



CITY OF MONTEBELLO REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2025 AT 6:00 PM

**CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1600 WEST BEVERLY BOULEVARD
MONTEBELLO, CALIFORNIA**

OPENING CEREMONIES

CALL TO ORDER - 6:00 P.M.

Mayor Melendez called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present were Mayor Melendez, Mayor Pro Tem Tamayo, Councilmember Peralta, and Councilmember Alonzo. City Clerk Jimenez and City Treasurer Matanga were also present.

City Attorney Arnold Alvarez-Glasman, City Manager Raul Alvarez, Acting Assistant City Manager Angelica Palmeros, Senior Deputy City Clerk Kimberly Guillen, Management Analyst Samantha Nevarez, and Department Directors Michael Solorza, Joseph Palombi, Ramon Figueroa, John Soria, David Sosnowski, Cesar Roldan, Fire Chief Pelaez, and Police Assistant Chief Cabrera were present.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

City Attorney Alvarez-Glasman announced the Closed Session Items.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

At this time, the public may submit a speaker card to the City Clerk staff for Closed Session items, prior to the beginning of this statement. Speakers will be called in the order received. Please be aware that the maximum time allotted for members of the public to speak on Closed Session items shall not exceed three (3) minutes per person. State Law prohibits the City Council from taking action or entertaining extended discussion on a topic not listed on the agenda. Please show courtesy to others and direct all of your comments to the Mayor and City Council.

None.

CLOSED SESSION

The City Attorney shall provide a briefing on the item listed for Closed Session as follows:

Mayor Melendez recessed the meeting into Closed Session at 6:01 p.m. to consider the following Closed Session items:

1. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION**
Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)
J. Ibarra v. City of Montebello
Case No. ADJ11301865, ADJ15112999

2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

I. Navarro v. City of Montebello, et al.

Case No. ADJ13310066, ADJ2613081, ADJ2548565, ADJ15539383, ADJ7472140, ADJ7964720, ADJ2654347, ADJ10708805, ADJ3507314, ADJ6779197, ADJ12495501, ADJ2613081, ADJ6773842

3. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE, DISMISSAL, RELEASE

Government Code Section 54957

One matter

4. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)

Threat of litigation in one matter based upon threat submitted by S. Rafferty for unnamed parties

REGULAR SESSION - IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CLOSED SESSION

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

Mayor Melendez reconvened the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

All four members were present to discuss all Closed Session items. City Attorney Arnold Alvarez-Glasman provided the following report to City Council: Item No. 1, a briefing was provided to City Council, City council gave direction to special counsel, no action was taken, and nothing to further to report; Item No. 2, a briefing was provided to City Council, no action was taken and nothing further to report. Item No. 3, a briefing was provided to City Council, no action was taken and nothing further to report. Item No. 4, Councilmember Ric Alonzo did not participate in the discussion of this item; a briefing was provided to City Council no action was taken and nothing further to report.

INVOCATION

Led by City Clerk Jimenez.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by City Treasurer Matanga.

CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA - CITY MANAGER

City Manager Alvarez announced one correction to the agenda; staff is adding an additional presentation by HereLA on the Montebello Crosswalk Design.

CEREMONIAL ITEMS/PRESENTATIONS

5. CITIZEN OF THE MONTH - MARTE SANCHEZ

Presented by Mayor Melendez.

6. PROCLAMATION FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Presented by Mayor Melendez.

Director of Recreation and Community Services, David Sosnowski, announced the upcoming City-wide events in honor of Black History Month.

7. PROCLAMATION FOR AMERICAN HEART MONTH

Presented by Mayor Melendez.

8. CITY TREASURER'S REPORT

City Treasurer David Matanga presented the Treasurer's Report.

Presentation by HereLA on the Montebello Crosswalk Design.

Mayor Melendez requested that the crosswalk design concept options be added to the City website and social media platforms to allow residents to participate in the design selection process.

Councilmember Peralta inquired about the project timeline.

Director of Public Works, Cesar Roldan, stated that the signal light is nearing completion. He further stated that the City would open a public poll allowing residents to vote on a design before finalizing the project. Once the design is selected, the City will seek Council approval to issue a Notice For Bids, inviting vendors specializing in this type of work to submit proposals.

Mayor Pro Tem Tamayo stated that the design should be selected by the residents.

