

**CITY OF SOUTH GATE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2019**

- CALL TO ORDER** Denise Diaz, Vice Mayor called a Regular City Council meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.
- INVOCATION** Council Member María Belén Bernal
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** William Ruiz, GEAR UP 4 LA Academic Advisor
- ROLL CALL** Carmen Avalos, City Clerk
- PRESENT** Vice Mayor Denise Diaz, Council Member Al Rios, Council Member Maria Davila and Council Member María Belén Bernal; City Treasurer Gregory Martinez, City Manager Mike Flad, City Attorney Raul F. Salinas
- 1 PROCLAMATIONS** The City Council presented a Proclamation declaring September 23 through 27, 2019, as National GEAR UP Week in the City of South Gate.
- 2 PROCLAMATIONS** The City Council presented a Proclamation declaring October 2, 2019 as “California Clean Air Day.”
- 3 PRESENTATIONS** The City Council presented a Certificate of Appreciation to South Gate resident Maribel Alvarez in recognition of her continued genuine care, generosity and heartwarming good deeds for her nearby neighbor.
- 4 PRESENTATIONS** The City Council presented Certificates of Appreciation to the Relay For Life of South Gate - Lynwood event leadership team and relay teams for their participation in this year’s cancer awareness fundraiser event held on July 20, 2019.
- DEVIATE FROM THE AGENDA** At this time, there being no objections, Vice Mayor Diaz stated that items 18 and 19 would be considered out of its regular agenda order.
- 18 CITY COUNCIL** The City Council approved Item A to accept applications to fill the City Council vacancy by motion of Council Member Davila and seconded by Council Member Bernal.
- a. Directed the City Clerk to accept applications, in a sealed envelope, from qualified residents interested to fill the City Council vacancy until October 7, 2019, to conduct a Special City

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CITY COUNCIL CONT'D

Council meeting on October 15, 2019, to interview, select and appoint a qualified resident to serve the remainder of the unexpired City Council Member's term until a new City Council Member is elected at the March 3, 2020, General Municipal Election, and installed, and administer the oath of office to the appointee at the regularly scheduled City Council meeting of October 22, 2019;
OR

- b. Directing staff and the City Clerk to conduct a Special Municipal Election within 120 days of the calling of a Special Municipal Election to fill said vacancy.

ROLL CALL: Vice Mayor Diaz, yes; Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Bernal, yes; Council Member Rios, yes.

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CITY COUNCIL

The City Council approved A and B.

- a. Re-organized by nominating and selecting a new Mayor and new Vice Mayor for a term expiring March 2020, the selection will be ratified by a majority vote of the City Council; and
- b. The Oath of Office was administered to the newly selected Mayor and Vice Mayor.

Vice Mayor Diaz motioned and Council Member Rios seconded to postpone selecting a new Mayor and new Vice Mayor until the appointment of a 5th Council Member.

ROLL CALL: Vice Mayor Diaz, yes; Council Member Davila, no; Council Member Bernal, no; Council Member Rios, yes.

Council Member Bernal was selected as Mayor for a term expiring March 2020 by motion of Vice Mayor Diaz and seconded by Council Member Davila.

ROLL CALL: Vice Mayor Diaz, yes; Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Bernal, abstain; Council Member Rios, yes.

RECESS

The City Council recessed at 9:09 p.m. and reconvened at 9:25 p.m., with all Members of Council present.

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5 GATEWAY SPECIFIC PLAN

The City Council conducted a Public Hearing to consider waiving the reading in full and introducing an Ordinance adding new Section 11.28.050 (Gateway District Specific Plan), to Chapter 11.28 (Specific Plans), of Title 11 (Zoning), of the South Gate Municipal Code amending the South Gate Zoning Map to include an overlay boundary designation for the Gateway District Specific Plan, and adopting the Initial Study and Negative Declaration in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act.

Council Member Davila motioned and Mayor Bernal seconded to continue this item to October 22nd.

Mike Flad, City Manager and Joe Perez, Director of Community Development, provided an overview on this item and stated that eminent domain is not a part on the Gateway District Specific Plan.

Mr. Perez introduced Patricia Anders and Christine Babla from AECOM to provide the presentation for the Gateway District Specific Plan.

