

THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL
UNTIL APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL,
CULVER CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD,
AND SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE CULVER CITY
REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL, CULVER CITY
HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD,
AND SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE CULVER CITY
REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

March 8, 2021
7:00 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Mayor Fisch called the regular meeting of the City Council, Culver City Housing Authority Board, and Successor Agency to the Culver City Redevelopment Agency Board to order at 5:32 p.m. in the Mike Balkman Chambers at City Hall via Virtual Webex.

Present: Alex Fisch, Mayor
Daniel Lee, Vice Mayor
Göran Eriksson, Council Member
Yasmine-Imani McMorris, Council Member
Albert Vera, Council Member

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Mayor Fisch invited public comment.

Jeremy Green, City Clerk, indicated that no public comment had been received for Closed Session.

Mayor Fisch reported that he would need to recuse himself from Items CS-2 and CS-3 in Closed Session.

MOVED BY COUNCIL MEMBER VERA, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ERIKSSON AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL, CULVER CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD, AND SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE CULVER CITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION.

Closed Session

At 5:36 p.m. the City Council, Culver City Housing Authority Board, and Successor Agency to the Culver City Redevelopment Agency Board adjourned to Closed Session to consider the following Closed Session Items:

CS-1 HA - Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation
Claim Nos. 20170098CULV, 20190057CULV
Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

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CS-2 CC - Conference with Real Property Negotiators
Re: 3505 and 3526 Hayden Avenue, between Steller Dr. and National Blvd., Culver City; Public rights-of-way on Hayden Avenue and airspace above between 3505 and 3526 Hayden Avenue; Property beginning at southern boundary of 3505 Hayden Ave.; and Public rights-of-way on Hayden Avenue at Steller Drive, Culver City
City Negotiators: John Nachbar, City Manager; Charles Herbertson, Public Works Director
Other Parties Negotiators: Samitaur Constructs
Under Negotiation: Price, terms of payment or both and other monetary related considerations
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8(d)(8)

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CS-3 CC - Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation
Re: Initiation of Litigation - One Matter
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)

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Regular Session

Mayor Fisch reconvened the meeting of the City Council, the Culver City Housing Authority Board and the Successor Agency to the Culver City Redevelopment Agency Board at 7:00 p.m. with all Council Members present.

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Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Fisch led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Closed Session Report

Mayor Fisch indicated that he had recused himself from consideration of Items CS-2 and CS-3.

Vice Mayor Lee indicated nothing to report out of Closed Session.

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Community Announcements by City Council Members/Information Items from Staff

Council Member Vera noted that it was International Women's Day; he celebrated his mother; and he encouraged everyone to edify others.

Council Member Eriksson echoed comments about International Women's Day and reported that he was participating in the National League of Cities Washington Conference from March 8-10.

Vice Mayor Lee acknowledged International Women's Day; reiterated concern about the lack of female candidates; and he encouraged female leaders in the City to continue running for City Council in the future.

Mayor Fisch sent a message of solidarity to the Kaizuka Sister City acknowledging the ten year anniversary of the tsunami in Japan and the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster that took place on March 11, 2011.

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CC - COVID-19 Update

Ken Powell, Fire Chief, Current Emergency Operations Director, reported that the Centers for Disease Control (CD) had issued their first set of recommendations for people who are fully vaccinated; he indicated that additional information was available at [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov); he reminded everyone that the pandemic was not over and discussed mask wearing, social distancing and proper hygiene; adjusted case rates; vaccination rates, availability and appointment information; high risk conditions;

myturn.ca.gov; and he announced resumption of parking enforcement on March 15, 2021.

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Joint Public Comment - Items NOT on the Agenda

Mayor Fisch invited public comment.

The following members of the public addressed the City Council:

Brit Mark was called to speak but did not respond.

Maky Peters, Southern California Hospital (SCH), discussed efforts to put pressure on hospital executives to address substandard conditions; ongoing issues at SCH; contact with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH); recognition of water damage; and she asked those on the City Council who have not written letters to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to join Vice Mayor Lee and Council Member McMorris in writing letters and to support Hero Pay for frontline workers.

Vice Mayor Lee asked that a discussion of Hero Pay be agendaized in a timely manner.