Councilmember Alonzo thanked the presenters and highlighted his preferred designs.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (30 MINUTES)

At this time, the public may submit speaker card(s) to the City Clerk staff, for both agenda and non-agenda items, prior to the beginning of this statement; Public Hearing items do not require a speaker card.

The City Council will address non-agenda items during this section and speakers will be called in the order received. Those persons not accommodated during this 30-minute period will have an opportunity to speak under "Public Comments – Continued", after all scheduled matters have been considered. **Public Hearing, Regular Business and/or Consent Calendar items will be addressed at the time that matter of business is heard, in the order received.**

Please be aware that the maximum time allotted for members of the public to speak shall not exceed three (3) minutes per speaker. State Law prohibits the City Council from taking action or entertaining extended discussion on a topic not listed on the agenda. Please show courtesy to others and direct all of your comments to the Mayor and City Council.

The City Clerk's Office acknowledged fifteen(15) members of the public wishing to address the City Council. Speakers were provided three minutes to address the City Council and said speaker cards are on file at the City Clerk's office.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS ON ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

City Manager Alvarez announced that the State of California has designated the Armenian Monument as a historical site. He expressed his gratitude to Senator Bob Archuleta and the Armenian community. Additionally, he invited the community to a press conference at the Armenian Monument on February 21st.

REGULAR BUSINESS

9. ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 25-08 ACKNOWLEDGING RECEIPT OF A REPORT MADE BY THE FIRE CHIEF OF THE MONTEBELLO FIRE DEPARTMENT REGARDING THE INSPECTION OF CERTAIN OCCUPANCIES REQUIRED TO PERFORM ANNUAL INSPECTIONS IN SUCH OCCUPANCIES PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 13146.2 AND 13146.3 OF THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 25-08 to receive and file annual mandated Fire Department inspection compliance information pursuant to Sections 13146.2 and 13146.3 of the State of California Health and Safety Code; and,
2. Take such additional, related action that may be desirable.

Fire Chief Pelaez introduced Fire Marshall, Dan Sifuentes, for a presentation on the Community Risk Reduction.

Mayor Melendez thanked staff for the informative presentation.

10. REVIEW OF CURRENT CITY COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS, AGENCIES, AD HOC AND TASK FORCE COMMITTEES

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Review and take action to fill City Council assignments to various Boards, Agencies, Ad Hoc Committees and Task Force Committees; and
2. Designate the Mayor as the representative to the Los Angeles County-City Selection Committee and the Mayor Pro Tempore as the alternate representative; and
3. Designate the Mayor as the representative to the Board of Directors of Sanitation District No's. 2 and 15 of Los Angeles County, and designate a member of the City Council as the alternate; and
4. Establish an Economic Development and Workforce Development Ad Hoc Committee; and
5. Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

The Council reviewed and discussed the appointments to the various boards; the following appointments were made:

Organization	Delegate	Alternate
County of Los Angeles Sanitation Districts	Melendez	Tamayo
Los Angeles County City Selection Committee	Melendez	Tamayo
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG)	Alonzo	Melendez
Capital Projects Committee - Alameda Corridor East Authority (ACE)	Melendez	No alternate at this time.
Gateway Cities Council of Governments	Tamayo	Alonzo
Independent Cities Association	Peralta	Tamayo
Montebello Chamber of Commerce	Tamayo	Melendez
League of California Cities	Alonzo	Peralta
Los Angeles County Vector Control District (LACVCD)	Avik Cordeiro	
Southeast Area Animal Control Authority (SEAACA)	Alonzo	Tamayo
Southern California Association of Governments	Peralta	Melendez

Name of Committee/ Task Force	Member	Member
Ashiya Sister City Association	Tamayo	-
Stepanakert Sister City Association	Melendez	-
Innovating Commerce Serving Communities Ad-Hoc	Peralta	Tamayo
Joint School District Ad Hoc	Alonzo	Tamayo
Washington Goldline Coalition	Melendez	-

Adventist White Memorial Ad Hoc	Melendez	Peralta
Economic Development & Workforce Development Ad Hoc Committee	Peralta	Tamayo

Mayor Pro Tem Tamayo motioned, seconded by Councilmember Peralta, to approve all the appointments to the various boards; the motion passed unanimously.

11. **CONSIDERATION OF FILLING VACANT COUNCILMEMBER POSITION**

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Adopt a Resolution No. 25-13 to fill the City Council Vacancy by one of the following options:
2. Fill the Vacancy by Special Election to be held not less than 114 days from the call of the Special Election; or
3. Fill the Vacancy by Appointment until the next regularly scheduled General Municipal Election to be held November 3, 2026, and
4. Take such additional, related action that may be desirable.