Mayor Bernal opened the Public Hearing.

Bill De Witt, 5485 Gardendale Street, wanted to find out if there would be any adverse effects on property owners and their property would not be effected as long as operations are legal.

Mr. Perez stated that all of the existing property usage can operate there in perpetuity until such time that either they sell the property to be developed or develop the properties themselves to be consistent with the existing zoning. This would be considered legal non-conforming usage.

Mr. De Witt asked about the plans for Firestone Place and if it would lose access to Firestone Boulevard at the south end of Firestone Place.

Art Cervantes, Assistant City Manager/Director of Public Works, responded that yes it will still have access.

Mr. De Witt asked if the plan with Metro would include an elevated platform and how many tracks would go through.

Mr. Perez responded that there will be two tracks, one would be freight and one would be light rail. Freight would stay at grade and light would be elevated.

Fabiola Inzunza, 9542 Bowman Avenue, has concerns about connectivity of this projects to other areas of the City.

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GATEWAY SPECIFIC
PLAN CONT'D

Mr. Perez responded the plan does identifies many of the plans that we have in place which demonstrates that this just part of a much larger network of amenities and transportation corridors. A lot of the plan is conceptual but there are two sections of the plan that talk about affordable housing. Another part of the plan encourages developers to take advantage of the density bonus incentives. These are things that are already in place and we encourage developers to make a part of their developments.

Mayor Bernal closed the Public Hearing.

Council Member Rios and Mayor Bernal asked if Metro has the authority to enact eminent domain for the development of the project.

Mr. Flad responded that they do have the authority as the project continues if it is required for parking lots, transformers. At this time the rail lines are being built on the existing footprint. Metro will make a needs assessment on the property they are interested in and then that will be brought to Council.

Council Member Rios thought it would be a good idea to reach out to the City of Cudahy since they are our neighbors in this project.

Mr. Flad said he would do this.

Council Member Davila stated that during her Eco Rapid meetings they share information on what each City is doing.

Council Member Rios stated that there will be another stop in the Hollydale area and asked if we will have another General Plan for that area.

Mr. Flad answered that there is already a Plan in place for Hollydale but there has been a location change since the adoption.

Council Member Rios said that there is potential for a third stop at the Los Angeles River location on a separate line. This is currently being accepted by the County.

Council Member Davila asked to continue this Public Hearing because she would like time to meet with staff on some other issues. She suggested that staff arrange to meet with each Council Member to review the plan.

Mayor Bernal asked if the current zone for that area is all industrial.

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5 GATEWAY SPECIFIC PLAN CONT'D

Mr. Perez stated that it is not. There are three different zones and these zones will stay in place with this general plan.

Mayor Bernal asked if any comments were received.

Mr. Perez answered that the plan was put out for a public comment period and the negative declaration indicates that there are no significant effects to the environment. He also explained that the City held outreach meetings which were not conducted by Metro.

6 CDBG HOME

The City Council conducted a Public Hearing and adopted Resolution No. 7883 entitled – A Resolution of the City Council of City of South Gate receiving and approving the program year 2018-2019 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report and authorizing the execution of all necessary documents for submittal to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development by motion of Mayor Bernal and seconded by Vice Mayor Diaz.

Mike Flad, City Manager gave an overview of this item to the public and City Council.

Mayor Bernal opened the Public Hearing.

Fabiola Inzunza, 9542 Bowman Avenue, stated that she is a member of the Citizen's Advisory Board and suggested that when an item goes before Council that concerns CDBG funding a report should also be given to the Advisory Board.

Mayor Bernal asked what the standard practice is for getting information to the Advisory Board Members.

Joe Perez, Director of Community Development, answered that when we meet we do give updates on these reports but we can also provide more updates when there is not a meeting.

Council Member Rios has concerns that funding always seems to go to the same organizations and would like to see new organizations get some money.

Greg Martinez, City Treasurer, said that there was a Citizen's Advisory Meeting a few weeks ago but it was cancelled because of an issue here at City Hall.

Mr. Perez answered that this is correct. There was a public safety issue here in City Hall that caused us to cancel the meeting and reschedule.

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CDBG HOME CONT'D

Mr. Martinez commended Mr. Perez and staff for notifying the public and making sure the building was secure.