LaRhonda Smith, SCH, provided background on herself; noted repeatedly coming before the City Council to report declining quality of safety and patient care; discussed weak enforcement mechanisms by CDPH which has identified issues; stress experienced by workers; the need for action and support; she requested that a discussion of a Hero Pay ordinance be made a priority; and that the Mayor and remaining City Council Members write a letter to the CEO asking for issues to be addressed.

Ron Bassilian reported the birth of his son; discussed the special meeting to defund the police; the Center for Public Safety Management (CPSM) study that showed the importance of the Culver City Police Department (CCPD) to the integrity of City; Project 405; he expressed support for the No-Tents ordinance in Santa Monica; and crime reports coming from CCPD.

Kelli Estes questioned when the City Council would be back in Council Chambers since restrictions were being loosened.

Colin Diaz, Downtown Business Association (DBA), reported being contacted by numerous residents concerned about increased crime; he questioned what the City was doing to address the situation;

noted discussions around defunding or supporting CCPD; encouraged the City to consult businesses in the City when considering Hero Pay; and he proposed considering City Police, Fire and Transportation workers first.

Heather Hutt reported being a candidate for the 54th Assembly District and hearing from residents about declining conditions at SCH; discussed her sister's experience with the hospital; the need for immediate action; classification of health and safety as a protected category; Hero Pay for people on the frontlines; the importance of the hospital to the community; and she wanted to see SCH be something the City could be proud of.

Mark Lipman discussed budget negotiations; benefits of the Housing First Program; the Homelessness Tool Kit approved by the previous City Council; the direct housing pilot program; acquisition of motels for reuse; profitability of motels; \$11,000 per month per room being paid by the City for emergency long-term housing vs. \$20,000 per year to house people in apartments; he urged the City to stop making it so profitable for the motels, and to use a different model; emphasized the need for an immediate response for those that fall into homelessness; transferring people into a more stable situation as soon as possible; money saved by phasing out the status quo emergency triage model currently being used; Project 50; the cost effectiveness of direct housing; and he urged the City Council to believe in math when determining budget priorities.

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Receipt and Filing of Correspondence

Mayor Fisch reported receipt of 30 pages of correspondence.

MOVED BY VICE MAYOR LEE, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER MCMORRIN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL RECEIVE AND FILE CORRESPONDENCE.

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Order of the Agenda

Item C-9 was considered at the end of the Consent Calendar, and Items A-3 and A-5 were deferred to consideration at a future meeting.

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Consent Calendar

MOVED BY COUNCIL MEMBER VERA, SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR LEE AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS C-1 THROUGH C-8 AND C-10.

Item C-1

CC:HA:SA - (1) Approval of Cash Disbursements for February 13, 2021 to February 26, 2021

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL, HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD, AND SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD: APPROVE CASH DISBURSEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY 13, 2021 TO FEBRUARY 26, 2021.

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Item C-2

CC:HA:SA - Approval of Minutes for the Regular Consolidated City Council Meeting on February 22, 2021

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL, HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD, AND SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD: APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CONSOLIDATED CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON FEBRUARY 22, 2021.

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Item C-3

CC - Adoption of a Resolution Confirming the February 25, 2021 Thirty-Fourth Supplement to Public Order (Extension of and Modifications to Commercial Tenant Eviction Moratorium) Issued by the City Manager, as Director of Emergency Services, under City of Culver City Emergency Authority, Due to the Coronavirus Respiratory Disease (COVID-19) Pandemic

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL: ADOPT A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE FEBRUARY 25, 2021 THIRTY-FOURTH SUPPLEMENT TO PUBLIC ORDER (EXTENSION OF AND MODIFICATIONS TO COMMERCIAL TENANT EVICTION MORATORIUM), ISSUED BY THE CITY MANAGER, AS DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES, UNDER CITY OF CULVER CITY EMERGENCY AUTHORITY, DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS RESPIRATORY DISEASE (COVID-19) PANDEMIC.