City Manager Alvarez provided a brief summary of the item.

Mayor Pro Tem Tamayo motioned, seconded by Councilmember Peralta, to fill the vacancy by an appointment process with the recommended application process; the motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine. Any items a member wishes to discuss, including any items the public submitted speaker cards for, should be designated at this time. All other items may be approved in a single motion. Such approval will also waive the reading of any Ordinance.

Councilmember Peralta pulled Item Nos. 13 and 18.

Councilmember Peralta motioned, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tamayo, to approve Item Nos. 12, 14-17 and 19-23; the motion passed unanimously.

12. **APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO AGREEMENT NO. 4005 WITH AVENU INSIGHTS & ANALYTICS, LLC**

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Approve Amendment No. 2 to Agreement No. 4005 with Avenu Insights & Analytics, LLC for document scanning services, for an additional One-Year (1) Year term (through June 30, 2026) for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$250,000; and
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute and finalize Amendment No. 2 to Agreement No. 4005 on behalf of the City of Montebello; and
3. Amend the Fiscal Year 2024-25 budget by increasing appropriations by \$125,000 in Account No. 100-10-110-6040.10 (City Clerk-Contract Services Outside Contracts); and
4. Take such additional, related action that may be desirable.

Councilmember Peralta motioned, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tamayo, to approve the item; the motion passed unanimously.

13. **APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 3 TO AGREEMENT NO. 3857 WITH BLAIS & ASSOCIATES FOR GRANT WRITING SERVICES TO INCREASE THE ANNUAL NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT**

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Approve Amendment No. 3 to Agreement No. 3857 with Blais & Associates to increase the annual not-to-exceed amount to \$130,000; and
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute Amendment No. 3 to Agreement No. 3857 with Blais & Associates; and
3. Amend the Fiscal Year 2024-25 budget by increasing appropriations by \$30,000 in Account No. 100-85-850-6040.10 (General Fund, Fire, Fire Administration, Contract Services-Outside Contracts); and

4. Take such additional, related action that may be desirable.

Councilmember Peralta asked staff to provide a list of grants that have been awarded.

Acting Assistant City Manager Palmeros stated that although she did not have the total funding received, several grants have been awarded to the City thus far.

Councilmember Peralta motioned, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tamayo, to approve the item; the motion passed unanimously.

14. APPROVE FINAL TRACT MAP NO. 82726, CONSISTENT WITH THE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED VESTING TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 82725, AND FIND AND DETERMINE THAT FINAL TRACT MAP NO. 82726 IS CATEGORICALLY EXEMPT FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) PURSUANT TO SECTION 15182(C) OF THE CEQA GUIDELINES AND GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 65457

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 25-10 approving Final Tract Map No. 82726, consistent with previously approved Vesting Tentative Tract Map ("VTTM") No. 82725, in connection with the Montebello Hills Specific Plan Project, and authorize its filing with the Los Angeles County Recorder; and
2. Determine and find that this action is consistent with the previously certified Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") for the Montebello Hills Specific Plan Project and, therefore, exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to California Government Code section 65457(a) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15182, which expressly exempt residential projects undertaken to implement, and that is consistent with, an approved specific plan for which an EIR was certified, and California Public Resources Code Section 21083.3(a) and (b); and
3. Authorize the City Clerk, City Treasurer, and City Engineer to execute the Certificate on the map showing the City's approval of Final Tract Map No. 82726 in connection with the Montebello Hills Specific Plan Project; and
4. Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

Councilmember Peralta motioned, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tamayo, to approve the item; the motion passed unanimously.

15. TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Receive and file the Quarterly Treasurer's Report for the quarter ending December 31, 2024 (Second Quarter of Fiscal Year 2024-25); and,
2. Take such additional, related action that may be desirable.

Councilmember Peralta motioned, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tamayo, to approve the item; the motion passed unanimously.

16. AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT NO. 4273 WITH OPENGOV, INC. FOR PERMITTING AND LICENSING SOFTWARE SOLUTION

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize the City Manager to execute Professional Services Agreement No. 4273 with OpenGov, Inc. for cloud-based permitting and licensing software solutions provided by Vertosoft in the amount of \$101,930 annually for three (3) years with two (2) one-year renewal options, plus one-time implementation costs of \$86,800, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$393,590; and,
2. Amend the Fiscal Year 2024-25 budget to increase appropriations by \$188,730 in Account No. 100-50-500-6010.40 (General Fund, Community Development, Administration, Machinery & Equipment – Computer Software); and,
3. Take such additional, related action that may be desirable.

