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UNTIL APPROVED BY THE
CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

June 9, 2014
5:30 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Mayor Sahli-Wells called the meeting of the City Council to order at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Meghan Sahli-Wells, Mayor
Micheál O'Leary, Vice Mayor
Jim B. Clarke, Councilmember
Jeffrey Cooper, Councilmember
Andrew Weissman, Councilmember

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Closed Session

At 5:30 p.m., the City Council recessed to Closed Session to discuss the following items:

CS-1 Conference with Labor Negotiators
City designated representatives: City Manager John Nachbar, Director of Human Resources Serena Wright
Employee Organizations: Culver City Employees Association, Culver City Management Group, Culver City Police Officers' Association, Culver City Police Management Group, Culver City Firefighters' Association Local 1927, AFL-CIO, Culver City Fire Management Group
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

CS-2 Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation
Re: City of Inglewood, et al. v. City of Los Angeles, et al. (LAX Litigation)
Case No. BS143086 (Consolidated with BS143292 and BS143328)
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

CS-3 Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation
Re: City of Culver City, et al. v. Michael Cohen, et al.
Case No. 34-2013-80001719
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

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Reconvene

Mayor Sahli-Wells reconvened theCity Council meeting at 7:00p.m. with all Council Members present.

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Report on Action Taken in Closed Session

Mayor Sahli-Wells indicated nothing to report out of closed session except that the Successor Agency to the Culver City Redevelopment Agency Board had not discussed item CS-1.

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Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

The Invocation was given by John Nachbar, City Manager, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Joyce Dallal.

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Presentation

Item P-1

Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation to Robert Greenberg and Rachel Greenberg for their Efforts to Refurbish the Culver City Sign at Centinela Avenue and Sepulveda Boulevard

Martin Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, reported that the Director of Public Works was unable to be present at the meeting but wanted his appreciation for the work done conveyed to Robert and Rachel Greenberg.

Councilmember Clarkepresented the Certificates.

Robert Greenberg thanked the City Council and Public Works for their support of the project.

Councilmember Cooper commended Robert and Rachel for taking the initiative to improve the community.

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Community Announcements By City Council Members/Information Items From Staff

Councilmember Clarke commended his colleagues on the School Board for the passage of Measure CC; thanked everyone who had contributed to the Summer Concert Series; and he received consensus to discuss a request from Gary Mandell (Boulevard Music)that the City waive fees to hang the banners for the Summer Concert series.

MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER WEISSMAN, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER COOPER AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT WHEN THIS MEETING IS ADJOURNED, THAT IT BE ADJOURNED IN MEMORY OF GEORGE PETRELLI.

{Note from the City Clerk: A letter, signed by the Mayor, conveying the City Council's sympathies and the adjourn-in-memory was sent to the Petrelli family on June 10, 2014.}

Councilmember Cooper reported attending the Southern California Association of Governments Economic and Sustainability Subcommittee meeting; distributed information to Councilmembers regarding Transit Oriented Districts (TODs); announced that the 4th of July Fireworks show would be held at West LA College; and he asked that the Police add the new location of the fireworks show to their reverse 911 calls regarding fireworks.

{Note from the City Clerk: The Police Department will include this information in their annual call.}

Mayor Sahli-Wells reported attending the Interfaith Emergency Preparedness meeting at the King Fahad Mosque and thanked the Mosque for hosting the event; reported attending the 61st Annual Garden Show held at the Teen Center; reported being the Master of Ceremonies for the 54th Assembly District Democratic Club event where State Senator Holly Mitchell was presented an award along with Ruth and David Weissman who were recognized for their volunteer efforts in the community; attended a Southern California Association of Governments' Energy and the Environment Committee meeting; encouraged everyone to attend the annual Fox Hills Parks Clean-Up on June 14 or initiate one in their own neighborhood or park; and invited everyone to attend the Summer Solstice event by the Culver City Arts District from noon to 7 p.m. on June 21.

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Joint Public Comment – Items Not on the Agenda

Mayor Sahli-Wellsinvited public comment. The following members of the audience addressed the City Council:

Shireen Daytona reported that she served on the Landlord Tenant Mediation Board and had accepted an offer to manage a portfolio of commercial and residential real estate with one commercial property located in Culver City.

Kevin Lachoff discussed the passage of Measure CC noting the power of community, and he thanked the City for bolstering the quality of the community.