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Item C-4

CC - Amendment to Existing Professional Services Agreement with HdL Coren & Cone for Measure RE Real Estate Property Transfer Tax Audit Services for an Additional Term of Five Years in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$18,120 Annually

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

1. APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE EXISTING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH HDL COREN & COEN FOR MEASURE RE PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX AUDIT SERVICES FOR AN ADDITIONAL TERM OF FIVE YEARS IN AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$18,120 ANNUALLY; 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 C-5

CC - Adoption of a Resolution of Intention to Vacate the Alley Located East of Elenda Street, and between Lindblade Street and Barman Avenue, and Setting a Public Hearing Date of April 12, 2021, Pursuant Division 9, Part 3, Chapter 3 of the Streets and Highways Code

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL: ADOPT A RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO VACATE THE ALLEY LOCATED EAST OF ELENDA STREET, AND BETWEEN LINDBLADE STREET AND BARMAN AVENUE, AND SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING DATE OF APRIL 12, 2021, PURSUANT TO DIVISION 9, PART 3, CHAPTER 3 OF THE STREETS AND HIGHWAYS CODE.

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Item C-6

CC - Adoption of an Amendment to Existing Professional Services Agreement with Tetra Tech to include a Debris Management Tabletop Exercise Design, Education, and Evaluation, in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$29,974 Resulting in an aggregate amount of 79,874

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

1. APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE EXISTING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH TETRA TECH FOR THE DEBRIS MANAGEMENT TABLETOP EXERCISE DESIGN, EDUCATION, AND EVALUATION IN AN ADDITIONAL AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED, \$29,974 RESULTING IN AN AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF 79,874; 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 C-7

CC - Authorization of Award of \$150,066 for the 2021 Performing Arts Grant Program for 21 Organizations, and Designation of Related Performances as City-Sponsored, as Recommended by the Cultural Affairs Commission; and (2) Approval of Related Grantee Contracts

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

1. AUTHORIZE THE AWARD OF \$150,066 FOR THE 2021 PERFORMING ARTS GRANT PROGRAM FOR 21 ORGANIZATIONS, AND DESIGNATE RELATED PERFORMANCES AS CITY-SPONSORED, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION, AND AS OUTLINED IN THE STAFF REPORT; AND
2. APPROVE THE RELATED GRANTEE CONTRACTS; AND,
3. AUTHORIZE THE CITY ATTORNEY TO REVIEW/PREPARE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS; AND
4. AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SUCH DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY.

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Item C-8

CC - (1) Approval of a Purchase Order with Peterbilt Motors Company Sourcewell for the Purchase of a Peterbilt CNG Flatbed Vehicle in an Amount Not-To-Exceed \$198,454.34; and (2) Authorization of Additional Funds in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$5,000 for the Purchase of Supplemental Equipment.; and 3) FOUR-FIFTHS VOTE REQUIREMENT: Approval of a Related Budget Amendment

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

1. APPROVE A PURCHASE ORDER WITH PETERBILT MOTOR COMPANY SOURCEWELL FOR PURCHASE OF PETERBILT MOTORS COMPANY FLATBED VEHICLE IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$193,454.34 INCLUDING FEES AND TAXES; AND,
2. AUTHORIZE ADDITIONAL FUNDS IN AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$5,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF SUPPLEMENTAL EQUIPMENT; AND,
3. APPROVE A RELATED BUDGET AMENDMENT (REQUIRES A FOUR-FIFTHS VOTE); AND,
4. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING OFFICER TO ISSUE SUCH PURCHASE ORDER(S) .

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Item C-10
(Out of Sequence)

CC - Receipt and Filing of Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Year-End Report and Audit Summary and the Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL: RECEIVE AND FILE THE ATTACHED FISCAL YEAR 2019/2020 YEAR-END REPORT AND AUDIT SUMMARY AND THE FISCAL YEAR 2019/2020 CAFR.

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CC - (1) Adoption of a Resolution Supporting Action to Close the Natural Gas Storage Facility Located at 8141 Gulana Avenue, Playa del Rey, California; and (2) Direction to the City Manager as Deemed Appropriate

Mayor Fisch invited public comment.

The following members of the public addressed the City Council:

Mike Harriel, Southern California Gas Company (So Cal Gas), requested a delay in voting on the resolution to allow a presentation on storage field operations at the Playa del Rey facility; he discussed references to the California Council on Science and Technology (CCST) report; lack of support for natural gas by several Council Members; Culver City restaurateurs that rely on natural gas; and the importance of having a complete understanding of how things work together to maintain energy reliability.

Ethan Senser thanked the City Council for their support; he referenced comments made at the previous City Council meeting; and he expressed appreciation for the strong stance of the City Council to shut down the unneeded facility.

Raequel London thanked the City Council for considering her for the position on the Homelessness Committee, and received clarification that appointments would be made as part of Item A-1.

