



La Mesa City Council, La Mesa Public Financing Authority, and City of La Mesa Successor Agency

Meeting Minutes

Date: June 10, 2025, 6:00 p.m.
Location: City Council Chambers, 8130 Allison Avenue
La Mesa, California

Present: Mayor Mark Arapostathis
Vice Mayor Patricia N. Dillard
Councilmember Lauren Cazares
Councilmember Laura Lothian
Councilmember Genevieve Suzuki

Staff: City Manager Greg Humora
Assistant City Manager Amanda Lee
City Attorney Glenn Sabine
City Clerk Megan Wiegelman

1. CALL TO ORDER

The City Council minutes are prepared and ordered to correspond to the City Council Agenda. Agenda Items can be taken out of order during the meeting.

The Agenda Items were considered in the order presented.

Mayor Arapostathis called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1.1 INVOCATION - COUNCILMEMBER LOTHIAN

1.2 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

There were no comments.

3. COMMUNITY BULLETIN REPORTS

The Mayor, Council and staff made announcements and reported on various events taking place in the City. No action was taken.

4. ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

5. PRESENTATION

5.1 PROCLAIMING JUNE 19TH AS JUNETEENTH NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE DAY

Vice Mayor Dillard read the proclamation declaring June 19 as Juneteenth National Independence Day.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS – (TOTAL TIME – 15 MINUTES)

Elliot Gonzalez spoke regarding undocumented immigrants and immigration laws.

Ted Childers spoke about fire hazard concerns and the presence of homeless encampments in the Tungsten Canyon area.

Grant Affleck spoke about the efforts of the Trauma Intervention Program ("TIP") of San Diego County.

Barbie Wheeler spoke about ongoing issues involving a house on Bellflower Drive.

Cassandra Koldewyn announced the La Mesa Library's summer programs and events.

7. CONFLICT DISCLOSURES

There were no conflicts of interest disclosed.

8. BOARD AND COMMISSION INTERVIEWS

8.1 INTERVIEW OF APPLICANT FOR AN UNSCHEDULED VACANCY ON THE COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD

City Clerk Wiegelman briefly explained the interview process.

Todd McCully spoke regarding their qualifications and interest in being appointed to the Community Police Oversight Board.

City Clerk Wiegelman said the appointment would be made at a future City Council meeting.

Following the interview, no action was taken.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Christopher Glenn submitted a comment on Item 10.6.

10. CONSENT CALENDAR

(Items 10.1 through 10.13)

Moved by Councilmember Cazares

Seconded by Mayor Arapostathis

Approve Consent Calendar Items 10.1 through 10.13.

Yes (5): Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Dillard, Councilmember Cazares, Councilmember Lothian, and Councilmember Suzuki

Approved (5 to 0)

10.1 APPROVAL OF MOTION TO WAIVE THE READING OF THE TEXT OF ALL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS AT THIS MEETING

Approve.

10.2 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM GRANT OF \$30,264 FOR TERRORISM PREPAREDNESS

Resolution No. 2025-054

Adopt Resolution.

10.3 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM - URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE GRANT OF \$36,347

Resolution No. 2025-055

Adopt Resolution.

10.4 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF ULTRASONIC PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT CLEANER GRANT AWARD FROM THE SAN DIEGO REGIONAL FIRE FOUNDATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21,477.58

Resolution No. 2025-056

Adopt Resolution.

- 10.5 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE LEASE AGREEMENT WITH AMERICAN MEDICAL RESPONSE FOR THE USE OF FIRE STATION 11 TO EXTEND THE AGREEMENT AND UPDATE THE RENEWAL DATES AND AMOUNT OF THE ANNUAL INCREASE**

Resolution No. 2025-057

Adopt Resolution.

- 10.6 RESOLUTION TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO DUDEK FOR CLEARING AND REMOVING OF VEGETATION IN THE EASTRIDGE OPEN SPACE EASEMENT**

Resolution No. 2025-058

Adopt Resolution.

