

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting of the**  
**Gardena City Council**  
**Tuesday, August 10, 2021**

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 Notice and Agenda of the Gardena City Council of the City of Gardena, California, was called to order at 7:12 p.m. on Tuesday, August 10, 2021, in the Council Chamber at City Hall 1700 West 162nd Street, Gardena, California.

**1. ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Tasha Cerda; Mayor Pro Tem Rodney G. Tanaka; Council Member Mark E. Henderson; Council Member Art Kaskanian; and Council Member Paulette C. Francis. Other City Officials and Employees Present: City Manager Clint Osorio; City Attorney Carmen Vasquez; and City Clerk Mina Semenza.

At 7:28 p.m., the City Council recessed into Closed Session in the Management Information Center of the Council Chamber at City Hall, with the following in attendance: Mayor Tasha Cerda; Mayor Pro Tem Rodney G. Tanaka; Council Member Mark E. Henderson; Council Member Art Kaskanian; Council Member Paulette C. Francis; City Manager Clint Osorio; and City Attorney Carmen Vasquez.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION - None**

**2. CLOSED SESSION**

**2.A CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS Government Code Section 54957.6**

Agency Designated Representative: Clint Osorio, City Manager  
Employee Organizations:

1. Gardena Police Officers Association (GPOA), Matt Hassholdt, Association President
2. Gardena Management Employees Organization (GMEO), Vicky L. Barker, Attorney
3. Gardena Municipal Employees Association (GMEA), Fred G. Quiel, Attorney
4. Confidential/ Unrepresented Employees

**2.B CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS Government Code Section 54956.8**

Property: 2501 W. Rosecrans Ave Gardena CA 90249

Agency Negotiator: Clint Osorio, City Manager

Negotiating Parties: Casey Metcalf, JP Morgan Chase BK NA

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

- 2.C CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL ANTICIPATED LITIGATION  
Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of  
Section 54956.9  
(One [1] Matter)

***Mayor Cerda reconvened the meeting to the Regular Open Session at 8:15 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**

Garrett Larks and Constantino Lima led the Pledge of Allegiance. Garrett is a Recreation Leader II and a 2021 Cal State Long Beach Graduate. Constantino is a Recreation Leader I for the City of Gardena.

4. **INVOCATION**

Mayor Pro Tem Rodney G. Tanaka led the Invocation.

5. **PRESENTATIONS**

- 5.A Recall Election Presentation by City Clerk Mina Semenza  
***- Presentation was made by City Clerk Mina Semenza***

6. **PROCLAMATIONS**

- 6.A To be Proclaimed Only - "City of Gardena 91st Anniversary Day" -  
September 11, 2021 - ***was proclaimed by Mayor Cerda***

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

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
- 8.B Approve Minutes:  
Study Session - Proposed Amended Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022,  
June 17, 2021  
Regular Meeting of the City Council, June 22, 2021  
**CONTACT: CITY CLERK**
- 8.C Ratify Administrative Approval of the Elderly Nutrition Program Contract  
ENP202105 Amendment Six.  
**CONTACT: RECREATION AND HUMAN SERVICES**

- 8.D RESOLUTION NO. 6526, Reaffirming Proclamation and Resolution No. 6441, which declared the Existence of a Local Emergency  
**CONTACT: CITY MANAGER**

RESOLUTION NO. 6526

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, REAFFIRMING PROCLAMATION AND RESOLUTION 6441 WHICH DECLARED THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY

- 8.E Approval of Final Tract Map No. 83182  
**CONTACT: PUBLIC WORKS**
- 8.F Acceptance and Notice of Completion for Local Streets Overlay 2018/2019, JN 946, Onyx Paving Co., Inc  
**CONTACT: PUBLIC WORKS**
- 8.G Receive and File GTrans Service Restoration Plan  
**CONTACT: TRANSPORTATION**  
*This item was pulled for discussion by Mayor Cerda*
- 8.H Authorization to Purchase Six Patrol Vehicles from National Auto Fleet Group in the Amount of \$251,832 and Expend Build-Out Costs in the Amount of \$91,095  
**CONTACT: POLICE**  
*This item was pulled for discussion by Council Member Francis*
- 8.I Personnel Report No. P-2021-15  
**CONTACT: HUMAN RESOURCES**
- 8.J Monthly Portfolio, June 2021  
**CONTACT: CITY TREASURER**
- 8.K Approval of Warrants/Payroll Register, August 10, 2021  
**CONTACT: CITY TREASURER**

August 10, 2021: Wire Transfer: 12039 - 12046; Prepay: 164058 - 164061; Check Nos. 164062 -164234 – for a total Warrants issued in the amount of \$4,744,392.33; Total Payroll Issued for July 30, 2021: \$1,652,320.26.

