

**MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the
City of Gardena City Council
Tuesday, February 12, 2019**

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Gardena, California, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 12, 2019, in the Council Chamber of City Hall, 1700 West 162nd Street, Gardena, California; Mayor Tasha Cerda presiding.

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Rodney G. Tanaka; Council Member Mark E. Henderson; Council Member Art Kaskanian; and Council Member Dan Medina. Other City officials and employees present: City Manager Edward Medrano; City Attorney Peter L. Wallin; City Clerk Mina Semenza; and Deputy City Clerk Becky Romero. Mayor Tasha Cerda arrived during Closed Session. City Treasurer Ingrid Tsukiyama was not in attendance.

At 7:00 p.m., before going into Closed Session, City Attorney Wallin presented a request to add Closed Session Item 2.A.(2): Gardena Valley Assembly of God Church vs. City of Gardena (see below) for Council consideration. It needed to be added to the February 12, 2019, Council Meetings Agenda, due to the urgency of having to review a matter with Council at this meeting, because its consideration at the February 26, 2019, Meeting would be too late.

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, seconded by Council Member Medina, and carried by the following roll call vote to add Agenda Item 2.A.(2) to Closed Session:

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

At 7:02 p.m., the City Council recessed into Closed Session in the Management Information Center of the Council Chambers at City Hall, with the following in attendance: Mayor Pro Tem Rodney G. Tanaka; Council Member Mark E. Henderson; Council Member Art Kaskanian; Council Member Dan Medina; City Manager Edward Medrano; City Attorney Peter L. Wallin; and General Services Director Joseph Cruz. Mayor Tasha Cerda arrived during Closed Session.

2. CLOSED SESSION

**A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL
EXISTING LITIGATION
Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)**

- (1) California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region
Administrative Civil Liability Complaint No. R4-2019-0005
In the matter of the City of Gardena
- (2) Approval was given to Add this Item to the Agenda:
Gardena Valley Assembly of God Church v. City of Gardena
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. YC 073006

**B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL
ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)**
(1) One case

2. CLOSED SESSION (Continued)

Mayor Cerda reconvened the meeting to the Regular Open Session at 7:48 p.m., and the City Clerk noted the return of all Council Members who were present at the meeting.

When City Attorney Wallin was asked if there were any reportable actions from Closed Session, he stated that Council unanimously authorized retention of the Weinrib Law Group to represent some aspects of the City in the case of California Regional Water Quality Control Board in the Matter of the City of Gardena.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Brooke Tam led the Pledge of Allegiance. Brooke is a student at 156th Street Elementary School and a member of the Student Council. Her teacher, Mr. Roy Hayashida, and members of her family were then introduced and welcomed by Mayor Cerda.

B. INVOCATION

Reverend Clyde C. Lawrence, Head Pastor of "I Am Blessed Assurance" Baptist Church, gave the Invocation.

4. PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, & APPOINTMENTS

A. PRESENTATIONS

- (1) Gardena Military Veteran Recognition to Honor Veteran Jae Suk Noh, who served in the United States Army. *Mayor Cerda read his Military Biography; then Council Member Kaskanian presented Mr. Noh with a City of Gardena Veterans Commemorative Coin. Mr. Noh was given an opportunity to speak and appropriate photos were taken. Also, on behalf of California Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi, Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka read the text of a Certificate of Recognition from him for Mr. Noh.*
- (2) Certificate of Recognition to Mrs. Jessica Randle in appreciation of Her Service to the Community as a Member of the Senior Citizens Commission *Mrs. Jessica Randle was not in attendance.*
- (3) Recognition of Members of the City of Gardena Police Explorer Post #142 for their Successes in a Recent Explorer Competition and for their Long-Time Service to the Community – *Members of City of Gardena Police Explorer Post #142 and their Leaders were present. Also, on behalf of California Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi, Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka read the text of a Certificate of Recognition presented to them. Appropriate photos were taken.*

