

**MINUTES  
Regular Meeting of the  
Gardena City Council  
Tuesday, June 27, 2023**

The Regular Meeting Notice and Agenda of the Gardena City Council of the City of Gardena, California, was called to order at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, June 27, 2023, in the Council Chamber at City Hall 1700 West 162<sup>nd</sup> Street, Gardena, California; Mayor Tasha Cerda presiding.

**1. ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Tasha Cerda; Mayor Pro Tem Paulette C. Francis; Council Member Mark E. Henderson; Council Member Rodney G. Tanaka; and Council Member Wanda Love; Other City Officials and Employees present: City Manager Clint Osorio; City Attorney Carmen Vasquez; Deputy City Clerk Becky Romero; Records

*Mayor Pro Tem Francis opened the meeting.*

*City Clerk Mina Semenza, noted for the record that Mayor Cerda was not present during roll call.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION - None**

**2. CLOSED SESSION**

- 2.A CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL- EXISTING LITIGATION Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)  
Clarence Cecil IV Davis v. City of Gardena, et al. L.A. Sup. Ct. Case No.: BC719909
- 2.B CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL- ANTICIPATED LITIGATION Significant exposure to litigation, pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(2) One Potential Case.

**CITY ATTORNEY REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

***Mayor Cerda reconvened the meeting to the Regular Open Session at 7:45 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 was any reportable action from Closed Session, she stated for the record, Mayor Cerda joined the discussion at 7:15 p.m. and that staff was provided with direction, but no reportable action was taken.***

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Kendal Anderson led the Pledge of Allegiance. Kendal is in the 8th grade and attend Dana Middle School. Kendal participated in the Freeman Park After School Program while she attended 156th Street Elementary School. She has also participated in the Winter and Summer Day Camp Program at Johnson Park since she was 5 years old. Kendal is now participating in the Teen Camp. She introduced her parents and recreation staff.

**4. INVOCATION**

Pastor Esteban Sanchez, El Taller del Alfarero Iglesia Cristiana, gave the Invocation and was accompanied by Diana Zuniga, his translator.

**5. PRESENTATIONS**

- 5.A Resolution Celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the Gardena-Ichikawa Sister City Relationship (To be presented and co-signed by Mayor Tasha Cerda and City of Ichikawa Mayor Koh Tanaka during the Ichikawa Delegation's July 2 through July 5, 2023 anniversary visit to Gardena). Resolution to be signed during Ichikawa Delegation Welcome Dinner, on July 2, 2023 – **Mayor Cerda read the Resolution that will be presented to the Gardena-Ichikawa Sister City members.**

**Council Member Tanaka expressed his appreciation for the close relationship between Gardena and Ichikawa.**

- 5.B Presentation from the Quilts of Valor Foundation and Recognition of Greg T. Tsujiuchi as he is awarded a Quilt of Valor for his service - **Phyllis Genereux and husband Don Genereux presented Greg Tsujiuchi with a quilt to recognize his service to our nation.**

**Mr. Genereux read about Mr. Tsujiuchi's 14 years of combined service in the United States Army, California Army National Guard and United States Army Reserves.**

**Mr. Tsujiuchi thanked everyone for the recognition and is thankful for all the Veterans.**

- 5.C Gardena Events Video Presentation – **Mayor Cerda announced that video presentation will be a little different and the video for the Mayor's Pitch to Pitch Competition was presented. She also wants to encourage everyone to attend Gardena's Dodger Day on July 6, 2023.**

**6. PROCLAMATIONS**

- 6.A "Pause for the Pledge of Allegiance" - June 14, 2023 through July 4, 2023 - **Proclaimed by Mayor Cerda.**

**7. APPOINTMENTS - No Appointments were made**

**City Attorney Vasquez noted for the record that Item 8.I was withdrawn from the Agenda.**

**8. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- 8.A Waiver of Reading in Full of All Ordinances Listed on this Agenda and that they be Read by Title Only  
**CONTACT: CITY CLERK**
- 8.B Approve Minutes:  
Regular Meeting of the City Council, June 13, 2023  
**CONTACT: CITY CLERK**
- 8.C Receive and File of Minutes:  
Planning and Environmental Quality Commission, June 6, 2023  
**CONTACT: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

8.D Approval of Warrants/Payroll Register, June 27, 2023

**CONTACT: CITY TREASURER**

June 17, 2023: Wire Transfer: 12428- 12444; Check Numbers: 172122-172323 for a total Warrants issued in the amount of \$1,778,189.89; Total Payroll Issued for June 16, 2023: \$2,212,124.46.