Councilmember Peralta motioned, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tamayo, to approve the item; the motion passed unanimously.

17. **ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 25-12 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER AND/OR THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS AND AMENDMENTS WITH CALTRANS AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF ALL PROJECT AND/OR RIGHT OF WAY CERTIFICATIONS TO RECEIVE FEDERAL AND/OR STATE FUNDING FOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS**

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 25-12 authorizing the City Manager and/or the Director of Public Works to execute all master agreements, program supplemental agreements, cooperative agreements, fund exchange agreements, and fund transfer agreements and/or any amendments thereto with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and authorize the execution of all projects and/or right of way certifications as necessary for the City of Montebello to receive federal and/or state funding for certain transportation projects; and
2. Take such additional, related action that may be desirable.

Councilmember Peralta motioned, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tamayo, to approve the item; the motion passed unanimously.

18. **ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 25-14 ACCEPTING THE 2024 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION & SAFETY PROGRAM GRANT (CP 930) AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT WITH THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS (SCAG)**

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 25-14 accepting the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) 2024 Sustainable Communities Program Active Transportation & Safety Program grant in the amount of \$362,500; and
2. Amend the Fiscal Year 2024-25 budget by increasing appropriations by \$362,500 in Account No. 265-30-334-6040.10 10 (Grants, Public Works, SCAG – SCP Active Transportation, Contract Services Outside Contracts [Expenditures]) and \$362,500 in Account No. 265-99-4198.26 (Grants, SCAG - SCP Active Transportation [Revenue]); and
3. Authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement and all other applicable documents as a condition of approval to receive grant funds; and
4. Authorize staff to coordinate with SCAG staff to initiate the environmental clearance processes under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act
5. Take such additional, related action that may be desirable.

Councilmember Peralta spoke in favor of the item and asked how the City plans to cover the remaining balance.

Director Roldan stated that the city is focused on the awarded amount and plans to review additional funding opportunities.

Councilmember Peralta motioned, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tamayo, to approve the item; the motion passed unanimously.

19. **APPROVE ISSUING REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) NO. 25-09 FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PLAN CONSULTING SERVICES**

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize issuing Request for Proposal (RFP) No. 25-09 for comprehensive strategic plan consulting services for the Fire Department; and
2. Take such additional, related action that may be desirable.

Councilmember Peralta motioned, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tamayo, to approve the item; the motion passed unanimously.

20. **ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 25-09 APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN THE CITY OF MONTEBELLO AND THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (METRO) TO ACCEPT MONTEBELLO BUS LINES' PARTICIPATION IN THE ZERO EMISSION TRANSIT CAPITAL PROGRAM**

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 25-09 approving a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Montebello and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) to accept Montebello Bus Lines' (MBL) participation in the Zero Emission Transit Capital Program (ZETCP) effective October 1, 2024 through June 30, 2028; and
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute the MOU on the City's behalf; and
3. Take such additional, related, action that may be reasonable and necessary.

Councilmember Peralta motioned, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tamayo, to approve the item; the motion passed unanimously.

21. APPROVE ISSUING A REQUEST FOR QUOTES (RFQ) NO. Q-25-01 FOR TRANSIT NON-REVENUE RELIEF VEHICLES**RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:**

1. Approve Issuing a Request for Quotes (RFQ), No. Q-25-01 for Transit Non-Revenue Relief Vehicles; and
2. Take such additional, related, action that may be reasonable and necessary

Councilmember Peralta motioned, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tamayo, to approve the item; the motion passed unanimously.

22. APPROVAL OF EMERGENCY PROCUREMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO COMMUNICATION'S BACK-UP GENERATOR**RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:**

1. Approve the emergency procurement of a public safety radio communication's back-up generator; and
2. Take such additional, related action that may be desirable.

Councilmember Peralta motioned, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tamayo, to approve the item; the motion passed unanimously.