Christina Ku thanked those who supported closure of the gas storage tanks under the Ballona Wetlands; discussed the confusion about the restoration plan; negative health and environmental impacts of the gas tanks; deceptive language; and conflicts of interest.

Jane Velez-Mitchell urged the City Council to shut down the So Cal Gas facility at Playa del Rey; she discussed the Aliso Canyon incident; the facility under the Ballona Wetlands; gas odor and eye irritation in the area; incidences of So Cal Gas calling police on people who are trying to take a look at the piecemeal work being done; plans to destroy the last of the California wetlands; traffic impacts; current lawsuits; concern with a massacre of wildlife; and appreciation to Culver City for setting a good example by standing up and doing the right thing.

Molly Basler provided background on herself; discussed her efforts to defend the Ballona Wetlands; aging infrastructure; the need for wetlands and biodiversity; the need to shut down facilities and move into the Green New Deal; and she urged the City Council to support the resolution and shut down the Playa del Rey facility to protect the Ballona Wetlands.

Marcia Hanscom, provided background on herself; thanked staff for their work; expressed appreciation for steps Culver City is taking to be a leader and set an example; she read an excerpt from the CCST report referenced by Mike Harriel citing risks to residents in the area; and she asked that the City Council support the resolution and ask the governor to put the facility on the list for closure.

Vice Mayor Lee moved to approve Item C-9 and Council Member McMorris seconded the motion.

Council Member Eriksson felt the item required further study; expressed concern with the implications of a closure; indicated that he felt the item was an overreach; and he stated that he would be voting against it as he had done so previously.

MOVED BY VICE MAYOR LEE AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER MCMORRIN THAT THE CITY COUNCIL: ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT ACTION FOR THE CLOSURE OF THE PLAYA DEL REY NATURAL GAS STORAGE FACILITY LOCATED AT 8141 GULANA AVENUE IN PLAYA DEL REY, CA.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING MOTION:

AYES: FISCH, LEE, MCMORRIN, VERA
NOES: ERIKSSON

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Public Hearings Items

Item PH-1

CC - PUBLIC HEARING: Appeal of the Public Works Director/City Engineer's Decision to Deny a Request to Remove Two City-Owned Parkway Trees Located at 4381 Motor Avenue

Joe Susca, Senior Management Analyst, provided a summary of the material of record.

MOVED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ERIKSSON, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER MCMORRIN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING.

Mayor Fisch invited public comment.

The following members of the public addressed the City Council:

Richard Slechta, the appellant, discussed the aggressive nature of the ficus tree roots; his intent to protect their home from structural damage; asserted that there would be no negative impact to the City budget as they would cover the costs of tree removal mitigation; he discussed errors in the staff report; substantial damage and costs already incurred; the Urban Forestry statements; root growth; liability; he asserted that foundations were not replaceable like sidewalks and trees are; he felt that all the facts had not been included in the report; and he indicated that they would pay to remove the trees, repair the sidewalk, and plant two non-invasive oak trees that are included in the Urban Forest Master Plan.

Sonia indicated that they had tried to do everything they could to remediate the situation; she discussed the speed of root growth; removal of other trees on the block due to similar issues; planting of parkway appropriate trees; and she asked for support from the City Council to protect their forever home.

MOVED BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEE, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER MCMORRIN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding expense of regular pruning; planting a new tree; West Coast Arborists; health of the trees; mitigation of lateral root growth; support for preserving the canopy; root trimming vs. canopy trimming; responsibility of root pruning on private property; the maintenance schedule for root pruning in the public right of way; deterrents to root growth; forcing the roots to go deeper; root barriers; deep watering; minimizing

the spread of shallow roots; the need to come up with a tree replacement plan; moving toward less invasive species; the invasive root system; damage done to property; fairness to the homeowner; difficulty monitoring and trying to get every root before it gets to the property; support for the homeowner request; the need for contrary evidence in the appeal; support for the decision of the arborist; standards and factual findings used by the arborist in the decision-making process; support for keeping trees; community-wide benefits; trees previously removed on the street; more severe interruption demonstrated in other cases considered by the City; support for proposed staff mitigations with the understanding that the matter could come before the City again if the mitigations do not work; taking homeowner considerations seriously; maintenance of the Urban Forest; responsibility of the property owner to embark upon deep watering; reminders to property owners about the proper care and maintenance of parkway trees; encouragement that the City create a plan for systematic tree replacement of problematic trees; and concern with allowing someone who can pay for an appeal and mitigations to have it granted because they have the money to pay for it.