8.E Monthly Investment Report, May 2023

**CONTACT: CITY TREASURER**

8.F Personnel Report P-2023-10 6-27-23

**CONTACT: HUMAN RESOURCES**

8.G Authorization to Execute a Deed Restriction Pursuant to the Requirements of the 2018 Parks Bond Act

**CONTACT: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

8.H Acceptance and Notice of Completion for the Gardena Community Aquatic and Senior Center Project - Underground Utility Phase, JN 978.

**CONTACT: PUBLIC WORKS**

8.I Approval of the Contract Services Agreement between the City of Lawndale and the City of Gardena for Senior Case Management Services beginning July 1, 2023 through June 28, 2024.

**CONTACT: RECREATION & HUMAN SERVICES**

8.J Approve Extension for GTrans Participation in Los Angeles County Metro's Pilot Fareless System Initiative (GoPass) Providing Free Fares for K-12 and Community College Students

**CONTACT: TRANSPORTATION**

8.K Approve Amendment to GTrans Zero-Emission Fleet Transition Plan

**CONTACT: TRANSPORTATION**

**It was moved by Council Member Love, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Francis, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve all Items on the Consent Calendar with the exception of Items 8.A, 8.B, 8.J and 8.K:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

**9. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR**

8.A CITY CLERK - Waiver of Reading in Full of All Ordinances Listed on this Agenda and that they be Read by Title Only

Mayor Cerda stated that because of her mistake a vote will need to be taken for Item 8.A.

**It was moved by Council Member Henderson, seconded by Council Member Love, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Item 8.A:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

- 8.B CITY CLERK - Approve Minutes: Regular Meeting of the City Council, June 13, 2023 - ***Item pulled by Council Member Love***

Council Member Love stated the remarks in the minutes were confusing, was not exactly what she said, and that statement needed to be corrected.

**It was moved by Council Member Love, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Francis, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Item 8.B:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

- 8.J TRANSPORTATION - Approve Extension for GTrans Participation in Los Angeles County Metro's Pilot Fareless System Initiative (GoPass) Providing Free Fares for K-12 and Community College Students - ***Item pulled by Mayor Pro Tem Francis***

Mayor Pro Tem Francis asked if it was for the whole summer or just for the school year 2024 and asked if it included weekends and holidays.

Director of Transportation Ernie Crespo came up to answer, saying, it has been extended for one full school year, including summer.

**It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Francis, seconded by Council Member Love, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Item 8.J:**

**Ayes: Mayor Pro Tem Francis, Council Members Love, Henderson and Tanaka, and Mayor Cerda**

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

- 8.K TRANSPORTATION - Approve Amendment to GTrans Zero-Emission Fleet Transition Plan - ***Item pulled by Mayor Pro Tem Francis***

Mayor Pro Tem Francis asked if we were replacing traditional gasoline buses with electrical buses; if it includes the 6 electric buses and the cutaway vans; how are we going to charge them, and what is our infrastructure going to look like. She also asked, will it eventually be down to CNG and electric buses and how are we getting mechanics to maintain those buses. She thanked Director Crespo for the very good report.

Director of Transportation Ernie Crespo came up and answered her questions.

**It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Francis, seconded by Council Member Henderson, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Item 8.K:**

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

**10. PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION ACTION SHEET**

10.A JUNE 20, 2023 MEETING

**ZONE TEXT AMENDMENT #3-23**

The Planning Commission considered a recommendation to the City Council on adoption of an ordinance amending Title 18 and adding Chapter 5.76 to Title 5 of the Gardena Municipal Code relating to regulations for short term home sharing rentals.

Commission Action: Planning Commission approved resolution No. PC 10-23, recommending that the City Council adopt Ordinance 1854, with modifications to permit issuance, timeframes for compliance, and applicability to extensions.

**City Council Action: Receive and File. This item will be brought forth to the Council for review at a future City Council meeting.**

**This Item was Received and Filed. This Item will be brought forth to the Council for review at a future City Council meeting.**

10.B JUNE 20, 2023 MEETING

**ZONE TEXT AMENDMENT #4-23**

Recommendation to the City Council on Ordinance No. 1856 making amendments to Chapter 18.13 of the Gardena Municipal Code relating to accessory dwelling units.

Commission Action: No action was made by the Planning Commission. This item will be brought back to the Commission at a future meeting.

**City Council Action: No action is needed.**

**This Item Required No Action by City Council.**

10.C JUNE 20, 2023 MEETING

**ZONE TEXT AMENDMENT #5-23**

The Planning Commission considered a recommendation to the City Council on Ordinance No. 1857 making amendments to Section 18.12.060 of the Gardena Municipal Code relating to relating to two-unit housing developments

Commission Action: Planning Commission approved Resolution No. 12-23, recommending that the City Council adopt Ordinance No. 1857.

