noes: None
Absent: None

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. WAIVER OF READING IN FULL OF ALL ORDINANCES LISTED ON THIS AGENDA AND THAT THEY BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

B. CITY CLERK

(1) Minutes of

(a) Approved: Gardena City Council Regular Meeting, May 12, 2020

(b) Approved: Planning & Environmental Quality Commission Meeting, April 21, 2020

(2) Approved: Affidavit of Posting Agenda on May 22, 2020

C. CITY TREASURER

(1) Approved: Warrants / Payroll Register

May 26, 2020: Wire Transfer: 11883-11884; Check Nos. 159216-159343 - for a total Warrants issued in the amount of \$860,071.83; Total Payroll Issued for May 22, 2020: \$1,945,899.18

(2) Approved: Monthly Portfolio

(a) April 2020

D. CITY MANAGER

(1) Approved: Personnel Report No. P-2020-9

(2) Approved: CDD – SECOND READING: ORDINANCE NO. 1817, Adoption of Ordinance Amending the Gardena Municipal Code Relating to Density Bonus and directing staff to file a CEQA Notice of Exemption under Guidelines §15061 (b)(3) (*Introduced by Mayor Pro Tem Henderson, on May 12, 2020*)

ORDINANCE NO. 1817

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 18.43 OF THE GARDENA MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO DENSITY BONUS PROVISIONS

(3) Approved: CDD – SECOND READING: ORDINANCE NO. 1818, Adoption of Ordinance Amending Chapter 17.20 of the Gardena Municipal Code Relating to Park and Recreation Dedication and Fees and directing Staff to file a CEQA Notice of Exemption under Guidelines § 15061(b)(3) (*Introduced by Council Member Tanaka, May 12, 2020*)

ORDINANCE NO. 1818

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA AMENDING CHAPTER 17.20 OF THE GARDENA MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO PARK AND RECREATION DEDICATION AND FEES

5. CONSENT CALENDAR (Continued)

- (4) **Approved: REC** - Ratify Administrative Approval of the Elderly Nutrition Program Contract ENP 162006 Amendment Six – Adding Funding
- (5) **Approved: GTRANS** – Authorized Purchase of a Cloud Backup and Local Backup Solution from Insight Public Sector for a Total of 434,403.04

It was moved by Council Member Kaskanian, seconded by Council Member Tanaka, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve all Items on the Consent Calendar:

Ayes: Council Members Kaskanian and Tanaka, Mayor Pro Tem Henderson, Council Member Francis and Mayor Cerda
Noes: None
Absent: None

6. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR

7. PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION ACTION SHEET

A. MAY 19, 2020, MEETING

(1) Site Plan Review #3-19; Tentative Parcel Map #2-19; Variance #1-05 (MOD)

A proposal to create a lot for a standalone 3,486-square-foot fast-food restaurant with drive-thru and a variance request is needed to reduce the required number of parking spaces. The project is located in the General Commercial (C-3) zone, is consistent with Title 17-18 of the Gardena Municipal Code and qualifies for a Categorical Exemption.

Project Location: 2169 West Redondo Beach Boulevard (APN: 4063-014-017)

Applicant: Kristen Roberts, Raising Cane's/Target Corporation

Commission Action: No action was taken. The item will be re-noticed for the June 2, 2020, Planning and Environmental Quality Commission meeting and considered at that time.

Received and Filed

(2) Site Plan Review #2-20; Tentative Tract Map #1-20

The Planning Commission considered a request for site plan review and tentative tract map approval for the construction of six new townhome units in the Medium Density Multiple-Family Residential (R-3) zone per section 18.44.010.E and Chapter 17.08 of the Gardena Municipal Code. Staff had determined that the project qualified for several categorical exemptions, did not meet any of the exceptions to the exemptions, and was therefore exempt from CEQA

Commission Action: Commission approved Resolution No. PC 4-20, approving Site Plan Review #2-20 and Tentative Parcel Map #1-20.