MOVED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ERIKSSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER MCMORRIN THAT THE CITY COUNCIL: AFFIRM THE DECISION OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR/CITY ENGINEER TO DENY THE APPELLANT'S REQUEST FOR TWO TREE REMOVALS LOCATED AT 4381 MOTOR AVENUE.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING MOTION:

AYES: ERIKSSON, FISCH, LEE, MCMORRIN
NOES: VERA

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Action Items

CC - Appointments to the Civil Service Commission; Committee on Homelessness; Fiesta La Ballona Committee; Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission; and General Plan Advisory Committee

Mimi Ferrel, City Clerk Specialist, provided a summary of the material of record.

Mayor Fisch invited public comment.

The following members of the public addressed the City Council:

Chi Gong provided background on himself and indicated his desire to serve on the Civil Service Commission.

Khary Cuffe provided background on himself; discussed his application to the Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) Commission as well as to the Committee on Homelessness; and reasons for wanting to serve.

Responding to inquiry, Khary Cuffe clarified his intent to serve; provided information on his background in public service; discussed his ideas for events in the parks; partnerships with LA Sparks; experience with housing and homelessness issues; inviting the private sector to help with the homeless population; and funding for landlords to renovate their space for homeless housing, especially during the winter.

Jane Leonard provided background on herself and discussed her application to the Parks, Recreation and the Community Services Commission.

Responding to Council Member inquiry, Jane Leonard discussed adding language to the Commission description that includes an equity element; grant funds to enhance operations; use of the Asset Replacement Fund as a planning and funding mechanism; offering a more robust interface between staff and the Council; programmatic elements of the PRCS; the transitional period due to COVID-19; ensuring safety and consistency across programming; the Governmental Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE); the Racial and Equity Action Plan (REAP); ensuring that equity is considered in every decision; and she indicated that she would be retiring from the City on March 15.

Michelle Ellis provided background on herself; indicated her desire to serve on the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission; and she discussed programmatic ideas.

Humberto Benitez provided background on himself; discussed his desire to serve on the Committee on Homelessness; increased crime; and he felt that homelessness should be addressed on a regional basis.

Responding to inquiry, Humberto Benitz discussed the importance of addressing mental illness and providing services; Manchester Square; addressing homelessness first, followed by case management; and directing the homeless to existing services.

Amy Cherness provided background on herself; discussed her desire to serve on the Committee on Homelessness; and, responding to inquiry, she expressed support for the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) program and asserted that there needed to be more work done with children.

Heidi Creve was called to speak, but did not respond.

Emily Dibiny provided background on herself; discussed her reasons for wanting to serve on the Committee on Homelessness; and she asserted that she could bring resources to the COH.

Responding to inquiry, Ms. Dibiny discussed the Homes Guarantee Program; finding affordable housing; and humane solutions.

Bubba Fish provided background on himself; discussed his desire to serve on the Committee on Homelessness; the need for a direct housing program; cost savings and proven success of permanent supportive housing; the link between transportation and housing; alleviating inequities; the need to address policies that block creation of much needed housing; and leveraging knowledge to craft solutions for stakeholders.

Responding to inquiry, Bubba Fish clarified that he was not related to the Mayor; discussed the Housing First model; and availability to attend meetings and participate in events.

Raequel London provided background on herself and discussed her desire to serve on the Committee on Homelessness.

Lizbeth Mendez provided background on herself and discussed her desire to serve on the Committee on Homelessness.

Responding to inquiry, Lizbeth Mendez discussed sanitation solutions; providing areas for quarantine and mental health resources; her plans for college and long-term commitment to the community; people losing jobs and homes during the pandemic; and her founding of a non-profit organization to help unhoused residents.

Sapna Shah provided background on herself; discussed her desire to serve on the Committee on Homelessness; the collaborative effort needed to address homelessness; and her review of policies and information regarding the COH.

Jamie Sussman was called to speak but did not respond.

Sara Wasserstrom was called to speak but did not respond.

Michelle Weiner expressed support for the appointment of Bubba Fish to the COH.