Gary Silbiger discussed notification about a public meeting regarding the Inglewood Oil Field that he received from Water Watch; expressed concern with the notification process; noted the importance of the meeting; expressed concern with the availability of the agenda report; discussed the need for preparation; and he wanted to see the maximum amount of notice and participation along with sufficient notice.

Mayor Sahli-Wells asked that staff make sure that those who had spoken regarding oil drilling at previous meetings are notified, and she explained how to sign up for notifications on the City website.

{Note from the City Clerk: Mr. Silbiger was added to the City's e-mail notification system for the item related to the Inglewood Oil Field.}

Carol Schwab, City Attorney, explained that the City was initiating a specific plan process and that the upcoming item would be on the process, not the content; she added that there would be revisions to the Oil Drilling Regulations; discussedthe public workshop on the Regulations; and she indicated that comments on the regulations were welcome.

Rich Waters discussed ficus trees; replacement trees; oxygen generation; and disease.

Cary Anderson discussed voter turnout; the passage of Measure CC; agenda items A-1 and A-5; and on site signage vs. billboards.

Josetta Sbeglia, Fresh Paint, announced the first event by the Culver City Arts District on June 21 in partnership with METRO and Make Music LA; she thanked the City for their help; and she clarified that the area was not a business improvement district - yet.

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Receipt and Filing of Correspondence

Mayor Sahli-Wells indicated that all correspondence received had been read.

Martin Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, reported that most of the correspondence received had been for items A-1 and A-5 with one piece for item A-3.

MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER WEISSMAN, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER COOPER AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL RECEIVE AND FILE CORRESPONDENCE.

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Joint Consent Calendar

Item JC-1

Joint City Council/Culver City Housing Authority/Successor Agency to the Culver City Redevelopment Agency Agenda Item: Cash Disbursements

MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER WEISSMAN, SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR O'LEARYAND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED,THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE CASH DISBURSEMENTS FOR MAY 17, 2013 – MAY 30, 2104.

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

Meeting Minutes

Mayor Sahli-Wells invited public comment.

The following member of the audience addressed the City Council:

Marla Koosed suggested alternative phrasing on page 11 of the May 19, 2014 meeting minutes regarding support to conduct a study to determine the economic benefits of Cultural Affairs to instead say: "support for a study to establish baseline knowledge of the arts and culture in Culver City and point to areas of economic development."

Martin Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, appreciated the clarification by Chair Koosed but indicated that the minutes reflected the way the Councilmember had spoken of the item, and he noted that a correction requested by Councilmember Weissman regarding a vote on event sponsorship from the same meeting had been made to properly reflect the City Council's action.

Responding to Mayor Sahli-Wells, Councilmember Weissman indicated that his recollection is as indicated by the minutes, he did not recall that the City Council had adopted the Cultural Affairs Commission recommendation verbatim.

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING OF MAY 19, 2014 AND THE REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 27, 2014.

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Item C-2

Adoption of an Ordinance Amending Title 17,Zoning, of the Culver City Municipal Code, Chapter 17.320 – Off-Street Parking andLoading (Zoning Code Amendment ZCA-P2013170)

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL ADOPT THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE (ATTACHMENT NO. 1), AMENDING TITLE 17, ZONING (THE "ZONING CODE"), OF THE CULVER CITY MUNICIPAL CODE (CCMC), CHAPTER 17.320 OFF-STREET PARKING AND (ZONING CODE AMENDMENT ZCA P- P2013170).

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Item C-3

Approval of a Cooperative Agreement with theCounty of Los Angeles' Department of Public Works for Paratransit Program Funding for the Period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

1. APPROVE A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS FOR PARATRANSIT PROGRAM FUNDING FOR SERVICES PROVIDED TO THE UNINCORPORATED LOS ANGELES COUNTY AREAS OF VIEW PARK, WINDSOR HILLS, AND LADERA HEIGHTS FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2014 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2017; AND,

2. AUTHORIZETHECITYATTORNEYTOREVIEW/PREPARETHENECESSARYDOCUMENTS;AND,

3. AUTHORIZETHECITYMANAGERTOEXECUTESUCHDOCUMENTSONBEHALFOFTHECITY.

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Item C-4

Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing Staff toSubmit Applications to June 30, 2015 for Grant Funding Associated with thePurchase of Alternative Fuel Vehicles and Other Emission Control Technologies

Mayor Sahli-Wells invited public comment.