It was moved by Council Member Francis, seconded by Council Member Kaskanian, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve all Items on the Consent Calendar with the exception of Items 8.G and 8.H:

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

9. **EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR**

**8.G TRANSPORTATION** - Receive and File GTrans Service Restoration Plan –  
***This item was pulled by Mayor Cerda***

**Public Speaker: Zahid Ahmed**, suggested to implement the following: a fare free transit program for students; implement a freeze for Transportation staff except for bus drivers and implement a bus route to NFL Stadium, that includes a stop at the Lucky Lady Casino and offer parking services.

Mayor Cerda commented that she is not in favor of the transit program for students and doesn't think it is something we should consider. Mayor Pro Tem then stated that our City buses are picking up students from Gardena High. City Manager Osorio then stated that we are currently working on having a line going to SoFi Stadium.

**8.H POLICE** - Authorization to Purchase Six Patrol Vehicles from National Auto Fleet Group in the Amount of \$251,832 and Expend Build-Out Costs in the Amount of \$91,095 -  
***This Item was pulled by Council Member Francis***

Council Member Francis asked if the purchase of new cars is meant to replace current fleet; what is the type of vehicle (SUV); is the City getting a discount; has the expense been accounted for from the budget; and are the vehicles electric. City Manager Osorio replied and confirmed that the information was correct, we are getting the very best price out of the Sourcewell contract; these are being replaced as part of our rotation program; as part of our budget process, we are putting money away in an equipment revolving fund for our depleted fleet; he then mentioned we currently do not have the capacity to test electric vehicles cars to be used as police cars.

**Public Speaker: Zahid Ahmed**, made suggestions with respect to the next purchase regarding specific fleet.

**It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, seconded by Council Member Francis, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Items 8.G and 8.H:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

10. **PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION ACTION SHEET – None**

## ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- (1) Genesis Coronado, Outreach Director for the LAUSD Redistricting Commission, shared background information as to the role of the LAUSD Redistricting Commission and the Opportunities for Engagement process.
- (2) Octavio Cesar Martinez, called in on behalf of Recicladores Unidos, a coalition he provided information about Metal Recycling and statistics.
- (3) Zahid Ahmed, recommended to rename 162<sup>nd</sup> Street (between Western and La Salle Ave.) to Martin Luther King Jr. Way in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Also recommended to build a library at Rowley Park.

## 11. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS - ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

### 11.A Approval of Blanket Purchase Orders for Fiscal Year 2021-2022

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

Council Member Henderson asked for clarification of the dollar amounts that can be approved under this Blanket Purchase Order. City Manager Osorio stated that any purchase under \$30,000, he would be able to approve and any purchase over \$30,000 would require Council approval. City Manager Osorio then explained the line items and dollar amounts that were questioned on the warrant register.

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

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

### 11.B Issuance and Sale of Lease Revenue Bonds to Finance a Portion of the Costs of the New Gardena Community Aquatic & Senior Center, to Finance the Costs of Acquiring and Renovating an Existing Building to be Converted Into a New Community Center and to Finance Various Park Improvements, Approving The Form and Authorizing Execution of Related Documents and Approving Related Official Actions

- a. PUBLIC HEARING: RESOLUTION 6529, Approving Proceedings by the City of Gardena Financing Agency for the Issuance and Sale of Lease Revenue Bonds to Finance a Portion of the Costs of the New Gardena Community Aquatic & Senior Center, to Finance the Costs of Acquiring and Renovating an Existing Building to be Converted Into a New Community Center and to Finance Various Park Improvements, Approving The Form and Authorizing Execution of Related Documents and Approving Related Official Actions

RESOLUTION NO. 6529

RESOLUTION APPROVING PROCEEDINGS BY THE CITY OF GARDENA FINANCING AGENCY FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF LEASE REVENUE BONDS TO FINANCE A PORTION OF THE COSTS OF THE NEW GARDENA COMMUNITY AQUATIC & SENIOR CENTER, TO FINANCE THE COSTS OF ACQUIRING AND RENOVATING AN EXISTING BUILDING TO BE CONVERTED INTO A NEW COMMUNITY CENTER AND TO FINANCE VARIOUS PARK IMPROVEMENTS, APPROVING THE FORM AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF RELATED DOCUMENTS AND APPROVING RELATED OFFICIAL ACTIONS

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

Mark Young gave a PowerPoint presentation.

Mayor Cerda opened the Public Hearing at 9:22 p.m. and asked if there were any comments from the public.

There was a discussion after Mr. Young's presentation regarding how fast our bonds will sell in the market and how important it is to have the credit rating of AA- that we worked so hard for and have established, especially when these bonds go public. Mr. Young continued to explain and gave history of what the City of Gardena had done in the past and how COVID affected our revenue stream on so many levels. He continued to say what made perfect sense in 2018/19 did not necessarily go so well in 2020/21. He continued to answer all of Council's questions and further explained the issuance and sale of the lease revenue bonds and what projects they were going to finance.