Mayor Cerda Called for Review and asked Staff to come back with more information at the June 23, 2020 City Council Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

- (1) Ms. Kendra Osee Black, teacher at Purche Avenue Elementary – spoke via teleconference about the recent break-ins and vandalism taking place at Purche Avenue Elementary School. She expressed her concerns regarding the negative impact on the students. She asked Council to please investigate the matter.

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS

A. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES – No Items

B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- (1) PUBLIC HEARING: ORDINANCE NO. 1820, Introduction of an Ordinance Making Changes to Title 18 of the Gardena Municipal Code Relating to Residential Development and Time Extensions for Entitlements and directing staff to file a Notice of Exemption under CEQA Guidelines § 15061(b)(3) and 15305
Applicant: City of Gardena

ORDINANCE NO. 1820

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, MAKING ADDITIONAL CHANGES TO TITLE 18, ZONING, OF THE GARDENA MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AND EXTENSIONS FOR ENTITLEMENTS

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

Lisa Kranitz, Assistant City Attorney and Raymond Barragan, Acting Community Development Director, gave a PowerPoint presentation.

Mayor Cerda opened the Public Hearing at 8:28 p.m. and asked if there were any comments from the public.

SPEAKERS: (1) Diana Victoria Coronado, representative, from the Building Industry Association (BIA) of the Los Angeles / Ventura Chapter – spoke on behalf on the membership and expressed her support of Ordinance No. 1820 and (2) Mr. Rudy Martinez, resident – had concerns regarding the jurisdictions of the Developers. He also asked what direction the city was moving in for future residential developments.

There was a very lengthy discussion regarding the presentation and there were questions presented by Mayor and Council regarding various matters, which Assistant City Attorney Kranitz and Acting Community Development Director Barragan answered.

Mayor Cerda closed the Public Hearing at 9:05 p.m.

It was recommended that Item 8.B (1) be sent back to staff for review and be presented to Council at a Study Session at a later date.

C. ELECTED & ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

- (1) Presentation of the City of Gardena's Projected Two-Year Budget for Fiscal Years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Reports and gave a PowerPoint video presentation.

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS (Continued)

C. ELECTED & ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES (Continued)

- (1) Presentation of the City of Gardena's Projected Two-Year Budget for Fiscal Years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 (Continued)

There was a discussion regarding the financial position of the City which City Manager Osorio explained after his PowerPoint presentation. There was no vote on this item, it will get approved at our June 23, 2020 Council Meeting.

- (2) Approval of CARES Act Program Funding (CDBG-CV) Received from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to Alleviate the Negative Economic Impacts of the COVID-19

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

There was a discussion regarding marketing materials asking if there were any so Council could start getting them out there to the groups that support them.

It was moved by Council Member Francis, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Henderson, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Funding Received from HUD:

Ayes: Council Member Francis, Mayor Pro Tem Henderson, Council Members Tanaka, and Kaskanian, and Mayor Cerda
Noes: None
Absent: None

- (3) Reimbursement Agreement with Gardena LF, LLC Relating to Fees and Costs for Change of General Plan Designation and Zone Change for 4.59 Acre Property Adjacent to Lucky Lady Casino

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

There was a discussion regarding a last minute revision to the contract which Deputy Attorney Wallin clarified when he originally drafted the contract it stated if the loan could be repaid 30 days after either club reopens or after 6 months; they requested if it could be the latter of those two points. Mayor Pro Tem Henderson then asked if the Melia Homes project off-sets the zone change that we are doing with the LLC; Deputy Attorney Wallin stated that an Economic Incentive agreement is already in place which provides them to do the commercial development, this is their first step, it was presently zoned residential. It was then clarified by Mayor Cerda that we are still planning on the housing development on the Vermont side and the other potential commercial development on the Rosecrans side.