Judith Martin-Straw provided background on herself; discussed her desire to serve on the Fiesta La Ballona Committee; and changes to the event over the years.

Responding to inquiry, Judith Martin-Straw discussed moving Fiesta La Ballona closer to the Creek; history of the event; and making the event more transportation oriented.

Vice Mayor Lee expressed support for involving the Creek in the event.

Jeremy Green, City Clerk, reported that Bitania Beniam was the recommendation of Council Member McMorris to replace her on the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC).

Bitania Beniam provided background on herself; discussed her desire to serve on the General Plan Advisory Committee; her founding of POC for Change; improving relationships within the community; and bringing young people into the process.

Council Member McMorris expressed support for the service of Bitania Beniam to the community and felt that she would be an asset to the GPAC.

Vice Mayor Lee expressed support for the suggestions made by Council Members Eriksson and McMorris for service on the GPAC; discussed the efforts of Ms. Beniam to encourage consideration

of other perspectives; and adding youth representation to the GPAC.

Anthony Pleskow provided background on himself and expressed interest in serving on the General Plan Advisory Committee.

Jeremy Green, City Clerk, reported that Heather Wollin had wanted to speak, but had a personal issue and could not be present.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding clarification on the speakers; meeting schedule; appreciation to those who reach out or attend the meeting to address the City Council; the long-term fate of the Civil Service Commission; duplication of efforts; partial term appointments; preferences for various candidates and their accomplishments; intentionality with appointments in terms of gender, race and age; outreach; encouragement to Peter Stern, and anyone not appointed to try again for the next round of appointments; City Council consensus that certain partial appointments not be required to reapply again in the spring; diversity; the importance of representing a variety of viewpoints; willingness to serve; and experience.

MOVED BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEE, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER MCMORRIN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

1. APPOINT ROBERT GREENSPAN TO SEAT NO. 2 OF THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION (CSC) FOR THE CURRENT PARTIAL TERM AND THE NEXT FULL FOUR-YEAR TERM, EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2025, AND APPOINT CHI GONG TO SEAT NO. 3 OF THE CSC FOR A FULL TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2024; AND,
2. APPOINT BUBBA FISH TO SEAT NO. 5 OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS TO COMPLETE THE UNEXPIRED TERM, WHICH EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 2023; AND
3. APPOINT JUDITH MARTIN-STRAW TO SEAT NO. 1 OF THE FIESTA LA BALLONA TO COMPLETE THE CURRENT PARTIAL TERM AND THE NEXT FULL 4-YEAR TERM, EXPIRING OCTOBER 31, 2025; AND
4. APPOINT KHARY CUFFE TO SEAT NO. 5 OF THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION FOR THE CURRENT PARTIAL TERM AND THE NEXT FULL 4-YEAR TERM, EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2025; AND
5. APPOINT BITANIA BENIAM AND ANTHONY PLESKOW TO THE GENERAL PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR A TERM UNTIL DISBANDMENT OF THE

COMMITTEE.

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Item A-2

CC - (1) Discussion of Potential Amendments to Culver City Municipal Code Chapter 11.18, Polystyrene Regulations; and (2) Direction to the City Manager as Deemed Appropriate

Kim Braun, Environmental Programs and Operations Manager, provided a summary of the material of record.

Chanel Kincaid, Senior Management Analyst, presented potential amendments to the Culver City Municipal Code regarding Polystyrene Regulation; discussed economic impacts associated with options for overall environmental and economic benefits to the community; phases of the process; outreach; challenges to recycling plastic; plastics litter; stormwater management and recycling; 100% fiber compostable food service ware; re-use for dine-in only; paper-based materials; straw usage in the disabled community; single use plastic water bottles or beverage bottles; price per unit comparisons; City water fountains; refillable water hydration stations; and considerations for options moving forward.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding concerns of businesses; expenses related to reducing the amount of trash going into landfills; prohibitions under the original ordinance; additional prohibitions proposed; the prohibition of plastic bottles for City facilities; providing alternatives; previously banned materials; and clamshells.

Mayor Fisch invited public comment.

