CITY OF PASADENA
MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES
PASADENA CITY HALL
100 NORTH GARFIELD AVENUE
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER S249
DECEMBER 8, 2025
SPECIAL MEETING

OPENING Chair Gordo called the special Meeting of the Finance Committee to order at 3:07 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Victor M. Gordo (Chair)
Councilmember Rick Cole
Councilmember Tyron Hampton (Arrived at 3:28 p.m.)
Councilmember Gene Masuda

Staff: Brenda Harvey-Williams, Assistant City Manager
Matthew Hawkesworth, Assistant City Manager
Karin Schnaider, Director of Finance
Arnold Lee, Chief Assistant City Attorney
James Wong, Housing Director
Jennifer O'Oreilly-Jones, Program Coordinator III
Anne Lansing, Housing Assistance Officer
Joaquin Siques, Director of Transportation
Jenny Cristales-Cevallos, Deputy Director of Transportation
Donson, Liu, Engineer
Tim Park, Budget Administrator
Byanca Banaga, Senior Administrative Analyst
Manuel Carmona, Director of Public Health
Gloria Acevedo, Recording Secretary

Special Introduction: Brenda Harve-Williams, Assistant City Manager, introduced, Karin Schnaider, the new Director of Finance.

NEW BUSINESS: **AMEND THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT'S FISCAL YEAR 2026 OPERATING BUDGET BY APPROPRIATING $240,860 IN THE GENERAL FUND FOR THE RENOVATION OF THE BAD WEATHER SHELTER; AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO AMEND CONTRACT NO. 24069 WITH THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES AND AMEND CONTRACT NO. 32848 WITH TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH TO UPDATE THE RESPECTIVE SCOPES OF WORK AND BUDGETS**

Chair Gordo announced the item and James Wong, Housing Director, provided a PowerPoint presentation and responded to questions.

Councilmember Cole expressed his concern with the approval process for getting the kitchen approved for preparing meals, including the cost, and his concern with the requirements imposed by the Pasadena Health Department. He recommends revisiting the requirements to explore any flexible options to expediate the building of the kitchen.

Chair Gordo reminded the Committee that some City regulations are imposed by the State or the County and are related to life safety. He suggested for staff to explore the level of safety related to the building out of the kitchen and bring the assessment back to the City Council.

Councilmember Masuda asked where additional funding for this project would come from and shared this is a project that the City Council supports. Mr. Wong shared that funding could come from the General Fund, the State, or the County.

Chair Gordo shared that policies are applied evenly and equally across all City Departments. He also suggested to agendize the City providing a permanent bad weather shelter.

It was moved by Councilmember Masuda, seconded by Councilmember Cole, to approve staff's recommendation and forward the item to the City Council for consideration. (Motion Unanimously carried) (Absent: None)

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ALL AGREEMENTS WITH THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (METRO) TO ACCEPT $7,412,039 OF MEASURE M MULTI-YEAR SUBREGIONAL PROGRAM (MSP) FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 27- 28

Chair Gordo introduced the item and Jenny Cristales-Cevallos, Deputy Director of Transportation, provided a brief overview and introduced Donson, Liu, Engineer, who provided a PowerPoint Presentation and responded to questions.

Councilmember Cole inquired about how the City's share of Measure M funds was calculated, how the list of projects was established, and if the project list had been approved by the City Council, along with when the item is expected to return to the City Council. Ms. Cristales-Cevallos stated that the funding allocated to the City was a share of the $23 million allocated to the region, the project list was approved by the City Council, and that the project list is taken to the City Council every two years, although staff begins to build the list one year prior.

Councilmember Masuda asked staff to name the department's largest bus project. Ms. Cristales-Cevallos stated that the largest project is the

17-hydrogen fuel bus purchase, this action will cover $2.7 million dollars of the $32 million-dollar bus project cost.

Councilmember Hampton thanked staff for their work and asked for the installation location of the two Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons (HAWKs). Staff shared that the installation of the HAWKs will be at Lincoln Avenue at Toolen Place and at Lake Avenue at Elizabeth Street. Councilmember Hampton also asked staff if this project will include the maintenance of the bus stops, including the power washing. Ms. Cristales-Cevallos shared that the project only lists bus stop amenities, and she will provide an update on what tasks are covered under the separate maintenance contract.

Chair Gordo concurred with Councilmember's Hampton's question on who is providing power wash services for bus stops and asked staff to confirm with METRO who is responsible for the maintenance of the City's bus stops.

It was moved by Councilmember Hampton, seconded by Councilmember Masuda, to approve staff's recommendation and forward the item to the City Council for consideration. (Motion unanimously carried) (Absent: None)

APPROVE OPTIONS FOR UTILIZING THE SECTION 115 PENSION TRUST AND INITIATING A FRESH START WITH CALPERS

Chair Gordo introduced the item and Matthew Hawkesworth, Assistant City Manager, who provided a PowerPoint Presentation and responded to questions.

Chair Gordo asked for an explanation between the classic employee's contributions and the Public Employees' Pension Reform Act (PEPRA) members contributions and how they affect pension liabilities. Mr. Hawkesworth shared that PEPRA members pay more while working and after 14 years from inception, the formula is providing positive results.

Councilmember Cole asked why staff proposed to buy down only $7 million of the nearly $14.9 million available in the Section 115 Trust. Mr. Hawkesworth stated that the plan to make an additional discretionary payment of $7 million this year and pay down $3, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2027, followed by $2 million in FY 2028, and a final payment in FY 2029 of $1 million annually will allow the City the flexibility to change course, if necessary.

It was moved by Councilmember Hampton, seconded by Councilmember Cole, to approve staff's recommendation and forward

the item to the City Council for consideration. (Motion Unanimously carried) (Absent: None)

AMENDMENT TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 GENERAL FEE SCHEDULE

Chair Gordo introduced the item and Manuel Carmona, Director of Public Health, responded to questions.

Councilmember Hampton asked for the feasibility to waive the new annual backflow device fee for two years for homes affected by the Eaton Fire. The request will formally return to the Finance Committee for consideration.

Chair Gordo inquired about the function of an indoor backflow device. Mr. Carmona shared it was tied to the fire sprinkler systems and keeps non potable water separate from potable water.

It was moved by Councilmember Cole, seconded by Councilmember Hampton, 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 special meeting of the meeting of the Finance Committee was adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

ATTEST:

Victor M. Gordo

Mayor Victor M. Gordo, Chair
Finance Committee

Gloria Acevedo

Gloria Acevedo
Recording Secretary