It was moved by Council Member Tanaka, seconded by Mayor Cerda, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Reimbursement Agreement:

Ayes: Council Member Tanaka and Mayor Cerda, Mayor Pro Tem Henderson, and Council Members Kaskanian and Francis
Noes: None
Absent: None

D. GENERAL SERVICES – *No Items*

E. POLICE – *No Items*

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS (Continued)

F. RECREATION & HUMAN SERVICES

- (1) Approval of \$50,000 Budget Appropriation for Human Services Construction Project JN 989

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

There was a discussion regarding Wi-Fi being enabled in the space. City Manager Osorio confirmed that yes, the building was being upgraded with fiber optic network. Mayor Cerda stated that she was happy with the project.

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Henderson, seconded by Council Member Tanaka, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Budget:

Ayes: Mayor Pro Tem Henderson, Council Members Tanaka, Kaskanian, and Francis, and Mayor Cerda
Noes: None
Absent: None

G. TRANSPORTATION – No Items

9. COUNCIL ITEMS, DIRECTIVES & REMARKS

A. COUNCIL ITEMS

- (1) Consideration of Termination of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Gardena Valley Chamber of Commerce.

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

There was a discussion regarding how the City tried to work collaboratively with the Chamber but never saw that any of the objectives were met, that it is more about the image of our City and how people are treated, some of the Council Members felt like a Chamber should be more reputable. Council Member Francis stated that she was not in favor of terminating the MOU and asked if anyone tried to reach out see if there was anything, we could do to identify the areas that were not being addressed. It was stated that this has been going on for quite some time and that the majority of Council feels like they are happy with our Economic Development Manager to take over helping our businesses.

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Henderson, seconded by Mayor Cerda, and carried by the following roll call vote to Terminate Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):

Ayes: Mayor Pro Tem Henderson, Mayor Cerda, Council Members Tanaka, and Kaskanian
Noes: Council Member Francis
Absent: None

9. COUNCIL ITEMS, DIRECTIVES & REMARKS (Continued)

- (2) Approve the Amendment to the California Cities Gaming Authority Joint Powers Agreement to admit the Town of Colma.

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

There was a discussion regarding adding the City of Colma to the JPA. Mayor Cerda confirmed that we are out there getting known and working with other potential cities to come on board as well as working together to go up against the Attorney General and make sure they don't cut into the funding of our casinos, especially for a City of our size.

It was moved by Council Member Tanaka, seconded by Council Member Kaskanian, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Amendment:

Ayes: Council Members Tanaka and Kaskanian, Mayor Pro Tem Henderson, Council Member Francis and Mayor Cerda

Noes: None

Absent: None

B. COUNCIL DIRECTIVES

Council Member Kaskanian asked for the status on a previous directive regarding Developers' commitments to the City. This directive was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Henderson.

Council Member Francis made the following directives:

- (1) She asked for a status update regarding her previous directive regarding the November 2020 Election, voting system. Deputy Clerk Romero reminded Ms. Francis about the City Clerk Summit which was a topic to be discussed and told her she would report on the Vote Centers in Gardena.
- (2) She thanked City Manager Osorio for the report on development, but was looking either to schedule a meeting or get a report regarding the City's revitalization not just development, but specific to revitalization.

C. CITY MANAGER REMARKS RE: DIRECTIVES / COUNCIL ITEMS

- (1) Memo in response to Council Member Francis's request at the May 12, 2020 City Council meeting regarding the Economic Development Task Force; and
- (2) Memo regarding Sanitation Rate Reduction to residents at 20% below base rate. They could call our office and we could refer them to the Sanitation office.