**City Council Action: Receive and File. This item will be brought forth to the Council for review at a future City Council meeting.**

**This Item was Received and Filed. This Item will be brought forth to the Council for review at a future City Council meeting.**

**11. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

- 1) Mina Semenza - noted for the record that one (1) public comment email was received for oral communication, which came in after the 24-hour period. Council was provided copies and copies were put in the Public Review binder at the entrance of the Council Chamber.
- 2) Andrea Simental – Interim Manager for the Mayme Dear Library; she came to announce library events for Gardena Mayme Dear and Masao W. Sato Library.
- 3) Maria Canas, Gardena resident voiced her concerns about the sewage problems at 17000 New Hampshire Ave. Mayor Cerda informed Ms. Canas that she will have the Director of Public Works, Mr. Riggs and City Manager get together and discuss the issues. She thanked Ms. Canas for bringing up her concerns to the City Council attention.

**12. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS - ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

- 12.A PUBLIC HEARING: RESOLUTION NO. 6635, Adopting the City of Gardena's Amended Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 6635

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING AN AMEMDED BUDGET FOR SAID CITY FOR THE FISCAL YEARS JULY 1, 2023 TO JUNE 30, 2024

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

At 8:32 p.m., Mayor Cerda announced that the Public Hearing was open. She asked if anyone had asked to speak on this item and if Council had any comments or questions.

No public speakers.

Mayor Pro Tem Francis asked if our revenues exceed our expenditures; are we in a better position; and if we just got some unexpected money.

City Manager Osorio replied to her questions.

At 8:33 p.m., Mayor Cerda then announced that the Public Hearing was closed.

**It was moved by Council Member Tanaka, seconded by Council Member Henderson, and carried by the following roll call vote for City Council to open the public hearing, receive testimony, allow three (3) minutes for each speaker; and Adopt Resolution No. 6635, Amending the Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

12.B PUBLIC HEARING: RESOLUTION NO. 6633, Establishing the Appropriations Limit for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (GANN Limit)

RESOLUTION NO. 6633

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, ESTABLISHING ITS APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

At 8:36 p.m., Mayor Cerda announced that the Public Hearing was open. She asked if anyone had asked to speak on this item and if Council had any comments or questions.

No public speakers.

Mayor Pro Tem Francis asked if we could spend up to \$138 million but can't go above it and asked if we have extra money.

City Manager Osorio replied to her questions.

At 8:37 p.m., Mayor Cerda then announced that the Public Hearing was closed.

**It was moved by Council Member Henderson, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Francis, and carried by the following roll call vote for City Council to open the public hearing, receive testimony, allow three (3) minutes for each speaker; and Adopt Resolution No. 6633 which establishes the City's Appropriations Limit for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 at \$138,153,439, as required by Article XIII (B) of the California Constitution:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

12.C RESOLUTION NO. 6634, Acknowledging the Receipt and Filing of the Annual Statement of Investment Policy for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 6634

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, ACKNOWLEDGING THE RECEIPT AND FILING OF THE ANNUAL STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT POLICY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

Mayor Cerda asked if anyone asked to speak on this item and if the Council had any comments or questions.

No public speakers.

**It was moved by Council Member Tanaka, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Francis, and carried by the following roll call vote to Adopt Resolution No. 6634:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

- 12.D Renew the Professional Services Agreement with Alliant Insurance Services, Inc., to provide Insurance Brokerage and Consulting Services for City Property and Casualty Program, in the amount of \$491,095, for Fiscal Year beginning 2023/2024 through 2027/2028

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

Mayor Cerda asked if anyone asked to speak on this item and if the Council had any comments or questions.

No public speakers.

Mayor Pro Tem Francis asked if they decreased their fees by \$3,000, about the 3% increase, and if we get the decrease will it be per year or for the five years.

City Manager Osorio answered Mayor Pro Tem Francis' questions.

Council Member Henderson asked if Gardena and any other firms looked to see if there is any other competition in the field, or is it considered a monopoly; do we get further discounts if we invite more people to the pool.

Alliant representative, Shawn Kraatz, said to touch a little bit further on the subject, it is better banning together with other cities and entities to get better deals and brings leverage. They are constantly growing the pool by bringing in additional cities.