The following member of the audience addressed the City Council:

Stephen Murray pointed out that the funding grants are available for projects that will reduce air pollution from mobile sources and that any proposal that met carbon emission reduction guidelines would be considered; hediscussed proposals by other cities; and hefelt that the City needed to look toward electric vehicles and other options to reduce the ways the City is impacted by pollution from transportation and move toward the next step instead of staying with the status quo.

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL ADOPT A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF GRANT APPLICATIONS AND ACCEPTANCE OF SUCH APPROVED FUNDING MADE AVAILABLE BY THE AQMD AND THE MSRC TO JUNE 30, 2015 FOR THE PURCHASE OF ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLES AND OTHER EMISSION CONTROL TECHNOLOGIES.

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Item C-5

Adoption of a Resolution (1) Approving anApplication for Grant Funds in the Amount of $200,000 from the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District 2014 Competitive Excess FundsGrant Program and (2) Approving the Adoption of a Youth Employment Plan for theBlair Hills Park Playground Rehabilitation Project

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF $200,000 FROM THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT 2014 COMPETITIVE EXCESS FUNDS GRANT PROGRAM AND APPROVING THE ADOPTION OF A YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PLAN FOR THE BLAIR HILLS PARK PLAYGROUND REHABILITATION PROJECT.

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Item C-6

Approval of a Professional Services Agreementwith EIGER TechSystems for Transit Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)Projects Consultant Services in an Amount Not-to-Exceed $477,650

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

1. APPROVE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH EIGER TECHSYSTEMS FOR THE TRANSIT ITS PROJECTS CONSULTANT SERVICES IN AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED $477,650; AND,

2. AUTHORIZETHETRANSPORTATIONDIRECTORTOAPPROVECHANGEORDERSINTHEAMOUNT OF $50,000 (~10%) FOR UNEXPECTED ADDITIONAL COSTS; AND,

3. AUTHORIZETHECITYATTORNEYTOREVIEW/PREPARETHENECESSARYDOCUMENTS;AND,

4. AUTHORIZETHECITYMANAGERTOEXECUTESUCHDOCUMENTSONBEHALFOFTHECITY.

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Item C-7

Adoption of a Resolution to Approve and Adopt theCulver City Transportation Department Title VI Program Update and LimitedEnglish Proficiency (LEP) Implementation Plan

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

1. ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE TITLE VI PROGRAM UPDATE AND LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY PLAN DATED MAY 2014 AS THEY PERTAIN TO CULVER CITYBUS AND THE CULVER CITY TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT; AND,

2. AUTHORIZE THE CITY ATTORNEY TO REVIEW/PREPARE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS; AND,

3. AUTHORIZETHECITYMANAGERTOEXECUTESUCHDOCUMENTSONBEHALFOFTHECITY.

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Item C-8

Approval of a Purchase and Sale Agreement inthe Amount of $1,345,790 with Thomas James Capital Regarding the Sale of City-Owned Property Located at 11304 Segrell Way (Former Fire Station #3)

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

1. APPROVE A PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT FOR THE SALE OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT 11304 SEGRELL WAY TO THOMAS JAMES CAPITAL INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,345,790; AND,

2. AUTHORIZE THE CITY ATTORNEY TO REVIEW/PREPARE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS; AND,

3. AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SUCH DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY.

MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER WEISSMAN, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER COOPER AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS C-1 THROUGH C-8.

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Order of the Agenda

Mayor Sahli-Wells took inventory of which items the public wanted to speak and reordered the agenda to encourage public input.

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Joint Action Items

Item JA-1

Public Comment and Input for the Proposed Budget forFiscal Year 2014-2015

Jeff Muir, Chief Financial Officer, provided a summary of the material of record.

Mayor Sahli-Wells received clarification that no input had been received on the new webpage on the City website in the budget box established for input, and she thanked staff for the expanded budget process and enhanced financial transparency.

Responding to Councilmember Clarke, Jeff Muir, Chief Financial Officer, discussed adjustments to the proposed budget; the General Fund; corrections to past errors; part time hours added; corrections in the Equipment Maintenance Fund; inclusion of money in the Self Insurance Fund; the Economic Benefits Study; Sewer Fund Revenue into the Capital Projects Fund; money transferred out of the Landscape Maintenance Fund; and he noted that the changes would be incorporated into the item to be considered by the City Council on June 23, 2014 to adopt the budget for Fiscal Year 2014/2015.

Mayor Sahli-Wells invited public comment.

No speakers came forward and no cards were received.

Discussion ensued between staff and Councilmembers regarding the expanded budget process and appreciation to staff for their efforts.