**Public Speakers:** Zahid Ahmed was in favor of the 2.05% interest rate the City obtained on the bond and asked a number of questions which Mr. Young replied.

Being there were no further comments; Mayor Cerda closed the Public Hearing at 9:50 p.m.

**It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, seconded by Council Member Kaskanian, and carried by the following roll call vote to adopt Resolution No. 6529:**

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

**Noes:** None

**Absent:** None

- b. RESOLUTION 6528, Resolution Amending Certain 2017 Lease Financing Documents to Provide for the Substitution of the Property and Authorizing and Directing Certain Actions Relating Thereto

RESOLUTION NO. 6528

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA AMENDING CERTAIN 2017 LEASE FINANCING DOCUMENTS TO PROVIDE FOR THE SUBSTITUTION OF THE PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING CERTAIN ACTIONS RELATING THERETO

**It was moved by Council Member Henderson, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, and carried by the following roll call vote to Adopt Resolution No. 6528:**

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

**\*\*\* At 9:52 p.m. Mayor Cerda Recessed the City Council Meeting for the meeting of the GARDENA FINANCING AGENCY. \*\*\***

**\*\*\* Mayor Cerda Reconvened the REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING at 9:55 p.m. \*\*\***

11.C PUBLIC HEARING: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Plans and Reports to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)q1

- a. Five-Year Consolidated Plan 2021-2025 and Action Plan for FY 2021-2022  
b. Action Plan for FY 2020-2021

City Manager Osorio presented Staff Report.

Mayor Cerda opened the Public Hearing at 9:59 p.m. and asked if there were any comments from the public.

Being there was none; Mayor Cerda closed the Public Hearing at 10:00 p.m.

**It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, seconded by Council Member Kaskanian, and carried by the following roll call vote to Conduct Public Hearing and Approve Five-Year Consolidated Plan 2021-2025 and Action Plan FY 2021-2022; and Approve Action Plan for FY 2020-2021:**

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

11.D Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2020

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

**Received and Filed**

**12. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

12.A PUBLIC HEARING: RESOLUTION NO. 6527, Approving Conditional Use Permit

#4-21 to Allow a Towing Company and Associated Outdoor Storage in the Industrial (M-1) Zone and Direction to Staff to File a Notice of Exemption Following a Call for Review.

**Applicant: Rajpal Dhillon**

**Location: 1638 W. 130th Street**

RESOLUTION NO. 6527

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, UPHOLDING THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION'S DECISION AND APPROVING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT #4-21 TO ALLOW A TOWING COMPANY AND ASSOCIATED OUTDOOR STORAGE IN THE INDUSTRIAL (M-1) ZONE AND DIRECT STAFF TO FILE A NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

(1638 WEST 130 STREET) (APN # 6113-002-018)

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

Senior Planner Amanda Acuna gave the Power Point presentation.

Applicant Rajpal Dhillon was available for any questions.

Mayor Cerda opened the Public Hearing at 10:14 p.m. and asked if there were any comments from the public.

There was a discussion regarding the 20 foot setback to start from the beginning of the front property line; the Applicant proposed a driveway gate 10 feet back from the property line, staff felt that was not adequate space, as conditioned, the Applicant will provide the 20 feet setback. Being no gate at the beginning.

**Public Speakers:**

Email correspondence read by Senior Planner Amanda Acuna; Steven Prisk which stated "1638 W. 130th Street. Parking in this area is very congested, both sides of the streets are always completely full. I disagree with allowing this permit unless it is guaranteed that any parking they will need, can be had on that premises. As it was a requirement with everyone else in this area. Thank you". It was then discussed if the project will be meeting the offstreet minimum requirements; and that the lot size is 20,000 square feet and combined 35 cars parked inside and 8 outside; and that this facility will be used as an impound for our Police Department. There was a requirement that the towing facility must be housed in Gardena. Mayor Pro Tem stated that he received correspondence regarding off street parking. He continued to say that no towed or parked cars relating to the business should be parked on that street. The Applicant spoke and explained his plans for the new facility; he answered all of Council's questions.

Zahid Ahmed spoke and brought up his concerns regarding the facility.

There was no further comment; Mayor Cerda closed the Public Hearing at 10:44 p.m.

**It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, seconded by Council Member Henderson, and carried by the following roll call vote to Adopt Resolution No. 6527 and Approve Conditional Use Permit #4-21:**

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

**Noes: Council Member Kaskanian**

**Absent: None**

**13. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS - ELECTED & ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES**

13.A COVID-19 Update

City Manager Osorio presented the update.

Council had questioned which City Manager Osorio answered.