B. PROCLAMATIONS

- (1) "Black History Month," February 2019 – *was proclaimed by Mayor Cerda*

C. APPOINTMENTS – *None*

- (1) Council Appointments to Commissions, Committees, Board, and Council (Commission Appointees to be Ratified and Sworn in; Committees, Board and Task Force Appointees to be Ratified Only)
 - (a) Human Services Commission
 - (b) Planning and Environmental Quality Commission
 - (c) Recreation and Parks Commission
 - (d) Senior Citizens Commission
 - (e) Gardena Youth Commission
 - (f) Gardena Beautification Committee
 - (g) Gardena Economic Business Advisory Council
 - (h) Gardena Rent Mediation Board, Owner Representative
 - (i) Gardena Rent Mediation Board, Tenant Representative
 - (j) Gardena Rent Mediation Board, At-Large Representative

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) Approved: Minutes of

(a) City Council Regular Meeting, January 22, 2019

(b) Planning & Environmental Quality Commission Meeting, January 15, 2019

(2) Approved: Affidavit of Posting Agenda on February 8, 2019

C. CITY TREASURER

(1) Approved: Warrants / Payroll Registers

(a) February 12, 2019: Wire Transfer: 11750-11752, Prepay Nos. 152583-152585 and Check Nos. 152586-152791; for a total Warrants issued amount of \$1,454,995.62: Total Payroll Issued for February 1, 2019, \$1,615,964.10

D. CITY MANAGER

(1) Approved: Personnel Report No. P-2019-03

(2) Approved: RESOLUTION NO. 6357, Amending the List of Authorized Games and Authorizing the Play of Certain Games in Licensed Card Clubs

RESOLUTION NO. 6357

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING THE LIST OF AUTHORIZED GAMES AND AUTHORIZING THE PLAY OF CERTAIN GAMES IN LICENSED CARD CLUBS

(3) Approved: Final Tract Map No. 81327, 14321 S. Van Ness Avenue

(4) Approved: Withdraw Construction Contract Awarded to California Fence & Supply and Award Contract to A-1 Fence Company, in the amount of \$81,138.00, for tennis court rehabilitation at Rowley Park

(5) Approved: Ratify Payment to Tyler Technologies for Eden Maintenance Renewal January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019

Council Member Henderson asked the City Manager general questions about Tyler Technologies and the City's current Eden System.

(6) Approved: Ratify Purchase of Computer Access Switches from Rhino Networks

(7) Approved: Letter to Congress Member Maxine Waters in Support of H.R. 530 (Eshoo) which Opposes FCC's Regulations Impacting Local Jurisdictions regarding Small Cells Site: and Seeking the Congress Member's Co-Sponsorship of H.R. 530

5. CONSENT CALENDAR (Continued)

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

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

6. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR

7. PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION ACTION SHEET

A. FEBRUARY 5, 2019, MEETING

(1) Conditional Use Permit #16-17

Approval of a conditional use permit to allow the operation of a 1,994 square foot children's daycare facility within an existing commercial building in the General Commercial (C-3)/Mixed-Use overlay (MOU) zone, per Section 18.32.030.G of the Gardena Municipal Code, and direction to staff to file a Notice of Exemption as existing facility.

Project Location: 15019 Western Avenue (APN: 4062-017-047/50)

Applicant: LaRhonda Mobley/ARISE Family Childcare Center, LLC

Commission Action: Commission approved PC Resolution No. 2-19, approving Conditional Use Permit #16-17.

This item was Received and Filed

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- (1) Ms. Stacy Trinidad Alfaro, Field Representative from Assembly Member Al Muratsuchi's Office: On behalf of Muratsuchi, she thanked those recognized at tonight's Meeting; She announced and invited the community to a "Community Coffee" on March 2, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., in the Gardena City Council Chamber, and spoke of other upcoming events hosted by the Assembly Member. She also gave legislative updates about various Senate Bills.
- (2) Mr. Perry Johnson, resident: spoke, to Council about his opposition regarding California Senate Bill 50 regarding the City's ability to control Planning, Zoning and Housing Development, and handed out related paperwork to Council. He asked Council for their support of the opposition by writing a letter to the State Legislators opposing the bill.
- (3) Ms. Kimberly Hatten, representative from Juniper Serra High School: reported about recent school news, updates and miscellaneous announcements. She also mentioned and congratulated Robert Woods, a Serra High School Alumni, who played in the 2019 NFL Superbowl Championship competition.
- (4) Basil Hewitt, representative of Engineering employees of the Los Angeles County Sanitation District: spoke about who they are, and what the District does for its residents. He gave information about the unfair labor conditions at the District, and he is asking Council for their support.