Mayor Bernal closed the Public Hearing.

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POLICE

The City Council conducted a Public Hearing and approved A, B, and C by motion of Council Member Davila and seconded by Council Member Rios.

- a. Authorized utilization of 2019 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Funds, in the amount of \$44,387 for the purchase of equipment for sworn personnel;
- b. Increased the Fiscal Year 2019/20 revenue projection in account 231-4620 (Police Grants - Edward Byrne Memorial Grant) by \$19,387, from \$25,000 to \$44,387; and
- c. Amended the Fiscal Year 2019/20 Police Grants Fund Budget by appropriating \$23,504 to account number 231-554-21-6203 for the purchase of bulletproof vests and helmets; \$15,231 to account number 231-554-21-6204 for radio communications and headsets; \$4,320 to account number 231-554-21-6101 for the Narcan Nasal Program administration fees; and \$1,332 to account number 231-554-21-6340 for the required 3% National Incident Based Reporting System allocation for the Police Department.

Mayor Bernal opened the Public Hearing. Seeing no one step forward; Mayor Bernal closed the audience portion.

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POLICE

The City Council conducted a Public Hearing and approved A, B, C, and D by motion of Council Member Rios and seconded by Council Member Davila

- a. Authorized utilization of the 2019 Selective Traffic Enforcement Program Grant Funds from the State of California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) for personnel overtime, equipment and training;
- b. Approved the Grant Agreement with the OTS, Grant Number PT20123;
- c. Authorized the Mayor to execute the Grant Agreement in a form acceptable to the City Attorney;

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POLICE CONT'D

- d. Increased the Fiscal Year 2019/20 revenue projection in Account No. 231-4624 (Police Grants - Office of Traffic Safety) by \$89,000 to \$149,895; and
- e. Amending the Fiscal Year 2019/20 Police Grants Fund budget by appropriating \$59,612 to Account No. 231-556-21-5111 for overtime; \$27,645 to Account No. 231-556-21-6204 for equipment; and \$1,743 in Account No. 231-556-21-6340 for training.

Mayor Bernal opened the Public Hearing. Seeing no one step forward; Mayor Bernal closed the audience portion.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Virginia Johnson, 5751 McKinley Avenue, has concerns regarding the behavior of some Council Members and Commissioners.

Lisa Baca, California Latino Leadership Institute, thanked City Council for the use of the City offices for the Civic Engagement Academy.

Melissa Alvarado, 10306 Hunt Avenue, announced that the South Gate Women's Club is hosting a fundraising luncheon at the Girls Clubhouse.

Steven Resendiz, 8929 Hildreth Avenue, spoke about the teen court program and he is also looking at starting a newspaper for teens.

Fabiola Inzunza, 9542 Bowman Avenue, would like to have all residents check their voter registration status at LAvote.net. On September 28th and 29th the county is hosting a mock election which makes it a great chance to check your registration. She spoke on the SCAG regional housing allocation meeting and SCAG is working out the methodology on numbers for housing for each City in the County.

Nick Godoy, 8611 San Gabriel Avenue, spoke on street vendors and illegal dumping of oil. He also stated that the sweepers are coming late.

REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Paul Adams, Parks and Recreation Director, stated that Speaker Rendon's office had planned a movie in the river for this Saturday but it was cancelled due to the possibility of rain and are planning for Saturday, October 5th.

Greg Martinez, City Treasurer, said the Tweedy Mile Back Pack Giveaway was a great event and the COG is hosting a homeless program on Friday, October 4th.

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REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

CONT'D

Carmen Avalos, City Clerk spoke about the mock election being held on September 28th and 29th. Ms. Avalos also reported on the candidate information session for people who are interested in running for office.

Mayor Bernal asked if Ms. Avalos could explain about how candidates can file for the next election and if anyone has filed to be a candidate.

Ms. Avalos stated that the candidate has to file a form 501 with the City Clerk's Office. This form does not state that you're a candidate but indicates your intention to file. Currently we have three people that have filed the form 501, Mr. Jose De La Paz, Ms. Melissa Alvarado and Mayor Bernal.

Council Member Davila attended the Career College meeting at the Auditorium which was hosted by Assembly Member Rendon.