**It was moved by Council Member Henderson, seconded by Council Member Tanaka, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve the renewal of the Professional Services Agreement with Alliant Insurance Services, Inc. for Insurance Brokerage and Consulting Services:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

- 12.E Authorize the City Manager to Purchase and Bind Insurance Coverage in the amount of \$2,130,152.04 for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

Mayor Cerda asked if anyone asked to speak on this item and if the Council had any comments or questions.

No public speakers.

Mayor Pro Tem Francis asked for confirmation of the item: if this is the actual insurance; asked if the \$2 million covered everything, and then asked if GTrans had their own insurance.

City Manager Osorio answered Mayor Pro Tem Francis' questions.

City Attorney Vasquez stated she wanted to be clear it's only for a certain amount and it's not an unlimited amount.

Alliant representative, Shawn Kraatz, explained a little further regarding her questions.

Council Member Henderson asked about cyber insurance; does Alliant make sure they shored up their cyber exposure, security training of employees and have penetration testing of systems.

Alliant representative, Shawn Kraatz, answered all questions.

**It was moved by Council Member Tanaka, seconded by Council Member Henderson, and carried by the following roll call vote to Authorize the City Manager to Purchase and Bind Insurance Coverage in the amount of \$2,130,152.04 for Fiscal Year 2023-2024:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

### **13. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

13.A PUBLIC HEARING: RESOLUTION NO. 6636, For Vesting Tentative Map #1-22 (VTM #1-22) in accordance with Gardena Municipal Code Chapter 17.08, for the subdivision of airspace to create five condominium units for a property located in the Medium Residential Multiple-Family Residential (R-3) Zone that qualifies for an exemption for CEQA pursuant guidelines Section 15061(B)(3)

Project Location: 1715 West 149th Street (APN: 6103-022-091)

Applicant: FM Marketing & Properties, LLC

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 6636**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING VESTING TENTATIVE MAP #1-22 (VTM #1-22) PER GARDENA MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 17.08, FOR THE SUBDIVISION OF AIRSPACE TO CREATE FIVE CONDOMINIUM UNITS FOR A PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE

MEDIUM RESIDENTIAL MULTIPLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL ZONE (R-3) ZONE AND DIRECTING STAFF TO FILE A NOTICE OF EXEMPTION UNDER THE COMMON SENSE EXEMPTION OF CEQA GUIDELINES SECTION 15061(b)(3)

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

At 9:02 p.m., Mayor Cerda announced that the Public Hearing was open. She asked if anyone had asked to speak on this item and if Council had any comments or questions.

No public speakers.

Mayor Pro Tem Francis was concerned about parking and if it would contribute to/increase the density; asked about creating more opportunities for home buyers, but didn't see where they offered affordable housing; and asked if the parking is gone already?

Senior Planner, Amanda Acuna, came up to explain about the project and stated that it meets the minimum parking requirements.

City Attorney Carmen Vasquez stated from a legal perspective there is no basis for Council to deny the map because they meet all the requirements.

At 9:05 p.m., Mayor Cerda then announced that the Public Hearing was closed.

**It was moved by Council Member Love, seconded by Council Member Tanaka, and carried by the following roll call vote for City Council to Conduct a Public Hearing, allow three (3) minutes for each speaker, and Adopt Resolution No. 6636:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

13.B Approval of Guidelines for the 12-Month Pilot Commercial Façade Improvement Program

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

Mayor Cerda asked if anyone asked to speak on this item and if the Council had any comments or questions.

No public speakers.

Council Member Love stated she was looking at the guidelines in one section, where it states applicants' eligibility requirements, it lists non-profits are eligible, but under the program exclusion, it indicates non-profits are not eligible. She would like to see other non-profits have the ability to apply for this funding.

Esther, consultant with MDG Associates, said the City has the discretion to include or exclude the non-profits. She stated she doesn't see why the City would exclude them if they have a storefront.

Mayor Pro Tem Francis wanted clarification regarding the maximum grant of \$25,000 and the grant matching up to \$40,000.

Esther, consultant with MDG Associates, explained the two forms of grant being offered.

Director of Community Development Greg Tsujiuchi spoke and said it's a pilot program, if more is needed, we will come back to Council and get approved for higher amount; and these are just estimates.

Council Member Love made a motion to amend the proposed guidelines to include non-profits be allowed to participate in the program with the property owner's consent. It was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Francis.

**It was moved by Council Member Love, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Francis, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve the guidelines for the 12-Month Pilot Commercial Façade Improvement Program with the amendment to include Non-Profit Organizations:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

#### **14. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS - ELECTED & CITY MANAGER'S OFFICES**

- 14.A Approval of the Budget for International Travel for the City of Gardena's official visit to Ichikawa, Japan, in Celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the Gardena - Ichikawa Sister City Relationship, in an amount not to exceed \$5,670.00 and designate the (2) two officials from Council who will travel to Ichikawa, Japan.

