

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
LA MIRADA CITY COUNCIL  
OCTOBER 25, 2016 – 6:30 P.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor De Ruse called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, La Mirada City Hall, 13700 La Mirada Boulevard, La Mirada, California.

2. INVOCATION

The invocation was delivered by Pastor Steve Camarillo of Living Faith Assembly of God Church.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by a representative of VFW Post 9148.

4. ROLL CALL

City Council was present with Councilmember Deal, Councilmember Sarega, Mayor Pro Tem Eng and Mayor De Ruse responding to roll call. Councilmember Mowles was absent.

The following staff members were also present: City Manager Jeff Boynton, Deputy City Manager/City Clerk Anne Haraksin and City Attorney James Markman.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

6. APPEARANCES, PRESENTATIONS, AND PROCLAMATIONS

6.1 PROCLAMATION FOR RED RIBBON WEEK

The City Council proclaimed October 24 through October 28, 2016 as Red Ribbon Week in the City of La Mirada and the Mayor, on behalf of the City Council, presented a proclamation to Safety Education Officer Mary Cipres.

6.2 RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC SAFETY POSTER CONTEST WINNERS

Public Safety Commission Chairman Mark Madison announced the winners of the Public Safety Poster Contest and the Mayor, on behalf of the City Council, presented the winners with Certificates of Recognition.

6.3 RECOGNITION OF CITY EMPLOYEES FOR YEARS OF SERVICE

The City Council recognized Diana Ruedas, Joshua Bessom and Jason Tolmasoff for their years of service and the Mayor, on behalf of the City Council, presented them with a service award pin and a Certificate of Recognition.

7. APPOINTMENTS

7.1 APPOINTMENT TO HISTORICAL PRESERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

**Councilmember Sarega moved and Councilmember Deal seconded to appoint Tony Aiello to the Historical Preservation Advisory Council for a term expiring in June 2017.**

**MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**AYES: Councilmember Deal, Councilmember Sarega, Mayor Pro Tem Eng, Mayor De Ruse**  
**NOES: None**  
**ABSENT: Councilmember Mowles**  
**ABSTAIN: None**

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

**Councilmember Deal moved and Mayor Pro Tem Eng seconded to approve the following Consent Calendar items:**

8.1 APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

The City Council approved the minutes of the Study Session meeting of October 11, 2016 and the minutes of the regular meeting of October 11, 2016.

8.2 APPROVAL OF WARRANT REGISTER

The City Council approved the warrant register dated October 25, 2016 in the total amount of \$2,785,672.11.

8.3 INVESTMENT REPORT FOR THE CITY OF LA MIRADA FOR THE MONTH ENDING SEPTEMBER 2016

The City Council received and filed the City's Investment Report for the month ending September 2016.

8.4 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT NO. 2016-09, SPORTS COURT RESURFACING AT GARDENHILL, FRONTIER AND NEFF PARKS – REVIEW OF BID AND AWARD OF CONTRACT

The City Council awarded the contract for Capital Improvement Project No. 2016-09, Sports Court Resurfacing at Gardenhill, Frontier and Neff Parks, to Trueline Construction and Surfacing, Inc., in the amount of \$32,089; authorized the City Manager to execute the contract on behalf of the City; and authorized the City Manager to approve additional work up to 20 percent of the total project cost including construction, and construction testing and inspection.

**MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**AYES:** Councilmember Deal, Councilmember Sarega, Mayor Pro Tem Eng, Mayor De Ruse  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** Councilmember Mowles  
**ABSTAIN:** None

9. PUBLIC HEARING

9.1 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2016-17 NEFF ESTATE HISTORICAL SITE RESTORATION PROJECT

Mayor De Ruse opened the Public Hearing.

Community Development Manager Alison Moore reported that the Neff Mansion, Carriage Barn, and George House at the Neff Estate Historical Site provide historical and cultural value and passive recreation opportunities. She presented information on the City's proposal to use CDBG funding to restore and rehabilitate the structures. She said restoration and rehabilitation efforts would include replacement of the roof, wood replacement of any dry rot or damaged wood on the roof and exterior painting.

No members of the public spoke in support or opposition to the item.

Mayor De Ruse closed the Public Hearing.

**Mayor Pro Tem Eng moved and Councilmember Sarega seconded to approve the proposed Fiscal Year 2016-17 CDBG funded Neff Estate Historical Site Restoration Project as presented and authorize the City Manager to execute the contracts on behalf of the City.**

**MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**AYES:** Councilmember Deal, Councilmember Sarega, Mayor Pro Tem Eng, Mayor De Ruse  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** Councilmember Mowles  
**ABSTAIN:** None

9.2 RESOLUTION NO. 16-34 APPROVING A FREEWAY AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, FOR THE I-5 CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Mayor De Ruse opened the Public Hearing.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Mark Stowell reported that Section 100.22 of the California Streets and Highways Code requires the City Council to conduct a Public Hearing prior to approving the proposed agreement with the State of California Department of Transportation for the I-5 Corridor Improvements Project. He presented information pertaining to the proposed agreement.

Resident John Sarega expressed concern with the anticipated closure of Valley View Avenue and encouraged the timely completion of the project.

Mayor De Ruse closed the Public Hearing.

**Councilmember Sarega moved and Mayor Pro Tem Eng seconded to adopt Resolution No. 16-34 approving the Freeway Agreement with the State of California, Department of Transportation, for the I-5 Freeway Improvement Project; and authorize the City Manager to execute the Freeway Agreement with the State of California, Department of Transportation for the construction of the I-5 Corridor Improvements Project within the City of La Mirada.**

**MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**AYES: Councilmember Deal, Councilmember Sarega, Mayor Pro Tem Eng, Mayor De Ruse**  
**NOES: None**  
**ABSENT: Councilmember Mowles**  
**ABSTAIN: None**

**9.3 CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT MAPS**

Mayor De Ruse opened the Public Hearing.