23. PAYMENT OF BILLS: ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 25-15 APPROVING THE CITY WARRANT REGISTER OF DEMANDS DATED FEBRUARY 12, 2025**RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:**

1. Adopt Resolution No. 25-15 approving the Warrant Register dated February 12, 2025.

Councilmember Peralta motioned, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tamayo, to approve the item; the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - CONTINUED**AB 1234 TRAVEL REPORTS**

Members will provide a brief report on meetings attended at the expense of the local agency as required by Government Code Section 53232.3(d).

None.

COUNCIL/AGENCY ORALS

Announcements and requests for future agenda items.

- **Georgina Tamayo, Mayor Pro Tem**

- **Scarlet Peralta, Councilmember**

- **Ric Alonzo, Councilmember**
 1. Request a presentation outlining proposed locations, budget allocation, staffing, and operational plans for a police substation in South Montebello, along with related public safety initiatives for the district.
 2. Request an update on the replacement of the Bluff Road iron fence, including next steps, a projected timeline, and maintenance efforts.

1. Consensus was received.
2. Consensus was received.

- **Salvador Melendez, Mayor**

CLOSED SESSION - CONTINUED

ADJOURNMENT

The City of Montebello will adjourn to the next **Regular Meeting on February 26, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.**, which can be live-streamed at <https://www.montebellocal.gov> (Click on Live Stream).

I, Kimberly Guillen, Senior Deputy City Clerk for the City of Montebello, hereby certify that a copy of this agenda has been posted on or before **Sunday, February 9, 2025, no later than 6:00 p.m.**



Kimberly Guillen, Senior Deputy City Clerk

Mayor Melendez informed the community of the upcoming budget meetings. The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 12, 2025, ARE HEREBY APPROVED AND ADOPTED ON THIS 26TH DAY OF MARCH.

EXHIBIT - CITY OF MONTEBELLO FORECASTED AGENDA

Please note, the attached exhibit is a draft version that is to be used for reference purposes only; agenda items, information, and dates are subject to change. The exhibit will be placed at the end of the Agenda Packet.

- **CITY OF MONTEBELLO FORECASTED AGENDA**

PLEASE NOTE: A SEPARATE CARD MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH ITEM

CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. 1



SPEAKER CARD

Please Note:

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office prior to the statement of oral communications being read and/or 6:00 p.m., whichever is later.

TYPE OF COMMENT:

Closed Session ☐

Non-Agenda Item ☒

AGENDA ITEM NO. _____

Opposed ☐

In Support ☐

Neutral ☐

TOPIC: _____

MEETING DATE:

2-12-25

TIME RECEIVED:

1803

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME:

Louie Lozano

PHONE: _____

(Optional)

ADDRESS: _____

(Optional)

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED: _____

N/A

NOTES: _____

ACCOMMODATIONS: _____

TRANSLATION NEEDED: No ☒ Yes ☐ Language: _____

RECEIVED BY STAFF: _____

PLEASE NOTE: A SEPARATE CARD MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH ITEM

CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. 2



SPEAKER CARD

Please Note:

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office prior to the statement of oral communications being read and/or 6:00 p.m., whichever is later.

TYPE OF COMMENT: Closed Session ☐ Non-Agenda Item ☒ **AGENDA ITEM NO.** _____

Opposed ☐ In Support ☐ Neutral ☐ **TOPIC:** _____

MEETING DATE: 02-12-2025 **TIME RECEIVED:** _____

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME: Rosa Tamayo

PHONE: _____
(Optional)

ADDRESS: _____
(Optional)

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED: _____

NOTES: _____

ACCOMMODATIONS: _____

TRANSLATION NEEDED: No ☐ Yes ☐ Language: _____

RECEIVED BY STAFF: _____

PLEASE NOTE: A SEPARATE CARD MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH ITEM

CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. 3



SPEAKER CARD

Please Note:

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office prior to **the statement of oral communications being read and/or 6:00 p.m., whichever is later.**

TYPE OF COMMENT:

Closed Session ☐

Non-Agenda Item ☒

AGENDA ITEM NO. _____

Opposed ☐

In Support ☐

Neutral ☐

TOPIC: General

MEETING DATE: 2/12/25

TIME RECEIVED: _____

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME: Tila Gregorian

PHONE: _____

(Optional)

ADDRESS: on file

(Optional)

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED: _____

NOTES: _____

ACCOMMODATIONS: _____

TRANSLATION NEEDED: No ☐ Yes ☐ Language: _____

RECEIVED BY STAFF: _____

PLEASE NOTE: A SEPARATE CARD MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH ITEM

CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. 4



SPEAKER CARD

Please Note:

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office prior to the statement of oral communications being read and/or 6:00 p.m., whichever is later.