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

Mayor Cerda asked if anyone asked to speak on this item and if the Council had any comments or questions.

No public speakers.

**It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Francis, seconded by Council Member Henderson, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve budget for International Travel:**

**Ayes: Mayor Pro Tem Francis, Council Members Henderson, Tanaka and Love, and Mayor Cerda**

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

Council Member Henderson made a motion for Council Member Tanaka and Mayor Cerda to attend Ichikawa. It was seconded by Mayor Cerda.

Council Member Love asked how many of the elected officials on the dais have already been to Japan.

Mayor Cerda, Council Member Tanaka and Council member Henderson stated they have attended before.

Mayor Pro Tem Francis mentioned she has never gone to Japan but had no desire to participate on this particular trip.

**It was moved by Council Member Henderson, seconded by Mayor Cerda, and carried by the following roll call vote to Designate the (2) two officials from Council who will travel to Ichikawa, Japan: Mayor Cerda and Council Member Tanaka:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

## **15. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS – POLICE**

15.A Authorization to Purchase Crisis Negotiation Incident Command System from 836 Technologies for \$35,770.94 for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

Mayor Cerda asked if anyone asked to speak on this item and if the Council had any comments or questions.

No public speakers.

Captain Vincente Osorio introduced Lieutenant Christopher Cuff and Officer Andre Carter and spoke about the Crisis SWAT Team and the Crisis Negotiation Team and the crisis negotiation equipment.

Lieutenant Cuff and Officer Carter brought the brain of the equipment and a throw phone to explain the functions it's capable of and gave a quick overview of the equipment.

Mayor Cerda asked about the two black and yellow box.

Lieutenant Cuff explained the two equipment and how it worked.

Council Member Love asked if the contract was for the device, service or both.

Lieutenant Cuff replied saying it's for both.

Council Member Henderson asked if the overall goal was to get away from the throw phone, and with the CNT piece and some drone surveillance, we should be able to promote safety of our staff and improve communication.

Lieutenant Cuff responded saying that the distance that it creates does increase safety.

Mayor Pro Tem Francis asked if it is user friendly, do you need special training to use the equipment; is there any transcribing of what's being said from both parties; visual recording as well; and is it municipal evidence.

Officer Andre answered her questions.

Council Member Tanaka said the technology today is great compared to when he was a SWAT commander.

Mayor Cerda asked about recording images and how are you able to get that?

Council Member Love said thanks for keeping us ahead of the game; and said GPD always makes her proud; and asked if it accesses anything else on the person's cell phone besides communication.

Lieutenant Cuff answered their questions.

**It was moved by Council Member Love, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Francis, and carried by the following roll call vote to Authorize Purchase:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

- 15.B Authorization of Thermo Scientific TruNarc Handheld Narcotic Analyzer in the Amount Not to Exceed \$36,830.41 for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

Mayor Cerda asked if anyone asked to speak on this item and if the Council had any comments or questions.

No public speakers.

Chief Mike Saffell introduced Detective Martinez and Detective Mendez.

Detective Martinez and Mendez presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Thermo Scientific TruNarc Handheld Narcotic Analyzer.

Council Member Henderson thanked them for the presentation and asked if it was real live data in the piece of the equipment being shared; asked what happens when it shows inconclusive, do they still get arrested and get the drugs tested the old-fashioned way; regarding the cleanliness of the device.

Council Member Love asked if we were the first ones to purchase this device within the South Bay area. For the cost of the device versus one of our officers being passed out in the field, it's worth it.

Detective Martinez and Mendez answered their questions.

Mayor Cerda asked about the warranty.

Chief Saffell came up to answer her questions.

**It was moved by Council Member Love, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Francis, and carried by the following roll call vote to Authorize Purchase:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

**16. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS - PUBLIC WORKS**

16.A Approve the Fencing Replacement for the Baseball Diamonds at Rowley Park in the amount of \$37,983 for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

Mayor Cerda asked if anyone asked to speak on this item and if the Council had any comments or questions.

No public speakers.

Council Member Henderson asked if the fencing is a separate asset, and does it raise the value of the park.

City Manager Osorio explained the asset and depreciation schedule.

Council Member Tanaka asked if it will be completed before or after the Jazz Festival.

Public Works Director, Allan Riggs, replied it will be completed before the Jazz Festival.