City Manager Boynton introduced the item. He reported that in August 2016, the City received a letter from a representative of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) requesting the City comply with the California Voting Rights Act of 2001 (CVRA). He said the representative requested the City convert the election system from at-large to by-district. At its meeting on September 13, the City Council adopted a resolution adopting line drawing criteria for adjusting City Council district boundaries for the March 2017 election; approved an agreement with National Demographics Corporation (NDC) for districting services; and approved an agreement with MALDEF.

Dr. Justin Levitt of NDC gave a presentation on key federal criteria used to create City Council district maps and traditional redistricting principles. He said districts should consist of contiguous territory in as compact form as possible; respect communities of interest; follow visible natural and man-made geographical and topographical features; and attempt to avoid head-to-head contests between incumbent Councilmembers. Dr. Levitt presented information on the draft maps

submitted by NDC, MALDEF, and residents. He said all the draft maps meet the basic legal requirements for districting.

Resident David Morfin expressed concern regarding MALDEF's response if its map does not get selected by the City Council.

City Attorney Markman responded and provided information on the settlement agreement with MALDEF. He said there was no requirement to select a district map drafted by MALDEF.

Steve Camarillo inquired about draft maps 5 and 9 since they were not presented during Dr. Levitt's presentation.

Dr. Levitt responded and said map 9 had been rescinded by its author.

Resident Noel Jaimes said he was the author of the draft 10 map. He provided information on the draft 10 map and said the industrial area should be represented by more than one Councilmember. He also recommended the City Councilmembers have term limits.

Resident Zurich Lewis addressed the City Council and said he was the author of draft map 8. He said he had experience drafting district maps and he provided information pertaining to the draft 8 map.

Resident John Sarega expressed support for the draft map submitted by MALDEF. He said it avoided head-to-head contests between current Councilmembers.

Edward addressed the City Council and expressed support for the map submitted by MALDEF.

Resident Madeline Alexander expressed discontent with the City having by-district elections. She said dividing the City into districts creates controversy.

Steve Camarillo said he was speaking on the record on behalf of Jack Miranda. He said Jack Miranda supports the map submitted by MALDEF.

Al addressed the City Council and expressed support for the map submitted by MALDEF. He said it allows for fair representation and puts together areas that have common issues.

Resident Noel Jaimes addressed the City Council and said the map submitted by MALDEF has a higher deviation.

Resident John Sarega said he wanted to clarify that he was not in favor of by-district elections.

Resident Tony Aiello said the map that makes the most sense for La Mirada should be selected. He said the MALDEF map seemed simpler and easier to understand.

Tara Merlinka said the MALDEF map is the most objective and she spoke in support of it.

Armando Mecias said he was supportive of the map submitted by MALDEF.

Ellis Cha said he supported the draft 10 map because it divides the industrial area into two districts.

Mayor De Ruse closed the Public Hearing.

Councilmember Sarega thanked the public for attending the meeting and providing input on the item. He said the Councilmembers work as a team as they are one of five members.

Councilmember Deal requested clarification on the compactness and contiguousness criteria for districts.

Dr. Levitt responded and provided additional information regarding the criteria to create a City Council district that is contiguous and compact.

Mayor De Ruse requested clarification regarding the deviation of the maps. He also asked Dr. Levitt which map best met the criteria.

Dr. Levitt responded and explained the map deviations and plan summary tool. He also said that draft 10 map best met the criteria.

Councilmember Deal inquired about what makes a draft map acceptable versus good.

Dr. Levitt responded and provided information contained in the plan summary tool.

Councilmember Deal commented that Councilmembers should make decisions based on what is best for the City and not a district. She said she agreed with Councilmember Sarega's sentiments that the City Council works as a team.

Mayor Pro Tem Eng said he ran for City Council to represent the entire City. He said what is best for La Mirada should be considered. He asked Dr. Levitt a question regarding the future population deviations.

Dr. Levitt responded to Mayor Pro Tem's question and explained the future population deviations.

Mayor De Ruse thanked the public for attending the meeting. He said the City Council would work together without creating a divisive community.

10. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

10.1 RESOLUTION NOS. 16-35 AND 16-36 REGARDING THE CITY OF LA MIRADA GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD MARCH 7, 2017

City Manager Boynton provided information on the proposed resolutions regarding the General Municipal Election to be held March 7, 2017.

**Councilmember Sarega moved and Councilmember Deal seconded to adopt Resolution No. 16-35 adopting regulations for candidates and candidate statements and adopt Resolution No. 16-36 requesting the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors direct the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk to administer, manage and oversee the City of La Mirada's General Municipal Election on March 7, 2017 and requesting a consolidation of the General Municipal Election with any Countywide Election held on March 7, 2017.**

**MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**AYES: Councilmember Deal, Councilmember Sarega, Mayor Pro Tem Eng, Mayor De Ruse**  
**NOES: None**  
**ABSENT: Councilmember Mowles**  
**ABSTAIN: None**

11. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS FROM STAFF

There were no administrative reports from staff.

12. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members of the City Council reported on meetings and events they attended.

13. CITY ATTORNEY ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no City Attorney announcements.

14. CITY MANAGER ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Manager Boynton presented information on upcoming community events including Halloweenfest on October 31 at Neff Park and the Veterans Event on November 7 at the La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the City Council adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

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Anne Haraksin, City Clerk

Attest:

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Steve De Ruse, Mayor