- 10.7 RESOLUTION ADOPTING A LIST OF PROJECTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 FUNDED BY SENATE BILL 1: THE ROAD REPAIR AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2017**

Resolution No. 2025-059

Adopt Resolution.

- 10.8 RESOLUTION AWARDING A TASK ORDER TO HARRIS AND ASSOCIATES FOR WASTEWATER UTILITY BILLING, ANNUAL ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED SERVICES**

Resolution No. 2025-060

Adopt Resolution.

- 10.9 RESOLUTION AWARDING A TASK ORDER TO SNIPES-DYE ASSOCIATES FOR ROADWAY AND SITE DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE EL PASO STREET/HIGHWOOD AVENUE NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PROGRAM PROJECT**

Resolution No. 2025-061

Adopt Resolution.

- 10.10 RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR STREET SWEEPING SERVICES WITH SWEEPING CORPORATION OF AMERICA**

Resolution No. 2025-062

Adopt Resolution.

10.11 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH SOUTHWEST SIGNAL SERVICE, INC. FOR TRAFFIC SIGNAL MAINTENANCE, EMERGENCY REPAIRS AND RELATED CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

Resolution No. 2025-063

Adopt Resolution.

10.12 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH SOUTHWEST SIGNAL SERVICE, INC. FOR STREET LIGHT MAINTENANCE AND EMERGENCY REPAIRS

Resolution No. 2025-064

Adopt Resolution.

10.13 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A TASK ORDER TO D-MAX ENGINEERING, INC. FOR DRY WEATHER MS4 OUTFALL MONITORING AND PERSISTENT FLOW PROGRAM

Resolution No. 2025-065

Adopt Resolution.

11. STAFF REPORT - CITY COUNCIL - PUBLIC FINANCING AUTHORITY - SUCCESSOR AGENCY

11.1 CONSIDERATION OF THE PRELIMINARY BIENNIAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEARS 2025-2027

City Manager Humora began the presentation by outlining the preliminary budget priorities, which support La Mesa's Strategic Plan Workplan through a pragmatic two-year approach. The budget proposed adding 15 new positions across various departments to meet the needs of a growing community, with a particular emphasis on protecting public safety. It also included investments in infrastructure and community programs such as the Homeless Outreach and Mobile Engagement Program ("HOME"), the recently updated Climate Action Plan ("CAP"), the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program ("NTMP"), and the La Mesa Entrepreneurship Accelerator Program ("LEAP"). City Manager Humora concluded by thanking the community for its strong approval of Proposition L, which will help sustain city services.

Interim Finance Director Herrera provided an overview of the 2025–2027 Preliminary Budget, noting the City's strong fiscal position, with a balanced

\$76.5 million General Fund and a fully funded \$122.8 million citywide budget. He reported that the \$49.1 million Capital Improvement Program budget included 90 projects spanning transportation, facilities, storm drains, parks, and other areas. The budget proposed 15 new staff positions and maintained General Fund reserves well above the City's policy thresholds. Staff noted they would incorporate City Council feedback and return with a final budget for adoption within 90 days.

Director of Human Resources Spaniol provided a staffing update as part of the FY 2026–2027 Budget presentation, reporting that 50 new full-time employees had joined the City in the current fiscal year and 7 internal promotions had occurred, with key hires in Public Works, Police, Fire, and Community Development. She noted that while 17 positions remained vacant, recruitment efforts were actively underway to address service needs. The proposed budget included 15 new positions and 3 reclassifications aimed at strengthening public safety, improving operational efficiency, and enhancing internal capacity across multiple departments.

Council questions and comments ensued.

Councilmember Cazares, with Council consensus, directed staff to include in the final budget funding to replace Fire Engine 13 and approximately \$20,000 to equip the Urban Search and Rescue 12 apparatus as a Type 1 unit.