**It was moved by Council Member Henderson, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Francis, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve the Fencing Replacement for the Baseball Diamonds at Rowley Park in the amount of \$37,983 for Fiscal Year 2023-2024:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

**17. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS - RECREATION & HUMAN SERVICES - *No Items***

**18. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS - TRANSPORTATION**

18.A Approve Contract with RideCo for On-Demand Microtransit Software in the amount of \$635,240 and a Project Total of \$698,764

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

Director of Transportation Ernie Crespo gave the PowerPoint Presentation.

Mayor Cerda asked if anyone asked to speak on this item and if the Council had any comments or questions.

No public speakers.

Council Member Henderson thanked him for the presentation; regards to the GEO fencing, will it be by our physical boundary.

Mayor Pro Tem Francis wanted confirmation about the three ways of ordering the rides and asked if the software update was included. If the rider needs to go outside the boundary, will there be an interface to arrange for transfers.

Council Member Tanaka said he appreciates the update on this transit, especially because special transit took care of his mother with her appointments. He encouraged the seniors to take advantage of this service.

Mayor Cerda asked if you would need to have an account, could you book a ride for someone else. She asked about the payment methods.

Council Member Love asked if it would be possible to have it drafted into the agreement/program/service where someone else can order a ride for someone else, also asked if the car was trackable.

Director of Transportation Ernie Crespo answered their questions and said he will look into the answers to their questions.

**It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Francis, seconded by Council Member Love, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Contract:**

**Ayes: Mayor Pro Tem Francis, Council Members Love, Henderson and Tanaka, and Mayor Cerda**

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

18.B Approve a Pilot Beach Trolley Service

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

Mayor Cerda asked if anyone asked to speak on this item and if the Council had any comments or questions.

No public speakers.

Council Member Love asked who named the program “G to the Sea” and said it was catchy and she liked the name. She also asked about Manhattan Beach as an option.

City Manager Osorio mentioned they can entertain other names for the program.

Council Member Henderson asked how they were going to select which drivers get this “cake” duty.

Mayor Pro Tem Francis asked about the schedule and the pickup points; asked if it is handicap accessible.

Mayor Cerda said going to Hermosa parking is harder. She asked her colleagues for order of preference.

Council Member Tanaka informed that Hermosa is smaller and most of the attractions are eating and drinking, and a lot bars. He said Redondo Beach has a lot of restaurants on the piers and you can walk and rent bikes. He said he prefers Redondo Beach.

Director of Transportation Ernie Crespo answered all their questions.

City Manager Osorio said they can amend the pilot beach trolley service to include Manhattan Beach as an option.

Mayor Cerda and all the Council unanimously voted on Redondo Beach, Manhattan Beach, and Hermosa Beach as their order of preference.

City Attorney Vasquez clarified that the motion would be to approve a pilot beach trolley service with the preference of Redondo Beach, followed by Manhattan Beach, and followed by Hermosa Beach.

**It was moved by Council Member Love, seconded by Council Member Tanaka, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve a Pilot Beach Trolley Service with the preference of Redondo Beach, followed by Manhattan Beach, and followed by Hermosa Beach:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

- 18.C Approve Contract with Merrimac Petroleum, Inc. for the Purchase of Unleaded Fuel for a Two-Year Term with Three, One-Year Options at a Cost Not-To-Exceed the Annual Budget Approved by City Council.

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

Mayor Cerda asked if anyone asked to speak on this item and if the Council had any comments or questions.

No public speakers.

Council Member Henderson said he appreciated GTrans staff for looking into advertising with the disadvantage business enterprises, women and minority owned enterprises, it is a good thing we are sticking to our commitment to make sure there is diversity and inclusion when we are spending our money.

Mayor Pro Tem Francis mentioned we approved Pinnacle Petroleum at the last meeting and asked if this was separate. Asked if this included everyone or was it just for GTrans. She asked what the reason was for purchasing from two different companies.

City Manager Osorio answered her questions.

Director of Transportation Ernie Crespo came up to give additional answers and gave clarification.

Mayor Cerda asked it was for all the departments.

Council Member Tanaka asked what grade we use for gas.

City Manager Osorio and Director Crespo answered saying we use grade 87.

**It was moved by Council Member Tanaka, seconded by Council Member Love, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Contract:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

**19. COUNCIL ITEMS - *No Items***

**20. COUNCIL DIRECTIVES**

Council Member Henderson

- 1) There was a memo (2023-77) that responded to his earlier directive asking staff to look into a grant with So Cal Edison for our EV charges; that grant is now for \$50,000 - ***Council Member Tanaka seconded it.***

Purpose – City of Gardena would save \$50,000.