**14. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS – POLICE - *No Items***

**15. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS - PUBLIC WORKS - *No Items***

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

**17. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS – TRANSPORTATION - *No Items***

## 18. COUNCIL ITEMS

- 18.A Designation of Voting Delegate / Representative for The League of California Cities Annual Conference & Expo - September 22-24, 2021

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

**It was moved by Council Member Francis, seconded by Council Member Henderson, and carried by the following roll call vote to Designate Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka as the Voting Delegate:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

## 19. COUNCIL DIRECTIVES

Council Member Francis

1. Requested that a letter be sent to Sacramento regarding SB9 & SB10. City Attorney Vasquez reminded Council Member Francis that a letter was sent in conjunction with the South Bay Cities Council of Governments which all the Council signed.
2. If we could put the LAUSD Redistricting information could be put on our website; Council Member Henderson seconded it.

Mayor Cerda

1. Look into the items that are Called for Review; if we could start getting a second on them. Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka seconded it.

## 20. 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 - Gardena Economic Business Advisory Committee regarding materials and information on Cannabis Businesses.
2. City of Gardena 18th Annual Jazz Festival, Sunday, August 22, 2021. Taking place at Rowley Park 13220 S. Van Ness Ave; Gates open at 9:00 a.m.
3. Flyer - Reporting Aircraft Noise Complaints. Submit your concern by calling 424- 307- 1810 or email [outreach@jetcenterla.com](mailto:outreach@jetcenterla.com).
4. Invitation to the Community to participate in the Community Clean-Up Day - 21st Annual "Keep Gardena Beautiful Day", Saturday, September 18, 2021; 8:00 a.m. - Noon. Register online at [www.cityofgardena.org/events](http://www.cityofgardena.org/events). To receive a volunteer shirt, please register by Wednesday, September 1, 2021. Sponsorship opportunities available.

5. In conjunction with Community Clean-Up Day Bring your Bulk-Items for Free Disposal, Saturday, September 18, 2021; 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at Rowley Park.
6. City of Gardena Senior Labor Day BBQ, Friday, September 10, 2021; 12 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Outdoors on the City Hall Complex Lawn. Pre-Registration is required. Seniors 60+ only. Contact the Senior Bureau at (310)217-9552.
7. Video - City of Gardena National Night Out 2021.
8. Two employees were recognized for their promotions: Alex Pinto and Khoi Quach.

## **21. COUNCIL REMARKS**

1. COUNCIL MEMBER HENDERSON – Since the last meeting Council Member Henderson attended, National Night Out and the Biz Fed Broadband Discussion Meeting. Lastly, Council Member Henderson congratulated Khoi and Alex on their promotions.
2. COUNCIL MEMBER FRANCIS – Since the last meeting Council Member Francis attended, National Night Out, Supervisor Holly Mitchell Town Hall on “Breaking the Cycle of Poverty with Guaranteed Basic Income”, Measure J Advisory Committee update meeting, and Virtual Townhall Meeting on Proposition SB 9 and 10. Council Member Francis shared August is “Welcome Back to School” month also mentioned the Masao W. Satow Library is now open. Council Member Francis congratulated Ray Beeman for being awarded, Alex for being promoted, Khoi for being promoted as well and thanked City Clerk Mina Semenza for a great presentation on the upcoming Election. She also announced “Keep Gardena Beautiful Day” is coming soon and encouraged everyone to sign up and participate. Lastly, encouraged everyone to wear a mask and socially distance.
3. MAYOR PRO TEM TANAKA – Thanked District 3 for stopping by and saying “hi” during their bike time. Since the last meeting he attended National Night Out, met with the Mayor of Lomita, COG Steering Committee Meeting, COG Strategic Planning Meeting in El Segundo. Council Member Tanaka shared he received a notice stating it will be mandatory for Teachers to get vaccinated. Congratulated staff for the awards received and Khoi and Alex for their promotions.
4. MAYOR CERDA – Since the last meeting Mayor Cerda attended National Night Out, LA County Lifeguards Ceremony in Redondo Beach, was a speaker at the Susan B. Komen walk, funeral services for Louis Fuller who lived in Gardena and CERT meeting. Lastly, Mayor Cerda encouraged everyone to get vaccinated.
5. COUNCIL MEMBER KASKANIAN – Encouraged everyone to get vaccinated. Since the last meeting, Council Member Kaskanian attended National Night Out. Congratulated Khoi and Alex on their promotions. He also met with Good Food and Kings Foods and both companies will be donating non-perishable food items to our food pantry.

22. ANNOUNCEMENT(S) – They were announced during City Manager Remarks.

23. REMEMBRANCES

Bernard Lax, 64 years of age. Founder, owner, and CEO of Pulp Studio in Gardena. He was also a board member of the Gardena Police Foundation. He is survived by his wife Lynda and son Taylor.

24. ADJOURNMENT

At 11:33 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, September 14, 2021.

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