

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR STUDY SESSION MEETING
LA MIRADA CITY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 13, 2018 – 5 P.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Mowles called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. in Conference Room I, La Mirada City Hall, 13700 La Mirada Boulevard, La Mirada, California.

2. ROLL CALL:

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

The following staff members were present: City Manager Jeff Boynton, City Attorney James Markman and Assistant City Manager Anne Haraksin.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jack Miranda commented on the new housing development project. He proposed that any future housing developers implement a program to benefit local veterans and first-time home buyers.

4. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

4.1 INTERVIEW OF POTENTIAL COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSIONER

Members of the City Council invited Steve Lee to the table in order to ask him questions related to his qualifications and experience.

Members of the City Council asked Mr. Lee questions related to his qualifications and potential role as a Community Services Commissioner. The City Manager said an item regarding his potential appointment would be placed on an upcoming City Council meeting agenda.

4.2 CREEK PARK DRAFT MASTER PLAN

City Manager Jeff Boynton introduced the item. Public Works Director/City Engineer Mark Stowell, Project Manager Eric Villagrancia, and Michael Sherrod with RRM Design Group were present to give a report.

Mr. Sherrod provided an update on a draft master plan developed, in part from public input received from the workshops. Mr. Sherrod said RRM Design Group conducted an extensive public outreach program to gather input from the public for concepts and amenities desired for the project. He said door hangers, social media and postings on the City website were used to invite the public to the planned workshops.

Mr. Sherrod provided a report on proposed infrastructure improvements including ADA accessibility, restrooms, parking areas, pedestrian circulation, lighting and landscaping. He also provided design concepts for new bridge improvements. He said RRM Design Group continues to prepare CEQA documentation including an environmental document for mitigation measures for the proposed concept.

Members of the City Council asked questions regarding the Creek Park Draft Master Plan and expressed appreciation to Mr. Sherrod for providing the update.

4.3 2017 ANNUAL CRIME REPORT

City Manager Jeff Boynton introduced the item. Senior Administrative Analyst Mark Rounds, Captain James Tatreau, and Lieutenant Jeff Dusky were present to give a report.

Captain Tatreau said the City of La Mirada again experienced one of the region's lowest crime rates and remained among the safest cities in Los Angeles County. He reported that during the past year, La Mirada experienced the lowest number of Part 1 crimes of communities in southeast Los Angeles County and northern Orange County. He said in 2017, there were 998 Part 1 crimes reported in La Mirada compared to 962 in 2016. He said some 199 crimes were reported last year per 10,000 residents, which is within the City's Strategic Plan 2020 goal of fewer than 200 crimes. He said the national benchmark is 300 crimes per 10,000 residents.

Captain Tatreau provided a detailed report on the number of homicides, rapes, larceny incidents, burglaries, automobile thefts, robberies, assaults and arsons. He provided information on response times and the number of arrests. He also provided information on the City's Public Safety efforts. He said the Public Safety Team continued to educate the community on crime prevention and awareness. Additionally, the team would continue its proactive policing in order to maintain a low crime rate in La Mirada.

Members of the City Council asked questions regarding the 2017 Annual Crime Report. The City Council expressed its appreciation to Captain Tatreau for the Sheriff's Department's efforts in keeping La Mirada a safe community.

4.4 SPRING BEAUTIFICATION

City Manager Jeff Boynton introduced the item. Community Services Director Lori Thompson, Community Services Supervisor Oliver Osuna, and Senior Recreation Leader Veronica Luna were present to give a report.

Community Services Director Thompson said the annual Spring Beautification encourages La Mirada homeowners to maintain their properties and recognize those who provide an exceptional level of upkeep. She said community volunteers canvass neighborhoods in the spring and nominate homes, apartment complexes, houses of worship and businesses to be recognized as La Mirada's Most Outstanding properties.

Senior Recreation Leader Luna provided information on the judging process and the awards ceremony. She said attendance for the awards ceremony has declined in recent years. She said the recognition event for the Most Outstanding and Most Improved award recipients, as well as those nominated for honorable mention, has averaged about 100. Overall, attendance has ranged between 228 and 275 over the most recent five-year period.

Community Services Supervisor Osuna discussed the proposed enhancements to the Spring Beautification awards ceremony. He proposed the location of the awards ceremony be moved from the Theatre's auditorium to the lobby. He said depending on the Theatre's production schedule, the stage set can create logistical challenges for the awards ceremony and the 1,251-seat auditorium far exceeds the event's needs. He also proposed during the event's proceedings a selection of hors d'oeuvres, desserts and wine and other non-alcoholic beverages. Additionally, videos showcasing the winning homes, the presentation of awards by the Mayor, and photographs would remain as part of the ceremony.

The City Council reviewed and discussed the proposed enhancements to the Spring Beautification awards ceremony. Members of the City Council expressed support for the proposed enhancements to this year's Spring Beautification awards ceremony.

5. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

The City Manager had no reports.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the City Council adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

ATTEST:

Leticia Revilla, Deputy City Clerk

Ed Eng, Mayor