Reason – It would provide signage to our upcoming EV infrastructure at Rowley Park, Johnson Park and at City Hall.

Benefit – It would keep \$50,000 in our pocket.

Mayor Pro Tem Francis

- 1) Asked if staff could update the information on the city's website and report back to her - ***Council Member Henderson seconded it.***

Purpose - for public to have accurate information regarding our city.

Reason – was not stated.

Benefit – the city could benefit economically if businesses or residents were looking to move to our city.

**21. CITY MANAGER REMARKS RE: DIRECTIVES / COUNCIL ITEMS**

City Manager Osorio gave a verbal report of information to follow-up on matters that had been directed or requested by the Mayor and Members of Council. Those items were, as follows:

- 1) Memo regarding the Ichikawa Sister City Visit to Gardena itinerary. It is comprehensive and will have an attachment that outlines the itinerary from July 2 - 8. It will have the date and times of their activities; the information will be ready for Council after the meeting.

## 22. COUNCIL REMARKS

- 1) COUNCIL MEMBER LOVE - Since the last meeting she attended the Barbeque Cook-off with city staff and congratulated the Community Development Department – Mr. Greg T, for taking home the win. She also attended the second Annual Juneteenth celebration and mentioned that it was a “pretty amazing event”. She had a fun time at the Show and Shine Car Show, where she was able to spend time with the constituents in the community and watch so many amazing cars. She talked about a concern that was brought to her attention by a community resident about a water leak on El Segundo in between the median where the trees and the ivy grow. She thanked Director of Public Works Allan Riggs for addressing the concern immediately. She would like to let the community know “that when you see something say something” and bring it to their attention. She said, “Lastly, I wanted to also thank Senator STEVEN BRADFORD. I talked to him a while back about improving the gym at Rowley Park, and he mentioned to me he was going to try to get the \$3 million and funding from the state to take care of that. I got a phone call last week and he told me that he was a little concerned because of the [state] budget if the grant would be approved. He let me know that Grant was verbally approved and being considered. So, we haven’t quite it a home run yet but it’s real close and so I just wanted to give Senator Bradford a huge thank you for looking out for the City of Gardena.”
- 2) COUNCIL MEMBER HENDERSON - Since the last meeting he attended the swore in of his Youth Commissioner Damilola and stated that “it was wonderful.” He had his “Open City Hall” in the Council Chambers and thanked everyone who attended. He attended the Juneteenth Celebration. He wished all the Father’s a belated Father’s Day. He attended the Gardena Car Show and Shine. He was invited to the conversations of an Unspoken Truth that was held at the Nakaoka Center by LA County – the topic of discussion was Sexual Violence. He also attended Ice Cream with a Cop at Rowley Park. He met with the Department of Justice Conciliation Specialist about the safety for the community Houses of Worship regarding hate crimes. He stated that he will be passing along the new information obtained to City Manager and Chief of Police. Lastly, he commended city staff for submitting all the paperwork for the new Fiscal Year and meeting all our deadlines.
- 3) MAYOR PRO TEM FRANCIS - Since the last meeting she attended the Barbeque Cook off staff luncheon, the Juneteenth celebration, Show and Shine Car show and mentioned “there were 150 cars that were there, they were just absolutely wonderful.” Mayor Pro Tem Francis attended a meeting with the new LAUSD South Region Superintendent, Mr. Andre Spicer. Mayor Pro Tem Francis thanked Chief Mike Saffell and Director Stephany Santin for being in the meeting and on maintaining a positive partnership with Schools in Gardena. Mayor Pro Tem Francis shared she received a phone call from Kelly Fujio who served as a former Recreation and Human Services Director, about month of July being Recreation and Parks Month. Mayor Pro Tem Francis mentioned that on July 11th the celebration of Recreation and Parks Month will take place and urged everyone to come out and celebrate. Mayor Pro Tem Francis wished everyone a Happy Fourth of July and announced the firework show that will take place at Rowley Park at 5:00 pm and ends at 10:00 pm. Mayor Pro Tem Francis ends with the statement “Better Days are ahead.”
- 4) MAYOR CERDA - Since the last meeting she attended the Flag Day Ceremony, an in-person City Selection meeting where the County selected a representative that will represent small cities. The representative chosen was from City of Bell. Mayor Cerda

