CITY OF PASADENA
JOINT MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND/OR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
PASADENA CITY HALL
100 NORTH GARFIELD AVENUE
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER S249
APRIL 29, 2024
SPECIAL MEETING

OPENING Chair Gordo called the special Joint Meeting of the Finance Committee/And/or City Council to order at 2:08 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Victor M. Gordo (Chair)
Vice Mayor Steve Madison (Arrived at 3:30 p.m.)
Councilmember Tyron Hampton (Arrived at 2:58 p.m.)
Councilmember Justin Jones
Councilmember Jason Lyon
Councilmember Gene Masuda
Councilmember Jess Rivas (Arrived at 2:18 p.m.)
Councilmember Felicia Williams

Staff:

Miguel Márquez, City Manager
Brenda Harvey-Williams, Assistant City Manger
Javan Rad, Chief Assistant City Attorney
Matthew Hawkesworth, Acting Assistant City Manager/ Director of Finance
Tony Olmos, Director of Public Works
David Reyes, Acting General Manager Water & Power
Kris Markarian, Deputy Public Works Director/City Engineer
Denise Garcia, Acting Management Analyst IV
Joaquin Siques, Director of Transportation
Sebastian Hernández, Principal Planner
Jonathan Lung, Acting Chief Information Officer Technology
Phillip LeClair, Acting Director of Rent Stabilization Department
Richard Yee, Principal Engineer
Nadar Asmar, Principal Engineer
Gary Takara, Engineering Manager
Elena Chamorro, Principal Financial Rate Analyst
Jermey Marquette, Assistant General Manager Customer Service and Technology
Stacy Jacobson, Financial Rate Analyst
Brad Boman, Engineering Manager
Kelly Nguyen, Assistant General Manager
Lynne Chaimowitz, Assistant General Manager
Stacie Takeuchi, Assistant General Manager
Art Silva, Power Plant Manager

Melissa Gray, Management Analyst IV
Varoojan Avedian, Power Engineering Manager
Michael Go, Management Analyst
Phyllis Hallowell, Acting Assistant to the City Manager
Ozzie Aranda, Management Analyst II
Gloria Acevedo, Recording Secretary

Guests:

Michael Ross, Chief Executive Officer, Pasadena Center Operating Company
Jens Weiden, Chief Executive Officer/General Manager, Rose Bowl Operating Company
Derek Doolittle, Assistant General Manager, Rose Bowl Operating Company

NEW BUSINESS:

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED FISCAL YEAR 2025-2029 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BUDGET

PUBLIC WORKS

Tony Olmos, Director of Public Works, introduced a PowerPoint presentation and introduced Kris Markarian, Deputy Public Works Director/City Engineer who continued the PowerPoint presentation and responded to questions.

The following individual provided a comment/suggestion the matter.

> Nina Chomsky, representing the Linda Vista-Annandale Association spoke on the need for shade structures at all parks, item A (5) of the agenda.

Chair Gordo suggested for staff to prioritize the installation of shade structures at all parks prior to 2029 and the swimming pool expansion at the Villa Parke Community Center, which is the center with the highest number of visitors. Staff will work to seek grant opportunities for the installation of shade structures. On the Villa Parke swimming pool project, staff will first study the use of the pool after the completion of the Americans with Disabilities Act improvements. Chair Gordo also asked City staff to meet with the City Council and create a process to fund long-term Capital Improvement Projects such as infrastructure needs. In particular fire stations, sidewalk and road repairs, and sewer and water.

Councilmember Jones inquired about the feasibility to include audio and visual equipment to the project at the Jackie Robinson Center in order to promote the use of the space and if portable speakers are available as a short-term solution. Ms. Markarian stated that few dollars were allocated to that category; however, an earmark request of $1.8 million

was submitted to the office of Judy Chu, Unites States Representative, for consideration of several projects, where audio-visual installations could be feasible.

Councilmember Masuda inquired about the remaining funds available for sidewalk repairs after the completion of 127,00 feet of repairs and thanked Miguel Márquez, City Manager, for his commitment to the median enhancement project along Sierra Madre Boulevard.

Councilmember Rivas emphasized the importance of community outreach when completing projects at Washington Park.

Councilmember Lyon asked for park shades to be funded as quickly as possible and if there were any space opportunities for the installation of basketball and pickle ball courts at Brookside Park.

Councilmember Hampton asked if City staff had given any thought to bringing in small businesses to assist with palm fronds clean-up during the winter to speed up the removal process. Mr. Olmos stated that staff is working on developing a system to remove debris quickly following weather related events.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Chair Gordo introduced the item and Nader Asmar, Principal Engineer, presented a PowerPoint presentation and responded to questions.

Councilmember Jones inquired about the installation of safety measures at the intersection of Lincoln Avenue and Orange Grove Boulevard. Mr. Asmar shared that both locations fall under the traffic investigation fund.

Councilmember Hampton requested for the addition of a crosswalk at the intersection of Rosemont Avenue and Seco Street while a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is implemented, given it is the largest access point to the Rose Bowl, yet lacks safe pedestrian access.

