

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY OF CULVER CITY
FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

July 9, 2025
7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Bauer called the regular meeting of the City of Culver City Finance Advisory Committee to order at 7:08 p.m. in the Dan Patacchia Room at City Hall.

Members Present: ANDREW LACHMAN, Chair*
MARC BAUER, Vice Chair
LEIGH AUSTIN, Member
ANISSA DI VINCENTE, Member
JOHNNIE GRIFFING, Member
KEVIN LACHOFF, Member
VIKRAM THAKUR, Member

*Chair Lachman arrived at 7:16 p.m.

Absent: SANTHA RAJIV, Member
KEITH JONES, Member

Staff Present: Elizabeth Shavelson, Assistant Chief Financial Officer
James Lambert, Associate Analyst

o0o

Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chair Bauer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

o0o

Public Comment – Items NOT On The Agenda

Vice Chair Bauer invited public comment.

The following member of the public addressed the Committee:

James Richardson introduced himself; indicated that he had been to many City Council meetings; and noted that he wanted to observe and be involved in the process.

o0o

Receipt and Filing of Correspondence

James Lambert, Associate Analyst, indicated that no correspondence had been received.

o0o

Consent Calendar Items

Item C-1

Approval of the Minutes for the Finance Advisory Committee Meeting of May 14, 2025

MOVED BY MEMBER DI VINCENTE AND SECONDED BY MEMBER AUSTIN THAT THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF MAY 14, 2025.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: AUSTIN, BAUER, DI VINCENTE, GRIFFING, LACHOFF, THAKUR
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: JONES, LACHMAN, RAJIV

o0o

Order of the Agenda

Item A-1 was considered after Item A-4.

o0o

Action Items

Item A-1

Selection of Annual Officers (Chair and Vice Chair) to Serve a One-Year Term, Expiring June 30, 2026

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding willingness to serve and agreement to reorder the agenda to place the item after Item A-4.

MOVED BY MEMBER THAKUR AND SECONDED BY MEMBER GRIFFING THAT THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MOVE ITEM A-1 TO BE HEARD AFTER ITEM A-4.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: AUSTIN, BAUER, DI VINCENTE, GRIFFING, LACHOFF, THAKUR
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: JONES, LACHMAN, RAJIV

o0o

Item A-2

(1) Receive Final Report from the Government Efficiency Ad Hoc Subcommittee for Fiscal Year 2024-2025; (2) Dissolve the Government Efficiency Ad Hoc Subcommittee for Fiscal Year 2024-2025; (3) Establish New Government Efficiency Ad Hoc Subcommittee for Fiscal Year 2025-2026, if Desired; and (4) Appoint Members to the 2026 Government Efficiency Ad Hoc Subcommittee

Vice Chair Bauer invited public comment:

The following member of the public addressed the Committee:

James Richardson questioned whether a report had been submitted.

Member Di Vincente indicated that there had not been a report attached; she reported that awards had been presented on June 23, 2025; discussed the different award types; acceptance of awards by the departments; increased submissions; the successful and enjoyable event; and departments involved.

MOVED BY MEMBER AUSTIN, SECONDED BY MEMBER DI VINCENTE AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

1. RECEIVE A FINAL REPORT FROM THE GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025; AND,

2. DISSOLVE THE GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: AUSTIN, BAUER, DI VINCENTE, GRIFFING, LACHOFF, THAKUR
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: JONES, LACHMAN, RAJIV

Chair Lachman joined the meeting.

MOVED BY MEMBER THAKUR AND SECONDED BY MEMBER DI VINCENTE
THAT THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE: ESTABLISH A GOVERNMENT
EFFICIENCY AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: AUSTIN, BAUER, DI VINCENTE, GRIFFING, LACHMAN,
LACHOFF, THAKUR
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: JONES, RAJIV

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding willingness
to serve.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR BAUER AND SECONDED BY MEMBER THAKUR
THAT THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE: APPOINT MEMBERS AUSTIN,
DI VINCENTE, RAJIV AND THAKUR TO THE 2026 GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY
AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: AUSTIN, BAUER, DI VINCENTE, GRIFFING, LACHMAN,
LACHOFF, THAKUR
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: JONES, RAJIV

o0o

Item A-3

**Receive Reports for Discussion from the (1) Assets Ad Hoc Subcommittee,
(2) Structural Revenue Review Ad Hoc Subcommittee, (3) Affordable**

Housing Ad Hoc Subcommittee; and (4) Provide Direction to Staff, if Deemed Appropriate

Chair Lachman congratulated the Committee on another wonderful year noting that it got better each time because of their work.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding clarification that no reports were available from the Structural Revenue or Housing subcommittees.

Vice Chair Bauer requested a meeting with Housing & Human Services staff for the Assets Ad Hoc subcommittee.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding agreement by staff to help facilitate a meeting; confirmation that asset identification had been completed; and clarification that no underutilization was identified.