The following members of the public addressed the City Council:

Sandrine Cassidy, Ballona Creek Renaissance (BCR), discussed strengthening the ban; single-use plastics; clear direction given at the last Sustainability Subcommittee meeting in November 2020; the need for strong legislation in a short timeframe; banning the sale and use of all plastics 1-7, foam and rigid polystyrene; providing acceptable alternatives; allowances for plastic straws for the disabled; enforcement; amendments to the 2017 ordinance; the amended ordinance in Manhattan Beach; providing ample resources for implementation; the importance of enacting the ban this year; food

establishments offering dine-in service; banning single-use plastic bottles; covering the costs for non-profit plastics-free restaurants to switch to plastics-free compostables; plastic in Ballona Creek; education by BCR; and she urged the City Council to draft the legislation to influence other cities that are lagging.

Amy Rosenstein reported emailing her comments; expressed support for the updated version of the ordinance based on the Manhattan Beach ordinance and the actions of the City to reduce the use of plastics at City Hall; discussed the harmful effects of plastic debris in waterways and the ocean; implementation of the 2017 ordinance; requesting a behavior change by businesses to benefit everyone; and she noted that the longer it takes to take action, the bigger the problem gets for everyone.

Deborah Gregory, BCR, provided background on the organization; discussed annual trash collection events; and she welcomed new Council Members, encouraging them to participate in future events.

Mia Cassidy, BCR Club at Culver City High School, provided background on the club; expressed support to BCR for the enhancement of the ban; and she asked the City Council to draft an amendment to strengthen the ordinance immediately.

Colin Diaz, Chamber of Commerce, indicated that he was speaking on behalf of himself; expressed support for the work of the City; discussed potential unintended consequences; costs associated with the ban; the supply chain for food and grocery items in the City; increased costs passed on to the consumers; waste mitigation; up-front costs; the need to research alternatives; outreach to businesses; the Green Waste Program; and he felt that additional discussion was necessary for the proposed sweeping change that might not be the best solution.

Michelle Weiner urged the City Council to pass the strongest possible amendment; she discussed pushback on the original ban; environmental improvements made; her participation in the Culver City Unified School District (CCUSD) Sustainability Committee; groups committed to sustainability looking for opportunities; and she thanked BCR, Five Gyres and other groups that have provided data in the process.

Disa Lindgren strongly urged the City Council to direct staff to prepare the amendment to the ordinance to ban polystyrene plastics as recommended by BCR; she reported providing written

comments; requested City Council support of the strongest possible amendment; and she felt that plastic straws should be provided upon request so the disabled will have access.

John Charles Meyer, plasticfreerestaurants.org, provided background on the organization; expressed support for the ban as proposed; discussed subsidizing costs; eliminating hurdles to make changes; money raised from private donors; support for the amendments; expressed willingness to work with Culver City restaurants; he explained program procedures; and indicated that a plastic free badge would be developed for Yelp and Trip Advisor once the list reaches a certain threshold.

Council Member Vera received clarification regarding contact information; subsidies; length of the program; and use of certified compostable products.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding the fact that addressing climate change is addressing plastic; non-sustainable practices at conferences; benefits to moving forward with a stronger ban; longer-term benefits; terminology; petroleum-based plastics; costs; willingness of consumers to pay more to help the environment; personal and public health;; effects of particulate matter coming from plastics; the need for long-term studies; the health of the environment, but also personal and public health; the need to move forward with strict regulations around polystyrene; strengthening storm water mitigation efforts; the past practice of shipping things to other countries that were not recyclable; support for recyclable and biodegradable products; the worsening climate crisis; cities that have passed similar ordinances; potential savings after the initial investment; subsidies for the transition; those who have already made the transition; support for strict regulations, working with BCR and John Charles Meyer; protecting the water supply and addressing climate change; high contamination rates; diversion; concern that the report was a bit confusing; examination of ordinances from other cities; collaboration with affected businesses; poor response; businesses focusing on surviving; hot beverage cups; identification of which stores would be affected by the change; analyzing the surrounding area and seeing what is available; things that are packaged outside of the City; increased use of plastic during the pandemic; branding; companies making commitments and willing to make changes; making changes to the status quo which is not working; ripple effects of making changes; education; the need for additional data; unintended consequences; business recovery after COVID; implementation of

cutlery by request; enforcement; cost to the City; concern that people will just go outside of the City and purchase the banned items; focusing on legislation at the state level; the importance of making changes to reduce the amount of plastic in the waterways; reordering economic expectations; setting an example to influence behavior in other cities; previous actions by the City that put people on notice that things were changing; consideration of a ban of all plastic beverage containers at City facilities and City sponsored events, or consider a ban on plastic water bottles at City facilities and City sponsored events; allowing restaurants a chance to adapt; compromise; staff suggestions; clarification that the City is not leading on the issue; the need to take climate change seriously; placing a ban on plastic bottles City-wide; moving forward on other issues; leading by example; Zero Waste; the need to revisit the item in the future; installation of trash bins on the Bike Path; looking at different solutions; immediate and effective solutions; use of glass water bottles; water bottle alternatives; confusion as to how the program would work; concern with placing the interests of multi-national organizations over residents; jurisdiction; protecting the health and safety of residents; practicality for grocers; and providing additional context when the items comes back.