**a. RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PRELIMINARY BIENNIAL
BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR THAT BEGINS JULY 1, 2025,
AND ENDS JUNE 30, 2027**

Resolution No. 2025-066

Moved by Vice Mayor Dillard

Seconded by Mayor Arapostathis

Adopt Resolution and direct staff to return with any amendments in August with the 2025-2027 Final Budget.

Yes (5): Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Dillard, Councilmember Cazares, Councilmember Lothian, and Councilmember Suzuki

Approved (5 to 0)

**b. RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026
COMPENSATION PLAN, LISTING CLASSIFICATION
RANGES/BANDS AND PAY STEPS**

Resolution No. 2025-067

Moved by Vice Mayor Dillard

Seconded by Councilmember Cazares

Adopt Resolution.

Yes (5): Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Dillard, Councilmember
Cazares, Councilmember Lothian, and Councilmember Suzuki

Approved (5 to 0)

**11.2 CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION ADOPTING (1) THE
APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2026,
AND (2) THE ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT FACTORS USED TO
CALCULATE THE APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT**

Resolution No. 2025-068

Moved by Mayor Arapostathis

Seconded by Councilmember Suzuki

Adopt Resolution pursuant to Propositions 4 and 111, establishing the
Gann Spending Limit for Fiscal Year 2025-2026, using the growth factor
for new Non-Residential Construction in the City of La Mesa, and the
inflation rate in the City of La Mesa, as the annual adjustment factors used
to compute the Appropriations Limit.

Yes (5): Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Dillard, Councilmember Cazares,
Councilmember Lothian, and Councilmember Suzuki

Approved (5 to 0)

12. HEARING

**12.1 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) 2025-2029
CONSOLIDATED PLAN**

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT CONSOLIDATED
PLAN FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOR THE PLANNING
PERIOD JULY 2025 TO JUNE 2029 AND THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026
ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR CDBG FUNDING AND CITIZEN**

PARTICIPATION PLAN (CPP) FOR THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) FUNDING PROGRAMS

Notice of the hearing was given in accordance with legal requirements, and the hearing was held on the date and at the time specified in the notice.

Mayor Arapostathis opened the hearing for Item 12.1.

Senior Management Analyst Pina presented the draft 2025–2029 Consolidated Plan, a federally required document that guides the City’s use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds based on identified housing, economic development, infrastructure, and community service needs. She explained that the plan was developed using data analysis and community outreach and includes a strategic plan, needs assessment, market analysis, and the first annual action plan for FY 2025–2026. For that fiscal year, the City received \$456,031 in CDBG funds, which must be used to benefit low- to moderate-income residents, eliminate blight, or address urgent needs. Staff requested Council comments and direction to return on July 8 for final review and approval.

Council questions and comments ensued.

Moved by Mayor Arapostathis

Seconded by Councilmember Cazares

Close the hearing.

Yes (5): Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Dillard, Councilmember Cazares, Councilmember Lothian, and Councilmember Suzuki

Approved (5 to 0)

Moved by Mayor Arapostathis

Seconded by Vice Mayor Dillard

(1) Review and provide input on the draft 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan, 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan, and Citizen Participation Plan; and (2) Direct staff to return on July 8, 2025, for final review and approval.

Yes (5): Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Dillard, Councilmember Cazares, Councilmember Lothian, and Councilmember Suzuki

Approved (5 to 0)

13. COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS (3 MINUTE LIMIT)

The Mayor and Council reported on various outside boards, commissions and committee meetings they attended. No action was taken.

14. AB 1234 REPORTS (GC 53232.3 (d))

There were no reports.

15. CITY ATTORNEY REMARKS

There were no remarks.

16. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:05 p.m., Mayor Arapostathis adjourned the meeting in honor and memory of former Mayor Art Madrid, recognizing his decades of dedicated public service, leadership, and lasting contributions to the La Mesa community.

City Clerk