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS

A. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

- (1) Approval of Contract for City Audit Services with the Pun Group, LLP for Fiscal Years 2019-2019

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

It was moved by Council Member Medina, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Contract with Pun Group, LLP:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

- (2) Approval of Contract with Hinderliter, de Llamas and Associates (HdL) Companies for City Sales and Use Tax Services

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

There was discussion between Council Member Henderson and City Manager Medrano regarding HdL's outstanding reputation and the services they provide. There was also discussion regarding whether HdL's scope of work could be expanded in the future to assist with other services for the City.

It was moved by Council Member Kaskanian, seconded by Council Member Medina, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve the Contract with HdL:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – No Items

C. ELECTED & ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

- (1) ORDINANCE NO. 1802: Amending Sections 1.20.010 and 1.20.020 of the Gardena Municipal Code Relating to Administrative Fines for Violations Relating to Illegal Cultivation of Cannabis (Introduced by Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, January 22, 2019)

ORDINANCE NO. 1802

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA; AMENDING SECTION 1.20.010 AND 1.20.020 OF THE GARDENA MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO ADMINISTRATIVE FINES FOR VIOLATIONS RELATING TO ILLEGAL CULTIVATION OF CANNABIS

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS (Continued)

C. ELECTED & ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES (Continued)

(1) ORDINANCE NO. 1802 (Continued)

There was discussion among Council Members Henderson and Medina, City Manager Medrano, Mayor Cerda, and City Attorney Wallin regarding the process of receiving a Notice of Violation and its fines if one does not comply with the rules set. They also discussed how Property Owners should include language in their rental agreements to establish that they prohibit cannabis cultivation within their property, and that California State law states that, if not prohibited by a lease or rental agreement, one can grow up to six (6) plants in Gardena, but would still need to get a City permit to do so.

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, seconded by Council Member Medina, and carried by the following roll call vote to Adopt Ordinance No. 1802:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

(2) Purchase of Property at 16004 South Harvard Boulevard

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

There was discussion involving Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, Mayor Cerda, City Manager Medrano, and City Attorney Wallin regarding the renovation of Primm Pool, and how it needs significant repair. The City pool adjoins the Harvard Boulevard property being considered for purchase by the City. It was also mentioned that the City's Alzheimer Clinic is currently located outside the boundaries of our city, and how it would be advantageous to our City to have a pool with an aquatic center, along with the possibility of having an Alzheimer facility nearby to provide recreational services. There was further discussion regarding the State Real Property Relocation Act, which requires a government agency to pay for re-location fees and benefits when acquiring property for public use.

It was moved by Council Member Medina, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve the Purchase of Property at 16004 So. Harvard Boulevard:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

D. GENERAL SERVICES

(1) ORDINANCE NO. 1801, Regarding Property Owner Responsibility to Maintain Trees, Shrubs, and Sidewalks in a Non-Hazardous Condition (Introduced by Council Member Medina, January 22, 2019)

ORDINANCE NO. 1801

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, REGARDING PROPERTY OWNER RESPONSIBILITY TO MAINTAIN TREES, SHRUBS, AND SIDEWALKS IN A NON-HAZARDOUS CONDITION

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS (Continued)

D. GENERAL SERVICES (Continued)

(1) ORDINANCE NO. 1801 (Continued)

There was discussion which included Council Members Henderson, Kaskanian and Medina, Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, and Mayor Cerda regarding informing our residents so they can get a better understanding of who is liable for trees when the roots of the trees have uplifted certain sidewalks, and where the parkway starts and ends on their property. It was further discussed that any resident who has questions, should contact our General Services Department first before taking any action regarding maintenance. At that time, the sidewalks, and/or trees could be assessed. City Manager Medrano then stated that he highly encourages our residents to use Gardena Direct for reporting these types of issues; they will be entered into our system where a complete assessment can be maintained.

