CITY OF PASADENA
FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES
PASADENA CITY HALL
100 NORTH GARFIELD AVENUE
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER S249
FEBRUARY 24, 2025
REGULAR MEETING

OPENING Chair Gordo called the regular meeting of the Finance Committee to order at 4:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Victor M. Gordo (Chair)
Councilmember Rick Cole
Councilmember Tyron Hampton (arrived at 4:25 p.m.)
Councilmember Gene Masuda

Staff: Miguel Márquez, City Manager
Matthew Hawkesworth, Acting Assistant City Manager/Director of Finance
Arnold Lee, Chief Assistant City Attorney
Phyllis Hallowell, Management Analyst V
Jim Wong, Acting Director of Housing
Gloria Acevedo, Recording Secretary
David Klug, Economic Development Director
Flora Karmiryan, Principal Admin Analyst

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: It was moved by Councilmember Masuda, seconded by Councilmember Cole, to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2025, Special Finance (Motion Unanimously carried) (Absent: Councilmember Hampton).

NEW BUSINESS: **APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO FISCAL YEAR 2025 ADOPTED OPERATING BUDGET**

Chair Gordo introduced the item and Matthew Hawkesworth, Acting Assistant City Manager/Director of Finance, introduced Flora Karmiryan, Principal Admin Analyst, who responded to questions.

Councilmember Cole shared that trees are a cost-effective investment, given they absorb carbon and reduce summer heat in homes, which in turn reduces the City's need to generate more power. Mr. Cole recommended the addition of $80,000 to the proposed $70,000 budget increase, to allow for the planting of an additional 600 trees, bringing the total amendment for this line item to $150,000.

Councilmember Masuda asked for the number of trees that were planted by Pasadena Beautiful, as they planted several trees in District Four. Mr. Hawkesworth will follow up with a response.

Miguel Márquez, City Manager, informed the Committee that in the last 11 fiscal years, the City has planted 6,557 trees and removed 5,166 trees, indicating that generally the City plants more trees than it removes.

Chair Gordo requested for staff to provide an analysis on the reasons the City loses trees.

Recording Secretary, Gloria Acevedo informed the Committee that there were two supplemental correspondences for items not on the agenda that were related to the Pasadena Rental Housing Board. The items were distributed to the Finance Committee and posted online.

The following individual provided a comment/suggestion on the matter.

> Flavio Andrade, representing the Brown & Black Foundation agreed with the Committee regarding the planting of more trees and requested for trees to be planted in all council districts.

Councilmember Hampton shared that the City uses heat maps to determine where to plant trees in hot spots that include areas in Districts 1, 3, 5. Councilmember Hampton is interested in reviewing any maps that the Public Works Department may maintain.

Chair Gordo reminded the Committee that the item is referencing the tree replacement program and would like to hear from the Municipal Services Committee (MSC) if there are areas within the City where future tree investments can be made, particularly using the City's heat map. Future partnership with Pasadena Beautiful should be explored through MSC.

Councilmember Cole suggested for the City to update its Street Tree Masterplan, keeping in mind the focus on shade trees, native trees, and the reduction in planting palm and eucalyptus trees since they are more susceptible to fires.

It was moved by Councilmember Cole with the recommendation to increase the tree planting budget to $150,000 instead of the proposed $70,000, seconded by Councilmember Masuda, to approve staff's recommendation and forward the item to the City Council for consideration. (Motion Unanimously carried) (Absent: None)

ADJOURNMENT: On the order of the Chair, the regular meeting of the Finance Committee was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor Victor Gordo, Chair
Finance Committee

Gloria Acevedo
Recording Secretary