9. COUNCIL ITEMS, DIRECTIVES & REMARKS (Continued)**D. COUNCIL REMARKS**

- (1) MAYOR PRO TEM HENDERSON - Since the last Council Meeting, he has participated in the Los Angeles Business Federation COVID-19 Task Force and Discussion Committee Meetings. Discussion was centered around sending a potential letter to Governor Newsom, requesting that different parts of Los Angeles County that meet the requirements outside of the Los Angeles Public Health shall be allowed to open. Also, reiterated the same topic in his SCAG Meeting – Regional 28. He also mentions that the discussion during his Community Economic and Human Development Committee was about all the cities being financially devastated and possibly getting the Federal Government to start bailing out some of the communities that have less than half a million people. In addition, he ran for co-chair and lost to a Councilman in Cerritos. He thanked all colleagues on the Council and City Manager for responding to the South Bay Cities Council of Governments Project to get fiber throughout the South Bay. He also attended a presentation on how communities can repurpose their streets, outdoor dining, and different exercises and much more. He will also be participating in another presentation in order to obtain additional information to bring back to Council.
- (2) COUNCIL MEMBER FRANCIS - She attended the Los Angeles Sanitation District to urge businesses to participate. She attended the South Bay Cities Council of Governments for Senior Services Working Group; where she was made aware that there is a 10-year master plan on aging that is going to the legislature. She also thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for the Food/Lunch Giveaway and Councilman Tanaka and Kaskanian for helping to distribute lunches. She also mentions that May is one of the busy months because we have Cinco De Mayo, Mother's Day, Memorial Day and, we also honor Asian American and Pacific Islanders.
- (3) COUNCIL MEMBER KASKANIAN - He attended the Drive thru Lunch and thanked everyone that participated in the event including the Gardena Police Department; Chief Saffell, Lieutenant Fox, Lieutenant Lee, and Lieutenant Cuff. He also has been working with the Nestle and Arrowhead Water Company and was able to get three pallets of water to our Seniors, Pantry, and the City of Gardena: over ten thousand bottles of water. He thanked them for their generous donation and for promising to help us again in the near future. In addition, he is currently negotiating with a cereal company in Pomona in efforts to obtain cereal boxes for the City's Pantry. Once negotiation is completed, he will report back to Council.
- (4) MAYOR CERDA - Since the last Council Meeting, she has attended several zoom meetings; one being a City Selection Meeting, where Council Members from all over came together and voted on a Library Commissions as related to the County. She also attended the CCGA Meeting which deals with the casinos. She was happy to announce that the City of Colma had joined the CCGA and that there are more cities that would like to come on board. She also stated that there are Emergency Funds for Casinos in the event of a pandemic like COVID or anything that disrupts the casinos. The CCGA is currently trying to reach out and ask that funds be dispensed to our casinos so that it could help us. She also said that there's new requirements called self-spacing that many casinos are doing, as far as how they are spacing the players apart and how they are putting plexiglass in between different patrons. Some casinos up north have already started opening, unfortunately some of the tribe casinos have disregarded the governor orders. She also attended the Sanitation Meeting via telephone and shared information with our City Manager as it relates to "If you're not using your facilities as much and you can show that 20% below", please reach out. We want to make sure that people can get great reductions and any type of discounts or anything that could help them during this time. Lastly, she commented in response to Councilwoman Francis; she is aware of the meaning of emeritus and what an honorable person is. She believes that it's important to have all the correct information and titles on signs, when people are making decisions; like who they're going to vote for because there are people who were furious when they find out that the person name and title was not accurate. We appoint people who have integrity.

9. COUNCIL ITEMS, DIRECTIVES & REMARKS (Continued)

D. COUNCIL REMARKS (Continued)

- (5) COUNCIL MEMBER TANAKA - He thanked the Mayor for allowing him to invoke. He stated that he participated in the 1000 Meal Lunch Giveaway as well and thanked the City for representing us so well. He also is attending zoom meetings for the Non-profit with the Elks, trying to keep the lodge alive and doing meals on Fridays and keeping busy with SCAG at the end of the week.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS - *None*

11. REMEMBRANCES - *None*

12. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:55 p.m., Mayor Cerda adjourned the Gardena City Council Meeting to the Closed Session portion of the City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m., and the Regular City Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9, 2020.

MINA SEMENZA

City Clerk of the City of Gardena and
Ex-officio Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

Tasha Cerda

Tasha Cerda, Mayor

By:

Becky Romero

Becky Romero, Deputy City Clerk