It was moved by Council Member Medina, seconded by Mayor Cerda, and carried by the following roll call vote to Adopt Ordinance No. 1801:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

E. POLICE – *No Items*

F. RECREATION & HUMAN SERVICES – *No Items*

G. TRANSPORTATION

- (1) Purchase of 18, 40-foot Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Buses for \$13,014,913 and Authorize a Program Total Not to Exceed \$13,665,658**

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

Transit Administration Officer Dana Pynn, of GTrans, spoke to Council about the proposed purchase and led a PowerPoint presentation.

There was a discussion among Council Members Medina and Henderson, Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, Ms. Pynn, and Mayor Cerda regarding the credits we will receive because we are owners of a CNG Fuel facility, and we dispense our own fuel. Ms. Pynn indicated that we are getting credits now for the 6 buses we currently are using. It was further discussed that the buses we are replacing will either go to auction, or we will keep them as back up in the event of an emergency, or donate them to our Sister City of Huatabampo, Mexico, as has been done in the past. Ms. Pynn then clarified that new cameras will be installed on the new buses.

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, seconded by Council Member Kaskanian, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Purchase of CNG Buses:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

9. COUNCIL ITEMS, DIRECTIVES, & REMARKS

A. COUNCIL ITEMS

- (1) Verbal Reports: Attendance at the Independent Cities Association (ICA) Winter Seminar in Santa Barbara, CA, January 31, to February 3, 2019
(Reports were given by Mayor Cerda and Council Member/ICA President Mark E. Henderson during their Council Remarks)

B. COUNCIL DIRECTIVES

- (1) Council Member Kaskanian asked about the function of the “speed sensor” on Marine Avenue, between Crenshaw and Van Ness Avenue; and
- (2) Council Member Henderson asked who is responsible for the maintenance of the bus stops, particularly the bus stop at the southeast corner at Pacific Coast Highway and Western Avenue.

C. CITY MANAGER REMARKS RE: DIRECTIVES / COUNCIL ITEMS

City Manager Medrano gave a verbal report of information to follow-up matters that had been directed or requested by the Mayor and Members of Council. Written reports had already been provided to the Council via copies in their regular mail packets. Those items are as follows:

- (1) Flyer, announcing 2019 State of the City scheduled on March 21, 2019, at Nakaoka Community Center;
- (2) 2020 Census, the formation of a committee, headed by Ms. Stephany Santin;
- (3) Study of a proposed cross walk on Western Avenue at 147th Street, including the costs associated with the study and any future requests;
- (4) The re-pavement of Gramercy Place, between 169th and Artesia and other adjacent roadways; and
- (5) Hazardous Waste Round-up will be on March 23, 2019, at Arthur Johnson Park.

D. COUNCIL REMARKS

- (1) MAYOR PRO TEM TANAKA – apologized for missing the Gardena Valley Lions Club program on Sunday, January 27. He reported that he was fortunate enough to attend the wedding of the niece of Council Member Kaskanian (the daughter of Sam Kaskanyan). He thanked Mayor Cerda for letting him represent her and the City at the BurgerIM Grand Opening on February 9.
- (2) COUNCIL MEMBER HENDERSON – thanked Jessica Randle and her husband J.R. for their support as she served as a member of the Senior Citizens Commission. He said she was diligent and took her job seriously and wanted to let her know that he appreciated her service on the Commission. He went to the BurgerIM Grand Opening. He attended the Independent Cities Association Winter Seminar with sessions about Public Safety. He shared that his goal as President of ICA is to have more diversity on the board. He said that this Winter Seminar was great; that they recognized the workers of CalTrans and Public Safety for the work that they did after last year’s storms. He thanked Mayor Cerda for being present at the Seminar. He said he hopes to get more of the Council to attend the ICA Summer Seminar.

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

D. COUNCIL REMARKS (Continued)

- (3) COUNCIL MEMBER MEDINA – reported that, since the last Council Meeting, he visited seven Convalescent Homes and delivered half-sheet birthday cakes; that it has been 16 years since he started delivering cakes and enjoys delivering them. He attended the meeting of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), reporting that they spoke about plans for year 2045 and gave current census statistics for California. He shared that more information can be found on www.scag.ca.org. He encouraged residents to check out the City’s “Live-Work-Play” magazine newly-published and mailed to all addresses in Gardena.