TYPE OF COMMENT: Closed Session ☐ Non-Agenda Item ☒ **AGENDA ITEM NO.** _____

Opposed ☐ In Support ☐ Neutral ☐ **TOPIC:** _____

MEETING DATE: 2/12/25 **TIME RECEIVED:** _____

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME: Amina Jurado **PHONE:** _____

(Optional)

ADDRESS: _____

(Optional)

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED: _____

NOTES: _____

ACCOMMODATIONS: _____

TRANSLATION NEEDED: No ☐ Yes ☐ Language: _____

RECEIVED BY STAFF: _____

PLEASE NOTE: A SEPARATE CARD MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH ITEM

CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. (5)



SPEAKER CARD

Please Note:

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office prior to **the statement of oral communications being read and/or 6:00 p.m., whichever is later.**

TYPE OF COMMENT: Closed Session ☐ Non-Agenda Item ☒ **AGENDA ITEM NO.** _____

Opposed ☐ In Support ☐ Neutral ☐ **TOPIC:** _____

MEETING DATE: 2/12/25 **TIME RECEIVED:** _____

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME: PAUL HURTADO **PHONE:** _____
(Optional)

ADDRESS: _____
(Optional)

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED: _____

NOTES: _____

ACCOMMODATIONS: _____

TRANSLATION NEEDED: No ☐ Yes ☐ Language: _____

RECEIVED BY STAFF: _____

PLEASE NOTE: A SEPARATE CARD MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH ITEM

CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. 6



SPEAKER CARD

Please Note:

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office prior to the statement of oral communications being read and/or 6:00 p.m., whichever is later.

TYPE OF COMMENT:

Closed Session ☐

Non-Agenda Item ☒

AGENDA ITEM NO. _____

Opposed ☐

In Support ☐

Neutral ☐

TOPIC: _____

MEETING DATE:

2/12/25

TIME RECEIVED:

18:27

- margie

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME:

MARGIE DUARTE

PHONE: _____

(Optional)

ADDRESS: _____

(Optional)

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED: _____

NOTES: _____

ACCOMMODATIONS: _____

TRANSLATION NEEDED: No ☒

Yes ☐ Language: _____

RECEIVED BY STAFF: _____

PLEASE NOTE: A SEPARATE CARD MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH ITEM

CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. 7



SPEAKER CARD

Please Note:

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office prior to the statement of oral communications being read and/or 6:00 p.m., whichever is later.

TYPE OF COMMENT: Closed Session ☐ Non-Agenda Item ☒ **AGENDA ITEM NO.** _____

Opposed ☐ In Support ☐ Neutral ☐ **TOPIC:** _____

MEETING DATE: _____ **TIME RECEIVED:** _____

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME: Inda Dickles **PHONE:** _____ (Optional)

ADDRESS: _____

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED: MATCH (Optional) 90640

NOTES: _____

ACCOMMODATIONS: _____

TRANSLATION NEEDED: No ☐ Yes ☐ Language: _____

RECEIVED BY STAFF: _____

PLEASE NOTE: A SEPARATE CARD MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH ITEM



CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No.

8



SPEAKER CARD

Please Note:

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office prior to **the statement of oral communications being read and/or 6:00 p.m., whichever is later.**

TYPE OF COMMENT: Closed Session ☐ Non-Agenda Item ☒ **AGENDA ITEM NO.** _____

Opposed ☐ In Support ☐ Neutral ☐ **TOPIC:** _____

MEETING DATE: 2/12/25 **TIME RECEIVED:** 18:25

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME: Eduard Franco **PHONE:** _____
(Optional)

ADDRESS: _____
(Optional)

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED: _____

NOTES: _____

ACCOMMODATIONS: _____

TRANSLATION NEEDED: No ☒ Yes ☐ **Language:** _____

RECEIVED BY STAFF: _____

PLEASE NOTE: A SEPARATE CARD MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH ITEM

CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. 89



SPEAKER CARD

Please Note:

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office prior to the statement of oral communications being read and/or 6:00 p.m., whichever is later.