Council Member Rios asked if we will be having a place to vote nearby.

Ms. Avalos responded that she has been advocating for a voting center to be in South Gate. The County uses our Park facilities extensively and as we continue to have vote centers it would be great for them to give us this opportunity to support our own community.

Council Member Rios stated that there is a Census Committee that will be happening around the same time as elections. With more information to come.

Vice Mayor Diaz attended the Vector Control meeting and reported that there have been 39 cases of West Nile reported, with one case in Huntington Park. Vice Mayor Diaz was selected to be on the American Council of Young Political Leaders. They will be in Washington DC on October 20th and she will be meeting with Congresswomen Barragan that morning. She will also be spending 5 days in Hungary and 5 days in Croatia. This is a grant that is paid through the American Council of Young Political Leaders.

Mayor Bernal attended Parke De Dos Rios with the other Council Members.

Vice Mayor Diaz asked to staff to provide a report on the homeless problem in regards to Parke De Dos Rios.

Mayor Bernal spoke about the homeless people now in the parking lots of Azalea and options for providing assistance. She thanked the Tweedy Mile Association and Churches in Action for the backpack giveaway.

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CONSENT CALENDAR Agenda Items 9, 11, 12 and 15 were approved by motion of Council Member Davila and seconded by Council Member Rios. Item 10 was removed from the agenda by Staff.

9
GOALS SOCCER The City Council adopted Resolution 7884 entitled – A Resolution of the City Council of City of South Gate temporarily suspending the enforcement of issuing administrative citations to allow for limited alcohol beverage consumption during a private corporate event at the South Gate GOALS Soccer Center, located at South Gate Park, on February 29, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. was approved during Consent Calendar.

10
PERSONNEL The City Council considered adopting a Resolution amending Resolution No. 6454 (Salary Resolution and Position Classification Plan) to create the position of Senior Financial Analyst in the Administrative Services Department, to approve the corresponding job specification, and to update the appropriate salary pay table.

This item was removed from the agenda by Staff.

11
WATER QUALITY The City Council adopted Resolution No. 7885 entitled – A Resolution of the City Council of City of South Gate appointing Water Division Manager Christopher Castillo as the Primary Board Member, and Senior Engineer Gladis Deras and Associate Engineer Victor Chavez as the Alternate Board Members to serve on the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Gateway Region Integrated Regional Water Management Joint Powers Authority (GWMA) for a two-year term beginning October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2021 was approved during Consent Calendar.

12
CITY COUNCIL The City Council approved A and B during Consent Calendar.

- a. Approved a Professional Services Agreement (Contract No. 3554) with Smith Dawson & Andrews, Inc., to provide federal legislative advocacy services, in an amount not-to-exceed \$40,000; and
- b. Authorized the Mayor to execute the Agreement in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

13 This Item Was Removed From The Agenda.

14 This Item Was Removed From The Agenda.

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ENGINEERING

The City Council approved A and B during Consent Calendar.

- a. Approved Amendment No. 5 to Contract No. 3131 with Wilidan Engineering, Inc., extending the term through November 30, 2019, for as-needed engineering services under the existing contract budget, and to allow time to award a new contract; and
- b. Authorized the Mayor to execute Amendment No. 5 in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

16

This Item Was Removed From The Agenda.

17

This Item Was Removed From The Agenda.

20

WARRANTS

The City Council approved the Warrants and Cancellations for September 24, 2019 by Council Auditor Bernal and seconded by Vice Mayor Diaz. (ADMIN SVCS)

Total of Checks:	\$2,761,998.02
Voids	\$ (3,928.00)
Total of Payroll Deductions:	<u>\$ (307,378.95)</u>
Grand Total:	\$2,450,691.07

Cancellations: 81742, 82651

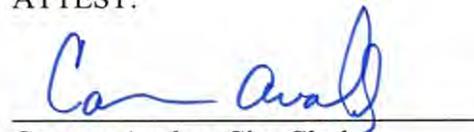
ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Bernal adjourned the meeting at 10:59 p.m. by motion of Council Member Davila and seconded by Council Member Bernal.

PASSED and **APPROVED** this 22nd day of October, 2019.

ATTEST:


M. Belén Bernal, Mayor


Carmen Avalos, City Clerk