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Action Items

Item A-1

(1) Consideration of the Section Titled "Invocation"Which Appears on the City Council and Other City Legislative Body Agendas, and(2) (If Desired) Direction to the City Manager Related Thereto

Mayor Sahli-Wells invited public comment.

The following members of the audience addressed the City Council:

Lisette Palley discussed setting the tone for the meeting; she defined the word invocation and the word reflection; expressed support for the word reflection as an inspirational term that she felt was non-denominational and all inclusive; discussed negative connotations associated with the word invocation; she felt it inappropriate for a City meeting to begin with a religious invocation or mention of God which is not currently happening but could happen; discussed the separation of Church and state; and she expressed support for the change from invocation to reflection.

Reverend Christopher B. Fagan, St. Augustine Parish, felt that invocations were different than reflections; he reported that the Supreme Court ruled that invocations are permissible in legislative Council meetings; he discussed prayer and invocation; he felt that legislative prayer lent gravity to public business; discussed history; the recent decision by the Supreme Court upholding invocations; tolerance and appreciation of ceremonial prayer; and accepting differences in society.

Discussion ensued between Councilmembers and the speaker regarding religious connotations of the word invocation; calling upon something; and not recognizing the need for assistance.

Mohammed Khan, King Fahad Mosque, thanked Councilmembers for their attendance at the Interfaith Emergency Preparedness Event; expressed support for having an invocation; discussed laws to regulate proselytizing; different faith institutions in the City; not letting the issue prove divisive; larger issues; and alienation of those with different beliefs.

Discussion ensued between Councilmembers regarding the content of the message vs. the term; the agenda item; religious invocations prior to 2008; and remaining with the current type of non-secular content.

Carlene Brown discussed living in a pluralistic nation; expressed opposition to imposing religious beliefs on legislative entities or to implying any religion in the format of meetings; she wanted citizens to have freedom of and freedom from religion; she asked that the word be changed to reflection or opening thought; and she discussed strengthening democracy.

Tom Camarella, Culver City Democratic Club, discussed his years in parochial school; expressed agreement with previous speakers who supported the separation of church and state; he discussed a case regarding a Burbank tradition of prayer at City Council meetings; the meaning of the wordinvocation; religious connotations; and he supported using the word reflection rather than invocation.

Stephen Murray felt that reflection was an insufficient description of the purpose of the invocation; he did not think invocation equated to prayer; felt that invocation referred to acting according to shared human values; did not agree with sponsorship of one faith over another; and did not have an issue with the word invocation or secular invocation.

Joy Kecken expressed gratitude for the passing of Measure CC; equated invocation to prayer; felt that her prayer could be different from the prayers of others; did not feel that worked within a City government; discussed protections that sometimes work and sometimes do not work; felt that City meetings should be a place of equality; discussed issues that relate to the City, being citizens and reflecting on their role as taxpayers; expressed support for using the term opening thought or reflection; and she noted that before 2008 when the invocation was more like a prayer she would not have felt welcome.

Gary Silbiger discussed actions of comparable cities; religious connotations of the invocation; a previous City Manager that expressed religious views during the invocation; giving equal time to all religions; other opportunities to express religious views; and providing time to involve inspirational speakers and/or performers.

Rich Waters discussed history and the importance of the separation of church and state; abuse of power; creationism in Texas; the word invocation; focusing on Culver City issues without the need for an invocation; and support for changing the term from invocation to something more benign.

Margaret Lindgren discussed her faith; expressed support for the separation of church and state; and she supported changing the word from invocation to something with less of a religious connotation.

Cary Anderson discussed the policies of Lancaster, California; religion in the Pledge of Allegiance and currency; different religions; the status quo; the change made six years ago that did not reflect the word invocation; and changing the contents of the book to match the cover.

Tom Foleyexpressed support for keeping the term invocation.

Roger Diamond, a self-described First Amendment Specialist, discussed the Supreme Court case; the California State Constitution; and Rueben vs. the City of Burbank.

June Lehrman suggested unifying the theme with something that everyone could get behind by holding a moment of silence at the beginning of the meeting.

Jeremy Green, Management Analyst, read written comments submitted by:

Dr. Janet Hoult
Shireen Daytona

Eleanor Osgood expressed concern with conflict about the matter; discussed the separation of church and state; and felt that an invocation or reflection was not necessary.