TYPE OF COMMENT: Closed Session ☐ Non-Agenda Item ☒ **AGENDA ITEM NO.** _____

Opposed ☐ In Support ☐ Neutral ☐ **TOPIC:** LAST COUNCIL MEETING

MEETING DATE: _____ **TIME RECEIVED:** _____

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME: BILL ADOLSSO

PHONE: _____

(Optional)

ADDRESS: SOUTH MONTEBELLO

(Optional)

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED: _____

NOTES: _____

ACCOMMODATIONS: _____

TRANSLATION NEEDED: No ☐ Yes ☐ Language: _____

RECEIVED BY STAFF: _____

PLEASE NOTE: A SEPARATE CARD MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH ITEM

CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. 10



SPEAKER CARD

Please Note:

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office prior to the statement of oral communications being read and/or 6:00 p.m., whichever is later.

TYPE OF COMMENT: Closed Session ☐ Non-Agenda Item ☒ **AGENDA ITEM NO.** _____

Opposed ☐ In Support ☐ Neutral ☐ **TOPIC:** Community Concerns

MEETING DATE: _____ **TIME RECEIVED:** _____

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME: Kimberly Cobas - Cawthorne **PHONE:** _____
(Optional)

ADDRESS: _____
(Optional)

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED: _____

NOTES: _____

ACCOMMODATIONS: _____

TRANSLATION NEEDED: No ☐ Yes ☐ Language: _____

RECEIVED BY STAFF: _____

PLEASE NOTE: A SEPARATE CARD MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH ITEM



CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. 11



SPEAKER CARD

Please Note:

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office prior to the statement of oral communications being read and/or 6:00 p.m., whichever is later.

TYPE OF COMMENT: Closed Session ☐ Non-Agenda Item ☒ **AGENDA ITEM NO.** _____

Opposed ☐ In Support ☐ Neutral ☐ **TOPIC:** _____

MEETING DATE: 2/10/25 **TIME RECEIVED:** 10:36 p.m.

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME: Rosemarie Vasquez **PHONE:** _____

(Optional)

ADDRESS: _____

(Optional)

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED: _____

NOTES: Chief Firing

ACCOMMODATIONS: _____

TRANSLATION NEEDED: No ☐ Yes ☐ **Language:** _____

RECEIVED BY STAFF: _____

PLEASE NOTE: A SEPARATE CARD MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH ITEM



CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No.

(12)



SPEAKER CARD

Please Note:

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office prior to **the statement of oral communications being read and/or 6:00 p.m., whichever is later.**

TYPE OF COMMENT: Closed Session ☐ Non-Agenda Item ☒ **AGENDA ITEM NO.** _____

Opposed ☐ In Support ☐ Neutral ☐ **TOPIC:** _____

MEETING DATE: 2-12-25 **TIME RECEIVED:** _____

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME: Virian Frederickson **PHONE:** [REDACTED] (Optional)

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] (Optional)

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED: _____

NOTES: _____

ACCOMMODATIONS: _____

TRANSLATION NEEDED: No ☒ Yes ☐ **Language:** _____

RECEIVED BY STAFF: _____

PLEASE NOTE: A SEPARATE CARD MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH ITEM

CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. 13



SPEAKER CARD

Please Note:

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office prior to the statement of oral communications being read and/or 6:00 p.m., whichever is later.

TYPE OF COMMENT: Closed Session ☐ Non-Agenda Item ☒ **AGENDA ITEM NO.** _____

Opposed ☐ In Support ☐ Neutral ☐ **TOPIC:** Public Comment

MEETING DATE: 2/12/25 **TIME RECEIVED:** _____

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME: Edmund Robert Veloz **PHONE:** _____
(Optional)

ADDRESS: _____
(Optional)

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED: _____

NOTES: _____

ACCOMMODATIONS: _____

TRANSLATION NEEDED: No ☐ Yes ☐ **Language:** _____

RECEIVED BY STAFF: _____

PLEASE NOTE: A SEPARATE CARD MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH ITEM

CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. 14



SPEAKER CARD

Please Note:

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office prior to the statement of oral communications being read and/or 6:00 p.m., whichever is later.

TYPE OF COMMENT: Closed Session ☐ ~~Non-Agenda Item~~ ☒ **AGENDA ITEM NO.** _____

Opposed ☐ In Support ☐ Neutral ☐ **TOPIC:** _____

MEETING DATE: 12 Feb 2025 **TIME RECEIVED:** 19:00

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME: Gray Gonzalez **PHONE:** _____ (Optional)

ADDRESS: _____ (Optional)

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED: _____

NOTES: _____

ACCOMMODATIONS: _____

TRANSLATION NEEDED: No ☐ Yes ☐ **Language:** _____

RECEIVED BY STAFF: _____

PLEASE NOTE: A SEPARATE CARD MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH ITEM



CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. 15



SPEAKER CARD

Please Note:

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office prior to the statement of oral communications being read and/or 6:00 p.m., whichever is later.

