

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
THE LEMON GROVE CITY COUNCIL**

February 16, 2016

The City Council also sits as the Lemon Grove Housing Authority, Lemon Grove Sanitation District Board, Lemon Grove Roadway Lighting District Board, and Lemon Grove Successor Agency

Call to Order

Members present: Mayor Mary Sessom, Mayor Pro Tem George Gastil, Councilmember Jerry Jones, and Councilmember Racquel Vasquez.

Members absent: Councilmember Jennifer Mendoza (arrived at 6:07 p.m.)

City Staff present: Lydia Romero, City Manager; Dave DeVries, Acting Development Services Director; Miranda Evans, Assistant Planner; James P. Lough, City Attorney; Mike James, Public Works Director; Lt. May, Sheriff's Department; Gilbert Rojas, Interim Finance Director; and Steve Swaney, Division Fire Chief.

Public Comment

John L. Wood commented on HWY 94 and Massachusetts construction signs are still up.

Helen Ofield, speaking for the Board of the Lemon Grove Historical Society commented that at the end of March they will sponsor Vietnam Remembered.

1. Consent Calendar

A. Approval of City Council Minutes

February 2, 2016 Regular Meeting

B. Ratification of Payment Demands

C. Waive Full Text Reading of All Ordinances and Resolutions on the Agenda

Action: Motion by Councilmember Mayor Pro Tem Gastil, seconded by Councilmember Vasquez, to approve the Consent Calendar passed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Gastil, Jones, Vasquez

Absent: Mendoza

Abstain: Sessom

2. A. General Plan Update Public Outreach Summary and Draft Considerations

Dave DeVries, reported that the City Council recently identified an update to the Lemon Grove General Plan as a priority goal in FY15-16. The City Council contracted with the Cal Poly San Luis Obispo (SLO) Master in City & Regional Planning (MCRP) Design Studio on August 4, 2015 to provide public outreach, analyze the existing General Plan, prepare a community profile, and draft a General Plan Update. Subsequently, the City Council formed a 14 member adhoc focus group to advise city staff and the SLO Design Studio on its efforts with the General Plan outreach and assisted with identifying issues and opportunities.

During January 2016, in order to build on the efforts of the SLO Design Studio, City staff contracted with CityPlace Planning and Circulate San Diego to lead community workshops related to the General Plan and assist in the review of the SLO Design Studio's draft General Plan. CityPlace Planning prepared the City's 2014 Health & Wellness Element and the city of Vista's General Plan which was adopted in 2012. Circulate San Diego is known as regional advisors on street design, complete streets, and circulation.

The City's current General Plan was adopted in 1996. Subsequently, the City has adopted the 2001 Broadway Commercial Project Specific Plan, the 2005 Downtown Village Specific Plan, the 2006 Bikeways Master Plan, the 2010-2020 Housing Element and the 2014 Health & Wellness Element. A General Plan serves as the blueprint for the city's future and provides a vision for the community. There are seven mandatory elements and the state has guidelines and mandates related to the adoption of General Plans. The following provides further detail on the timeline for adoption of the General Plan Update:

- September to December 2015 – Community outreach conducted by (SLO) Design Studio (completed)
- October 2015 to June 2016 – Coordination with General Plan focus group members
- Thursday January 21, 2016 at 7pm – Community Workshop 1 on community design and economic development by CityPlace Planning (completed)
- Saturday January 30, 2016 at 9am – Community Workshop 2 on street development and circulation by Circulate San Diego (completed)
- Tuesday February 16, 2016 at regularly scheduled City Council meeting – Public hearing overview of community outreach and review of draft considerations.
- March 2016 – Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for consultants to prepare EIR. Contract awarded.
- February to June 2016 – General Plan Update drafted by SLO Design Studio in coordination with city staff, CityPlace Planning, and Circulate San Diego. Additional contract work will be required after the SLO Design Studio team provides their final deliverables.
- June 2016 – Public hearing to review draft to City Council. Public Noticing commences.
- July 2016 – Public hearing to review revised final draft to Council. CEQA and State Clearinghouse noticing process commences.
- October 2016 – City Council adopts General Plan Update and certifies final EIR.

Mr. DeVries noted that Rick Engineering Company has been contracted to prepare an expanded Downtown Village Specific Plan and will include traffic and land use analysis of the expanded downtown area. The preparation of the background report and technical analysis has commenced and public outreach is expected to begin in March 2016. Staff intends to make the expanded Downtown Village Specific Plan area into a Special Treatment Area for the draft General Plan (placeholder) which will be replaced with the new Specific Plan with an expected adoption date in mid to late 2017.

The entire SLO Design Studio team led by Professor Kelly Main, Claudia Tedford, Principal with CityPlace Planning, and Brian Gaze, Director of Programs with Circulate San Diego have provided their attached summaries of their community outreach efforts and draft ideas for your consideration and are here to present their findings. Outreach was extensive and estimates show that over 1,000 community members were reached as a result of the outreach program which has resulted in over 450 completed community surveys.

Notifications were sent via listserve, newflash, and updates were posted on social media and the General Plan Update webpage. Focus group members and community workshop attendees were also notified.

Providing input from the SLO Design Studio, Focus Group members, the consultants, members of the community focus group are listed below:

Addison Hokhmah
Rose Kelly
Hannah Kornfeld
Jana Schwartz
Kai Lord-Farmer
Ellen Keating

Councilmember Vasquez excused herself from the City Council meeting.

Public Speaker(s)

The following members of the public spoke on the General Plan Update Public Outreach Summary and Draft Considerations:

Bob Jones
Tom Clabby
Frank Gormlie
John L. Wood

Feedback and direction was given from Council to Planning.

Action: Motion by Mayor Sessom, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gastil, to close the public hearing passed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Sessom, Gastil, Jones, Mendoza
Absent: Vasquez

City Council Oral Comments and Reports on Meetings Attended at the Expense of the City. (GC 53232.3 (d))

Councilmember Jones attended a SANDAG transportation committee meeting.

Councilmember Mendoza attended Assemblywoman Weber's State of the District Address, and SANDAG Regional Planning Committee Meeting, Lemon Grove Clergy Association, and Soroptimist of Lemon Grove meetings.

Councilmember Gastil attended the East County Chamber of Commerce Annual Gala and a MTS Board meeting.

Mayor Sessom attended recent SANDAG meetings.

Department Director Reports

Dave DeVries thanked City Council for their time this evening.

Gilbert Rojas, Interim Finance Director introduced himself.

Lydia Romero reported on a City Manager's conference she attended.

James Lough thanked City Council for treating his Deputy City Attorney well.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Housing Authority, Sanitation District Board, Lemon Grove Roadway Lighting District Board, and the Lemon Grove Successor Agency the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Susan Garcia

Susan Garcia, City Clerk