attended the City Cook off and commended the president of GPOA Bobby Rosales for creating the idea of the Cook off. Mayor Cerda made a statement about the Cook off and said, "it was a great city activity that we were able to do" and "that was a lot of fun." Mayor Cerda attended a Graduation Ceremony for preschoolers from the Gardena Family Childcare Daycare, Juneteenth celebration, a lunch with Chief Saffell, Stephany Santin and Miss Los Angeles County Queen, CCGA meeting, Sanitation meeting and Finance meeting. Mayor Cerda thanked the Finance Team for their great job. Mayor Cerda attended the Grand Opening of Two Coast Brewery and praised Dave Matthews for the great work he does. Mayor Cerda also attended the Show and Shine Car show, Ice cream with a Cop, Youth Soccer and Futsal Awards Banquet, a meeting with Childcare Providers, and a Promotion Ceremony for Lieutenant Goodpaster. Lastly, Mayor Cerda congratulated the residents who completed the Gardena Police Department Citizen Academy and confirmed that the city will be given three million dollars for Rowley Park Gymnasium restoration as well as two million dollars for Mas Fukai Park. After Council Member Tanaka's remark, she added that three young individuals from Serra High School were invited to Sacramento to be recognized.

- 5) COUNCIL MEMBER TANAKA - Since the last meeting, he attended SBCOG Board meeting. Council Member Tanaka spoke about care court coming from LA County, that serves those who are mentally ill as well as homeless, which will launch in December. Council Member Tanaka mentioned there is a new pathway home and LA County will coordinate with mental health workers, social workers, and medical care providers that will assist the living encampments, he announced Project Home Key will turn the Grand Hotel in San Pedro into housing for the Veterans. He mentioned LA County Metro Public Safety is understaffed, and with the perceived crime rates being higher, they are pushing harder not defund the police but instead put more officers ("ambassadors") on the trains by partnering up with LASD, LAPD, LBPD. Metro is discussing having their own Police Department. The guest speaker wants to do a gun buyback. Council Member Tanaka stated Gene Seroka, director of LA Ports had some good things to say about the ports and is trying to avoid a strike. Council Member Tanaka congratulated Carson's Council Member Cedric Hicks who is now a board director. Council Member Tanaka attended the Flag Day Ceremonies held at Nakaoka and the Elks Lodge, GTrans Barbeque, Juneteenth celebration, Finance Committee meeting and thanked the Finance Team for their work. Council Member Tanaka apologized for the events he had missed. Lastly, Council Member Tanaka congratulates Lieutenant Goodpaster on his promotion and said, "I can't wait to see what kind of things he's going to bring to our department in the future of our department, he's a doer, I see good things coming from that."

## **23. ANNOUNCEMENT(S)**

Mayor Cerda announced:

- 1) Grand Opening Ceremony Community Computer Lab at Rowley Memorial Park, Wednesday, June 28, 2023 at 3:00 pm., located at 132nd and Van Ness. The City of Gardena is making efforts to bridge the digital divide by providing public access to technology.
- 2) Serra Football Team is having a Community Fundraiser, Friday, June 30, 2023, at Serra High School.
- 3) 4th of July Celebration, Tuesday, July 4, 2023, from 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm at Rowley Park. Fireworks begin at approximately 9:00 pm.

- 4) City of Gardena Dodger Day, Thursday, July 6, 2023, at 7:10 pm. Giveaway Night Tony Gonsolin Bobblehead. Buy Your Ticket Today! Ticket Prices ranges from \$24 to \$50. To purchase tickets, visit the Nakaoka Community Center.
- 5) Back to School Giveaway, Tuesday, August 1, 2023, from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm at City Hall Complex. Beginning Monday, July 10, 2023, register your child at [www.cityofgardena.org/events](http://www.cityofgardena.org/events). Supplies limited for grades K-12. Must be a resident of the City of Gardena or attend a Gardena COS school to be eligible to receive FREE back to school supplies.
- 6) Join the Gardena Police Department for a Night to Unite! Summer Block Party in Celebration of National Night Out, Tuesday, August 1, 2023 from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm., at City Hall Complex. Stop by and meet your Gardena Police Department, Police Officers, City Staff and your Neighbors! Free food; Games; Back-to-School Giveaways; Music.
- 7) Save the Date, City of Gardena Jazz Festival, Sunday, August 27, 2023, at Rowley Park. Tickets sales begin Monday, May 1, 2023.

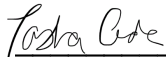
#### **24. REMEMBRANCES**

**Mrs. Barbara Jean Mato-Jaeger**, 88 years of age, grandmother and loving mother of our City Treasurer Guy Mato.

#### **25. ADJOURNMENT**

At 11:26 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, July 11, 2023.

APPROVED:



Tasha Cerda, Mayor

MINA SEMENZA

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

By 

Becky Romero, Deputy City Clerk