Discussion ensued between staff and Councilmembers regarding origination of the discussion; whether anyone had been offended by the invocations given; the diversity of thoughts and representation; the Supreme Court opinion; the prayer opportunity; historical practice; purpose of the invocation; the principal audience for the invocation; offering equal time to atheists to speak; the separation of church and state; prayer at the beginning of Supreme Court sessions; clarification that there is no intent to offend or insult;

changing content over the years; the spiritual heritage of the nation; divine guidance; prior to 2008 when religion was clearly invoked at City Council meetings; making people feel unwelcome; feeling separated from the people making decisions; reflection as a term that is non-denominational and non-judgmental; the deeply personal nature of the issue; the fact that many people do not speak up; operating as a house of equality; ensuring that meetings are inclusive to all; an assertion that belief cannot be legislated; support for the words of the City Manager; actions of comparable cities; having the Mayor take a stronger role in setting the agenda; the ambiguity of the term invocation; the value of inspiration; setting the tone for the meeting; aligning what is really happening with the title; taking words to heart; the beauty and importance of beliefs; respecting all beliefs; appreciating religion in appropriate places; freedom of speech; the importance of the word used; the structure of every meeting; the Mayor's prerogative; the last major revision of the City Council agenda; the City Council appointed subcommittee; and allowing each Mayor to decide to call the item what they want but not changing the content of the item.

MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER CLARKE AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WEISSMAN THAT THE CITY COUNCIL ALLOW THE PRESIDING MAYOR TO CALL THE ITEM CURRENTLY TITLED INVOCATION WHATEVER THEY DEEM APPROPRIATE WITHOUT CHANGING THE CONTENT OF THE ITEM. THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: CLARKE, SAHLI-WELLS, WEISSMAN
NOES: COOPER, O'LEARY

{Note from the City Clerk: Beginning with the Regular Meetings of June 23, 2014, the agendas for meetings of all of the City's legislative bodies will reflect the term REFLECTION as determined by Mayor Sahli-Wells.}

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Item A-5
(Out of Sequence)

(1) Discussion of the Concept of the Creation of aSign District Along the 405 Freeway Corridor and (2) (If Desired) Direction to theCity Manager as Deemed Appropriate

John Nachbar City Manager, provided a summary of the material of record.

Councilmember Weissman received clarification regarding the process to move the item forward andthe City Council's discretion on any proposal moving forward.

Sol Blumenfeld, Community Development Director, reported that the Carlyle Group had presented the proposal; discussed provisions of the sign code; digital signs and freeway signs; code prohibitions; amendments to the sign code; enabling a specific area to be targeted to the program; the specific plan process; creating an overlay zone; potential economic development opportunities for the specific plan area; revenue sharing agreements; land use components and financial components; participants in the program; public hearings; legal issues to be addressed; and estimated length of the process.

Discussion ensued between staff and Councilmembers regarding the diagram; location of the signage; visibility; concern with setting a precedent; the Carlyle proposal; freeway oriented signs; regional signage; prohibitions on offsite advertising; the need for an exception; risks with making changes; zoning code limitations; exceptions to longstanding code provisions; the prohibition on electronic signs; the need for an environmental review; the California Environmental Quality Act; investigations of similar situations in other cities; defining freeway oriented signage; the offsite sign ordinance; bike sharing; regulating the content of the signage; advertising for public purpose; off-site advertising; advertising on the public right of way; litigation; and signage situations in other cities.

Mayor Sahli-Wells invited public input.

The following members of the audience addressed the City Council:

Norm Palley expressed concern with selling the integrity of the City.

Mary Daval reported sending email to the City Council; expressed opposition to the Carlyle Group proposal; discussed the common good; changes to the downtown neighborhood; the sense of community; diminishing the unique identity of Culver City; financial remuneration; losing more than would be gained; and she asked that the Culver City billboard ban be maintained.

Andrew Leist discussed home values; a study entitled*Beyond Aesthetics: How Billboards Affect Economic Prosperity;* and he asked the City to consider detrimental effects to residents when considering any changes to the signage policy.

Judy Richter expressed opposition to the proposal; noted that the proposed signage would not be visible from the freeway; she felt there were other ways for the City to get money; expressed concern over decreased property values; and she asked that the City not open the door.

Susan V. Collins echoed economic arguments previously cited in the case against allowing billboards; expressed concern with going down a slippery slope; discussed the potential degradation of aesthetics and quality of life in the City; diminishing the desirability of the City as a shopping and dining destination; potential sales tax losses that would wipe out sign revenue; and sales and business taxes in the City.