Member Lachoff reported that the Contingency Reserve Ad Hoc Subcommittee had not met yet.

o0o

Item A-4

(1) Draft the Finance Advisory Committee Biannual Report to the City Council, Inclusive of A) Accomplishments During the Period January through June 2025 and B) Updates on Upcoming Plans for Fiscal Year 2025-2026, and (2) Authorize Transmittal of the Report to the City Council

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding review of the draft in the staff report; inclusion of the Government Efficiency Awards and increased applications; adding support of the Fee Study; adding a reference to continued review of assets held by the City and insight provided to the City Council; outside funding and partnerships; sharing assets; fluctuating economic conditions; federal budget impacts; partnership opportunities for shared resources; discuss and improve communication; the Fraud, Waste, and Abuse of City Resources Hotline; quarterly reports on the website; origin of the Hotline; lack of substantive reports received; confidentiality concerns; staff agreement to bring back a report on the Hotline; adding a request to examine contingency reserves; the focus on tax revenue; analysis of expenditures; the proposed quarter cent sales tax; sales tax proposals generated at the City Council level; effective date if the sales tax measure passes; tax initiatives referred by the City Council; timing and state law with regard to the tax; time required to put the tax into place if the measure passes; support for adding a statement to indicate willingness of the FAC to review the proposed tax measure; transaction and use tax; variances; corrections that have to be made after the fact; incorporation into existing reports; adding a reference to

the Contingency Reserve Ad Hoc Subcommittee; and the July 14, 2025 City Council meeting agenda item to discuss a request for financial support for the School District.

MOVED BY MEMBER GRIFFING AND SECONDED BY MEMBER THAKUR THAT THE FAC: AUTHORIZE TRANSMITTAL OF THE BIENNIAL REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL AS AMENDED.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: AUSTIN, BAUER, DI VINCENTE, GRIFFING, LACHMAN,
LACHOFF, THAKUR
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: JONES, RAJIV

o0o

Item A-1
(Out of Sequence)

Selection of Annual Officers (Chair and Vice Chair) to Serve a One-Year Term, Expiring June 30, 2026

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR BAUER AND SECONDED BY MEMBER LACHOFF THAT THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINT ANDREW LACHMAN TO SERVE AS CHAIR OF THE FAC FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM, EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2026.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: AUSTIN, BAUER, DI VINCENTE, GRIFFING, LACHMAN,
LACHOFF, THAKUR
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: JONES, RAJIV

MOVED BY MEMBER THAKUR AND SECONDED BY MEMBER DI VINCENTE THAT THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINT MARC BAUER TO SERVE AS VICE CHAIR OF THE FAC FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM, EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2026.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: AUSTIN, BAUER, DI VINCENTE, GRIFFING, LACHMAN,
LACHOFF, THAKUR
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: JONES, RAJIV

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding clarification that it was the last year of Chair Lachman's term.

o0o

Item A-5

Discussion of August 13, 2025 Agenda

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding agenda items for August; agreement to meet on August 13, 2025; items that could come out of recent special City Council meetings; updates on Measures C, CC and RE; a staff report on the Fraud, Waste, and Abuse Hotline; the goal to add value to what the City Council does; items referred to the FAC by the City Council; and the ability for the FAC to provide reports to the City Council.

o0o

Public Comment – Items NOT on the Agenda (Continued)

Chair Lachman invited public comment.

The following members of the public addressed the Committee:

James Richardson expressed appreciation to the Committee for their work; wanted to understand how the Committee operates; asked about the structure of the Committee; discussed attacks on infrastructure; funding; transparency; accountability; and he noted that the public had less of a voice.

Denise Neal requested updates; discussed topics of concern and observation; reported attending Santa Monica's budgeting meeting; discussed the CCSM (Community Corp Santa Monica) Jubilo Village project; the \$47.2 million Housing Trust Fund that they loaned to their General Fund and were allowing themselves 4 years to pay back; she reported asking Santa Monica how much of the \$47.2 million would go into the Jubilo Village project; indicated being attached to a hedge fund that is seeking to help Culver City; noted that the hedge fund has to go through a non-profit; discussed the need for a flyer describing the 501c3 and a document describing what Jubilo Village is; readiness of the hedge fund to help once required information is received; questioned whether Santa Monica was playing shell games with their budget; discussed overreach with Santa Monica getting money from the hedge fund; whether Culver City is going to be on the hook for the loan; observed that nothing was said about paying Culver City back; she noted that the interim City Manager of Santa Monica had refused to talk to her; she questioned the current status of the Parks Plan; and she asked to speak to someone after the meeting.

o0o

Items from Committee Members/Staff

Elizabeth Shavelson, Assistant Chief Financial Officer, reported that the budget for fiscal year 2025-2026 was adopted on June 9, 2025; discussed the interim audit for 2024-2025; publishing the 2023-2024 Popular Annual Financial Report; the close of fiscal year 2024-2025 and the start of a new fiscal year; and she indicated that the auditors would be back to do the final audit in early fall.


Chair Lachman expressed desire for a smooth transition as he and other members term out at the end of Fiscal Year 2026; noted challenges and constraints of the FAC; and he expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve.

o0o

Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:02 p.m., the City of Culver City Finance Advisory Committee adjourned their meeting to a regular meeting to be held on August 13, 2025.

o0o



James Lambert
SECRETARY of the Culver City Finance Advisory Committee
Culver City, California

APPROVED




Andrew Lachman
CHAIR of the Finance Advisory Committee, Culver City, California

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that, on the date below written, these minutes were filed in the Office of the City Clerk, Culver City, California and constitute the Official Minutes of said meeting.



Jeremy Bocchino
CITY CLERK



Date