Councilmember Rivas shared her support for the two-way traffic conversion on Mentor Avenue from Colorado Boulevard and Walnut Street, pedestrian safety is huge concern. Mr. Nadar shared that staff is actively seeking funding for this project. Councilmember Hampton added that staff should investigate temporary measures while funding is secured.

Councilmember Masuda inquired about the work at Orange Grove Boulevard and Sunnyslope Avenue and Orange Grove Boulevard and Craig Street. He also expressed concern about the low emitting light at the crosswalk across the Lamanda Park Library.

Vice Mayor Madison suggested for staff to recognize the impact of future 710 stub projects on CIP projects and to remain focused on how projects will affect climate change.

The following individuals provided comments/suggestions regarding the matter (comment heard inadvertently during the presentation for Public Works).

> Patricia Barajas Tavera, representing the Playhouse Village Foundation and Philip Hawkey from the Playhouse Village spoke in support for the transformation of Mentor Street from a one-way to a two-way street.

Gloria Acevedo, Recording Secretary, reported that three letters providing support for item B (1) of the agenda (converting Mentor Street into a two-way street) were received, shared with the Committee, posted on-line, and made part of the public record for the item.

Chair Gordo requested for staff to provide the Finance Committee with the planning schedule for projects that are in the queue and emphasized the importance of outreach efforts to residents and businesses.

PASADENA WATER AND POWER

Chair Gordo introduced the item and David Reyes, Acting General Manager, introduced Lynne Chaimowitz, Assistant General Manager, who provided a PowerPoint presentation and responded to questions.

Councilmember Jones suggested for staff to identify the projects that will have a significant contribution to meeting the carbon free by 2030 goal. Councilmember Hampton echoed the suggestion. Councilmember Jones also asked if the Electric Vehicle purchases referenced were zero emission vehicles. Mr. Reyes responded that they were and added that staff is working on creating a policy for electric vehicle purchases.

Councilmember Hampton asked staff to review the construction notice notification process, he suggested sending out post cards to avoid residents treating the letter as junk mail. He also inquired about the adequate infrastructure needed at City facilities to support the electric vehicle rollout.

Councilmember Lyon requested for the department to coordinate large water main replacement paving work with the Public Works Department in order to restore streets at a faster pace.

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Chair Gordo introduced the item and Jonathan Lung, Acting Chief Information Officer Technology, provided a PowerPoint presentation and responded to questions.

Councilmember Hampton suggested for staff to collaborate with the Rose Bowl Operating Company (RBOC) in the installation of Wi-Fi throughout the property to enhance the user experience, for all City vehicles to be equipped with dash cam that could self-report incidents, and for the monitoring of camera recordings at parks with historical events in order to ensure park safety for patrons.

Councilmember Jones suggested that there should be a policy for the use of ChatGPT.

Chair Gordo placed emphasis on possible cost sharing for the carriers that will benefit from the use of the infrastructure at the RBOC.

PASADENA CENTER OPERATING COMPANY IMPROVEMENTS

Michael Ross, Chief Executive Officer, Pasadena Center Operating Company, provided a PowerPoint presentation.

ROSE BOWL OPERATING COMPANY IMPROVEMENTS

Jens Weiden, Chief Executive Officer/General Manager, Rose Bowl Operating Company, provided an outline of the agenda item and introduced Derek Doolittle, Chief Operations Officer, Rose Bowl Operating Company, who provided a PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Weiden responded to questions.

Councilmember Hampton inquired about automated lighting, seating upgrades, tree plantings, and if part of the agreement with Troon Golf, LLC (Troon) is tied to investing in family golf. Councilmember Hampton emphasized the need to communicate with the residents on the regarding the addition of family golf. Mr. Weiden responded that Troon will invest $3.5 million on family golf if the project moves forward and $1 million in the property upon execution of the contract.

The following individuals provided comments/suggestions on the matter.

> Nina Chomsky, representing the Linda Vista-Annandale Association and Pete Ewing from the West Pasadena Residents Association spoke on their concern for the financial approach to the implementation of family golf at the Rose Bowl.

Mr. Weiden shared that there is no fund allocation set for family golf in the current budget and that the first conversation with the community will begin in June of 2024, the Rose Bowl Operating Company (RBOC) is committed to public outreach.

Chair Gordo asked the RBOC staff to look at making substantial renovations to the Clubhouse as in addition to serving the City, it also serves the region. Councilmember Hampton echoed, Chair Gordo's request.

Vice mayor Madison inquired on when the RBOC will return to the City Council to discuss family golf. Mr. Weiden responded that it would be after the June community meeting.

Councilmember Williams asked the RBOC staff to prepare to discuss the Troon agreement at the City Council RBOC Budget presentation.

Chair Gordo congratulated Mr. Weiden on the management agreement with Troon.

Following a brief discussion, on the order of the Chair and consensus of the Committee, The presentation was moved to the April 29, 2024, City Council Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: On the order of the Chair, the special meeting of the Joint Meeting of the Finance Committee And/or City Council was adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

ATTEST:

Victor M. Gordo

Mayor Victor Gordo, Chair
Finance Committee/City Council

Gloria Acevedo

Gloria Acevedo
Recording Secretary