Joy Kecken reported that she lived in the area around Fox Hills near billboards; discussed light and sight pollution; negative economic effects; reported being unable to email comments as mailboxes were full; discussed the current billboards at the mall; and she expressed opposition to adding billboards of any kind in the City.

Stephen Murray expressed concern that allowing billboards would make the City similar to Lawndale; noted the recognition given at the start of the meeting to individuals who had refurbished the Culver City sign on Centinela; he expressed opposition to the existing Westfield signage; and asked the City Council to honor the intent of the existing City signage prohibitions.

Tom Camarella discussed the many lawsuits that the Carlyle Group is involved in; he noted that the current ordinance had been in place for almost 40 years; danger posed by distracting electronic signs; once an exception is made other companies will want the same allowances; and he discussed real estate values.

Gary Silbiger discussed the Carlyle Group; the Entrada Project; the billboards at Westfield Mall; recurring violations by Westfield; and he asked that the proposal be voted down.

Susan V. Collins discussed the digital signage proposed near the hotel; the preference of residents to keep billboards out of the City; and the proposal by the Carlyle Group.

Rich Waters discussed electronic signage; seeking additional revenue from Westfield; concern with downgrading Culver City; monitoring; and additional code enforcement.

Disa Lindgren echoed comments of previous speakers; discussed Lady Bird Johnson who encouraged Americans to keep the country beautiful by not succumbing to revenue from billboards; felt that the City would not be enhanced; and she did not like the oversized, unattractive signage at Westfield Mall as she felt it was a hazard for drivers.

Cary Anderson provided footage from a 2009City Council meeting where the City Council supported Westfield signage; discussed limitations on advertising for Westfield signage; and he provided images of alleged violations of the agreement by Westfield.

Roger Diamond, representing Tito’s Tacos, reported that they did not oppose the proposal if it would help the City; he discussed a recent lawsuit loss by Culver City; ensuring that the draft ordinance is written carefully to take all issues into consideration; expressed concern that a billboard could block a view of the Tito’s Tacos sign; and he asserted that on site signs are important.

Councilmember Weissman clarified that the Court’s Cohen Decision regarding a claim made two years ago as a result of the Car Show downtown did not reach the merits of the claim.

Mayor Sahli-Wells questioned whether Mr. Diamond had inferred that the agenda item was for freeway signage based on the title.

Mr. Diamond indicated that he was present to ensure that Tito’s Tacos is involved in the process and can make sure the new signs would not intrude on their existing sign.

Karim Sahli, graphic designer, asserted that the billboards at Westfield Mall were blight; he felt there were other sources of revenue that could work better with the City; he discussed Target billboards; and he asked that the City Council deny the proposal.

Shea Cunningham echoed previous comments; felt that billboards were unsightly, unhealthy, and unsafe; discussed the studies on e-billboards; citizen led lawsuits; moratoriums and bans in surrounding cities and across the country; adverse effects to property values; driver distraction; wasted energy; and she felt such development was irresponsible.

Steve Rose, Culver City Chamber of Commerce, reported that the Chamber supported the idea of a feasibility study for placing signage in a freeway oriented sign district in the area of the Westfield Mall and hotels; he felt that discarding it without study would be irresponsible; he discussed his track record as a Councilmember on billboards in the City; signage at the Westfield Mall; sales tax and business license revenue for the City; and he asserted that the government had to look at creative ways to bring in revenue to pay for what the citizens want.

Jeremy Green, Management Analyst, read written comments submitted by:

Carlene Brown

Mayor Sahli-Wells read an email received from Los Angeles City Councilmember Mike Bonin.

Discussion ensued between staff and Councilmembers regarding other companies interested in putting billboards in the City; first amendment rights; the Tito's Taco sign; grandfathered signage; the current sign code; appreciation for resident input; the letter from Mr. Bonin; the number and location of billboards between the Howard Hughes exit and the 90 freeway; the electric sign on the southeast corner of Jefferson and Sepulveda; blight; costs to the City to do the study; equitably distributing costs; staff time and community outreach; the Request For Proposal; visibility; a request for visual representation to help gage what the end result would look like; consideration of neighbors; actions of the City of Los Angeles; legal issues; moving forward with confidence; assistance from the Carlyle