City Council consensus was achieved to support:

I. Effective July 2021:

1. Consider a ban on the commercial packaging, sale and distribution of polystyrene meat, fish, poultry, vegetable, cheese trays, egg cartons.
2. Consider a ban of all plastic beverage containers at City facilities and City sponsored events.

II. Effective January 2022:

3. Consider a ban on polystyrene packaging (e.g. peanuts) used for shipping merchandise and packages.
4. Consider a requirement that all food service ware used by food establishments for take-out and/or delivery be composed of 100% fiber.

III. Effective January 2023:

5. Consider a ban on the commercial sale of polystyrene cups,

plates, plastic straws, stirrers, lid plugs and utensils, with the caveat that the disabled community be supported with straws on request.

6. Consider a requirement that "dine in" reusable service ware be required for all food establishments offering dine-in service, with appropriate lead time to adapt.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding the late hour; consideration of the balance of the agenda; speakers; scheduling; and agreement to hold over Items A-3 and A-5.

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Item A-3

CC - (1) Discussion of an Affordable Housing Linkage Fee; and (2) Provide Direction to the City Manager as Deemed Appropriate

This item was deferred to a future City Council meeting.

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Item A-4

CC - (1) Receive a Progress Update on the Culver City Economic Recovery Task Force; (2) Discussion of a Storefront Art Program; and (3) Direction to the City Manager as Deemed Appropriate

Elaine Gerety-Warner, Economic Development Project Manager, provided a summary of the material of record.

Mayor Fisch invited public comment.

Jeremy Green, City Clerk, indicated that no speaker requests had been received.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding the spontaneous art installation at the Helms Bakery; interest and involvement from other players; looking for an equitable distribution of where installations could take place; the inventory of store fronts that are available in different parts of the City; logistics; activation of commercial corridors; support from galleries outside of the City; ThinkSpace; collaboration with the Artist Laureate; involvement of the larger businesses coming into the City; igniting community feel;

and bringing people out.

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Item A-5

CC - (1) Presentation on Mid-Year Budget Monitoring Report; (2) Receipt and Filing of the Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Mid-Year Budget Monitoring Report; (3) Notification to Public Inviting Comment and Input for the Upcoming Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2021/2022; (4) Approval of Proposed Blanket Purchase Order Amendments; and (5) FOUR-FIFTHS VOTE REQUIREMENT: Approval of Proposed Budget Amendments

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

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Public Comment - Items Not on the Agenda

Mayor Fisch invited public comment.

Jeremy Green, City Clerk, indicated that no public comment had been received.

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Items from Council Members

None.

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Council Member Requests to Agendize Future Items

Mayor Fisch received City Council consensus that staff bring back an agenda item on making use of the parking lot on the north side of Venice for Safe Parking.

Vice Mayor Lee discussed policy coming from that state-level that does not support Community Choice Aggregation; current law; stock resolutions; the Clean Power Alliance; supporting a resolution for getting more benefit for what the City already pays into; and he received City Council consensus to agendize an item to consider support of SB 612 when the item has been more formalized.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 12:39 a.m., Tuesday March, 9, 2021, the City Council, Housing Authority Board, and Successor Agency to the Culver City Redevelopment Agency Board adjourned to a special meeting to be held on March 15, 2021.

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Jeremy Green
CITY CLERK of Culver City, California
EX-OFFICIO CLERK of the City Council and SECRETARY of the
Successor Agency to the Culver City Redevelopment Agency
Board, and Culver City Housing Authority Board
Culver City, California

ALEX FISCH
MAYOR of Culver City, California and CHAIR of the Successor
Agency to the Culver City Redevelopment Agency Board, and
Culver City Housing Authority Board

Date: _____