- (4) MAYOR CERDA – shared that, since the last Council Meeting, she attended the City’s participation in the County-wide Homeless Count. She thanked the departments who were in charge, as well as residents, police officers, and all the staff members who helped with the orientation and helped identify those who are homeless in our community. She attended the West Basin Municipal Water District Director Installation where they installed Harold Williams, Gloria Gray, and Scott Houston. She attended the funeral services for Mr. Andrew Aaron Jr., who our City Council had previously honored as a Military Veteran at a City Council Meeting. She said that it was a nice funeral service and thanked Chief Kang for attending, as well. She attended the Gardena Valley Lions Club 37th Community Recognition banquet, held at El Pollo Inka, where they honored Carol and Richard Luna for their community service, as well as celebrating the Club’s 95th Anniversary. She also attended the 5th Annual South Bay Legislative “Meet and Greet.” She said that she and other elected officials from neighboring cities were able to get legislative reports from the representatives of members of Congress, State Senate, and State Assembly. Later that day, she attended a meeting of the Jazz Festival Committee, which is a new one formed to plan the 2019 Jazz Festival. As of now, the Jazz Festival is scheduled for August 26, 2019, and the tickets will go on sale May 6, 2019. She attended the quarterly Finance Committee meeting. She attended the ICA Winter Seminar in Santa Barbara, CA with Council Member Henderson and said it was a great conference. There were over 100 Mayors, City Council Members, City Managers, and City Officials in attendance; 42 cities were represented; and there were 21 speakers and 6 panels with great information. She attended a Black History Month Awards Luncheon in San Bernardino, CA put on by the Southern California Black Chamber Association where they recognized African American Mayors in the California area, and she received the Dignity Award.

- (5) COUNCIL MEMBER KASKANIAN – since the last Council Meeting, he attended the Finance Committee meeting, and assured everyone that the City of Gardena is doing great. He thanked Administrative Services Director Clint Osorio and his team and City Manager Edward Medrano. He attended the Los Angeles County City Selection Committee meeting on behalf of Mayor Cerda and shared that, after waiting an hour, they did not have a quorum, so the meeting was cancelled and will be rescheduled. He apologized to the Gardena Valley Lions Club for not being able to make the event. He congratulated Mr. and Mrs. Luna for being recognized for their service. He apologized to Council Member Henderson for not being able to keep his promise to attend the ICA meeting due to crazy rain.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Cerda announced:

- (1) Afternoon in the Park in celebration of Black History Month, on February 23, 2019, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at Rowley Park;
- (2) 2020 Census Count Start-Up/Information Meeting, scheduled on Wednesday, February 27, 2019, at 6:00 p.m., in the City Council Chamber;
- (3) State of the City and Community Forum, Thursday, March 21, 2019, at Nakaoka Community Center, beginning at 6:00 p.m.; and
- (4) Free Household Hazardous Round-up at Arthur Johnson Park on Saturday, March 23, 2019, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

11. REMEMBRANCES

Mrs. Yuriko Lillie Fukai, 89 years of age, long-time resident of Gardena and beloved widow of The Honorable Masani 'Mas' Fukai, who served as a City of Gardena Council Member for 24 years, from 1974 to 1998; Mrs. Christina Newell, 88 years old, beloved grandmother of Christina Theobald, Administrative Analyst I in the Recreation and Human Services Department; Ms. Jessica Ruth Woodson, 37 years of age, beloved aunt of Tailor Rogers, Recreation Leader I in the Recreation and Human Services Department; Mr. Dexter Leon Jennings, 80 years old, 46-year resident of Gardena; and Mrs. Gregoria Sanchez, 92 years of age, beloved grandmother of Anahi Corte, Recreation Leader II in the Recreation and Human Services Department.

12. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:44 p.m., Mayor Cerda adjourned the Gardena City Council Meeting to the next Regular City Council Meeting, at 7:00 p.m., on Tuesday, February 26, 2019.

MINA SEMENZA

City Clerk of the City of Gardena and

Ex-officio Clerk of the Council

By: Becky Romero
Becky Romero, Deputy City Clerk

APPROVED:

Tasha Cerda
Tasha Cerda, Mayor