Group with legal fees from any issues that could arise; indemnifying the City from lawsuits; addressing added costs; ensuring that the City bears no financial responsibility for the evaluation; clarification that the City is not driving the process; indemnification for legal expenses in the event an ultimate decision is challenged; assurances that actions are going to survive legal challenges; moving forward to allow more information to come forward; the concept of a freeway oriented sign that only impacts the freeway and not the surrounding neighborhood; concern with moving forward; sacrifices that pay off;who gets the benefits and who pays; a feeling that 10% of projected revenues is not enough weighed against the effects of the billboards; the teens in Westchester who fixed up the Culver City sign; controlling the content of billboards; comments from Mr. Rose; the irresponsibility of having the company go through the expense of the study when it is clear that the community does not want more billboards; setting Culver City apart as a community; the study linking property values and billboards; areas on the outskirts of the City; the investment made in all neighborhoods of the City; fairness; staff time; the litigious nature of the issue; considering all sides of the issues; billable hours for staff time; how much the Carlyle Group is willing to cover; and the amount of time spent by staff on the issue so far.

Councilmember Weissman moved that the City Council direct staff to move forward with the evaluation of the Carlyle Group proposal if they are willing to cover all costs.

Mayor Sahli-Wells received clarification regardingthe number of public hearings in the process and the Specific Planning Process.

MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER WEISSMAN AND SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR O'LEARY THAT THE CITY COUNCIL DIRECT THE CITY MANAGER TO PURSUE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CARLYLE GROUP FOR 100% REIMBURSEMENT OF ALL THE CITY'S COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH EVALUATING THE PROPOSAL AND RETURN TO THE CITY COUNCIL WITH THE RESULT. THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: CLARKE, COOPER, O'LEARY, SAHLI-WELLS
NOES: SAHLI-WELLS

Mayor Sahli-Wells announced that the Culver City 5K and 10K Run on June 15 with a free 1K Kids Run following the race to benefit Train for Autism and the Culver City Education

Foundation sponsored by the City of Culver City.

Vice Mayor O'Leary noted that several streets would be closed to accommodate the run.

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Item A-2
(Out of Sequence)

Approval of a Professional Services Agreementfor a Term of Five Years with Goodman's Towing in an Amount Not-To-Exceed $75,000 for Towing Services for the Culver City Police Department

Councilmember Clarke received clarification regarding cars that are not picked up and lien sales.

Mayor Sahli-Wells invited public input.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

Vice Mayor O'Leary and Councilmember Cooper expressed appreciation for the work of staff on the item.

MOVED BYCOUNCILMEMBER WEISSMAN, SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR O'LEARYAND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

1) APPROVE A FIVE-YEAR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT (TOW SERVICES AGREEMENT) WITH GOODMAN'S TOWING/ALL CITY TOWING IN AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED $15,000 PER YEAR (A TOTAL OF $75,000 OVER THE FIVE-YEAR LIFE OF THE AGREEMENT); AND,

2) AUTHORIZE THE CITY ATTORNEY TO REVIEW/PREPARE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS; AND,

3) AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SUCH DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY.

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Item A-3

(1) Consideration of an Appointment to the LosAngeles International Airport/Community Noise Roundtable and (2) Direction to theCity Manager Related Thereto

Mayor Sahli-Wells invited public input.

The following members of the audience addressed the City Council:

Goran Eriksson discussed appointments to Committees, Commissions and Boards; the connection back;he suggested formalizing a routine to report back to the public and to the City Council; and creating an agenda item for reports.

Discussion ensued between Councilmembers and staff regarding agreement with Mr. Eriksson; bylaws and applications; and creating an agenda item for reporting after recent meetings of the bodies.

Stephen Murray expressed support for transparency and due process, and he offered his name for consideration as alternate to the LAX Community Noise Roundtable.

Jeremy Green, Management Analyst, read a written comment submitted by:

June Lehrman

Mayor Sahli-Wells reported attending one of the meetings; discussed the data driven nature of the meetings; and she nominated June Lehrman to serve as it was her interest in the subject that had alerted the City to the Roundtable.

Discussion ensued between staff and Councilmembers regarding the application process; background on the roundtable; composition of the body; noise and overflights; LAWA; clarification that the FAA runs the roundtable; elected officials serving on the Board; representatives of neighborhood groups and interest groups; designation of an alternate vs. the official representative; requirements for appointment; description of membership; and meeting schedule.

MOVED BYVICE MAYOR O'LEARY, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER COOPER AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:
APPOINT JUNE LEHRMAN TO SERVE AS REPRESENTATIVE ON THE LOS ANGELES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT/COMMUNITY NOISE ROUNDTABLE WITH STEPHEN MURRAY SERVING AS ALTERNATE.

Martin Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, received City Council consensus that the City Council direct staff to prepare a policy for City Council consideration regarding Commissions, Committees, Boards and outside entities reporting back to the City Council to allow for proper noticing and return as a discussion item.

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Item A-6
(Out of Sequence)

Adoption of an Economic DevelopmentImplementation Plan

Sol Blumenfeld, Community Development Director, provided a summary of the material of record.

Todd Tipton, Economic Development Administrator, provided a presentation on the Economic Development Implementation Plan.

Councilmember Cooper received clarification regarding the lack of connectivity and fiber optics in the Jefferson Corridor.

Mayor Sahli-Wells invited public input.

The following members of the audience addressed the City Council:

Seth Horowitz noted that the Downtown Business Association had not been directly mentioned as a partner in the discussion; discussed the final mile; bike or car sharing programs; promoting the City; the increased Transient Occupancy Tax; presenting the City positively; and encouraging the use of public transportation rather than focusing on parking issues.

Discussion ensued between staff and Councilmembers regarding bike sharing; the last mile; taking a comprehensive look at car sharing; vendors; street geometrics; bikeways; integrating the TOD with the downtown area; agreement to add car sharing into the item; and discussions with Cars to Go.

Goran Erikssondiscussed business cluster development; the importance of strong business in the community; focusing on strengths; the vision for the City; and specifically targeting ways to realize the vision.

Steve Rose, Culver City Chamber of Commerce, expressed support for the proposed Economic Development Implementation Plan; directing growth; fiber optics; creative parking solutions; start-up businesses; and he encouraged taking action as soon as possible.

Jeremy Green, Management Analyst, read written comments submitted by:

Marla Koosed

Discussion ensued between staff and Councilmembers regarding support for the plan; staff resources necessary to carry out the plan; the cluster concept; welcoming and surveying new businesses; appreciation for the comprehensive report; moving fiber optics plans forward; the branding of the City; supporting a strong business base in the City; limited resources; marketing; business retention; the reputation as a start-up City; where resources are being targeted; adding detail to the Work Program; pricing the work and the level of effort involved; allocating staff resources; diversification; the changing economy; business attraction; way finding throughout the City; walkable corridors;creating a sense of the district you are in; acknowledging the Downtown Business Association as a partner; agreement regarding the importance of goals; the Convention Center idea; making residents part of the process; instituting a buy local campaign; including a local business directory on the City website; outreach; the Inglewood and Centinela corridors; and adding detail in order to implement the Plan.

MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER CLARKE, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WEISSMAN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:ADOPT AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTIMPLEMENTATION PLAN.

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Item A-4
(Out of Sequence)

Consideration of (1) the Concept of Partneringwith a 501c3 Culver City Centennial Celebration Committee (CCCCC) and (2)Drafting a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between the Proposed CCCCCand the City

Councilmember Clarke recused himself and exited the dais.

Mayor Sahli-Wells invited public input.

Jeremy Green, Management Analyst, read a written comment submitted by:

Julie Lugo Cerra

MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER WEISSMAN AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER COOPER THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

DIRECT THE CITY MANAGER TO WORK WITH THE CCCCC TO DRAFT AN MOU FOR LATER PRESENTATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION. THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: COOPER, O'LEARY, SAHLI-WELLS, WEISSMAN
NOES: NONE
RECUSED: CLARKE

Mr. Clarke, speaking as a resident from the speaker's lectern, reported that they would begin the process of recruiting for the Board of Directors for the Centennial Committee and anyone who wanted to participate with ideas noting that a site would be set upfor people to apply and indicate interest.

Councilmember Clarke returned to the dais.

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Public Comment – Items Not on the Agenda

Mayor Sahli-Wells invited public comment.

No speakers came forward and no cards were received.

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Items from the City Council

Items from Councilmember Cooper

- Reported attending a meeting of the Architectural Building Council of Los Angeles on June 4 where Tilden Terrace and Parcel B in Culver City were award recipients

Mayor Sahli-Wells noted that it was the second award received for Parcel B, and the project had not even been built yet.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 12:05 a.m., Tuesday, June 10, 2014, the City Council adjourned its meeting in memory of George Petrelli,to Monday, June 23, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

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Martin R. Cole
CITY CLERK of Culver City, California
EX-OFFICIO CLERK of the City Council
Culver City,California

June 9, 2014

MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS
MAYOR of Culver City, California