TYPE OF COMMENT:

Closed Session ☐

Non-Agenda Item ☒

AGENDA ITEM NO. _____

Opposed ☐

In Support ☐

Neutral ☐

TOPIC:

District 5 appointment

MEETING DATE:

2/12/25

TIME RECEIVED: _____

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME:

James Santana

PHONE: _____

(Optional)

ADDRESS: _____

(Optional)

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED: _____

NOTES: _____

ACCOMMODATIONS: _____

TRANSLATION NEEDED: No ☐

Yes ☐

Language: _____

RECEIVED BY STAFF: _____

SCOTT J. RAFFERTY

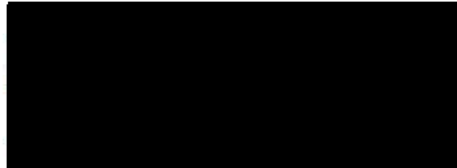
ATTORNEY AT LAW

1913 WHITECLIFF COURT
WALNUT CREEK CA 94596

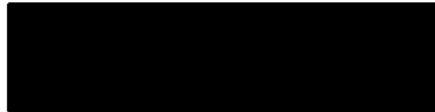
(202)-380-5525
RAFFERTY@GMAIL.COM

February 3, 2025

Mayor Salvador Melendez
Member Georgina Tomayo
Member Scarlett Peralta
City of Montebello
1600 W. Beverly Blvd.
Montebello, CA 90640



cc: City Clerk Christopher Jimenez
Arnold Glasman, Esq.



Dear Council Members:

I have been retained to take actions necessary to prevent the Council from appointing to the District 5 vacancy except at a noticed meeting on or before February 5, 2025, at which a quorum is present. After that deadline, an election must be held to fill this vacancy, which began on November 8, 2024. I represent voters registered in your city, including electors in District 5, who intend to enforce their right to elect a successor in a special election. I do not, as the city attorney has suggested in the attached email to me, represent any incumbent council members. The city attorney has indicated that he intends to seek guidance from the council. This requires a special meeting, which may be a closed session, but must be noticed 24 hours in advance. A special meeting, in open session and with a quorum, would also be necessary to make an appointment.

At the inquorate meeting attempted on January 29, 2025, the city attorney stated that he had reached out to the Strumwasser Woocher law firm, which advised that two members satisfied a quorum. Therefore, I addressed my initial communication to that firm, which responded that the city had not retained them for this purpose and forwarded my concerns to Mr. Glasman. That email exchange is attached.

Under the current quorum statute, a majority of the membership present is necessary to conduct any business, including any appointment to a council vacancy. Gov. Code, § 36810; AGO 22-101 (California Attorney General Opinions, 2022). Therefore, (1) three of the five members must be present and (2) two of them must vote

Rafferty to Mayor and Council re District 5 vacancy, page 2

in favor of the same candidate to make an appointment. Given the resignation of Member Torres (with immediate effect) and the unavailability of Mayor Melendez, a quorum was not achieved last Wednesday.

Deadlocks are not unusual when appointing to vacancies. When they occur, the incumbents have two options. As the city attorney observed (video, 1/29/2025, 4:11:40), they can attempt to “reach a consensus.” Typically, this results from excluding candidates that are the most objectionable to each side. The Council can also call a special election. The city attorney also noted (id. 4:11:56) that Mayor Melendez has authority to call such a special meeting to choose one of these options. Unless an effective appointment is made by February 5, 2025, the city must call such a special election. Gov. Code, §36512(b).

It is unambiguous that a quorum is three and is not reduced by any vacancy. Attorney General Harris ruled that a council “may not define a quorum as less than ... a majority of its designated members.” AGO 10-901 (December 28, 2011). Gov. Code, §36501(a) and Ordinance 2462 designate a membership of five. The majority of three is not reduced by vacancies or absences. An incumbent who attends the meeting, but abstains, counts toward this quorum. However, on January 29, 2025, only two members attended the meeting. Therefore, the council was inquorate and incapable of acting.

The statutory prohibition of conducting business with less than three members present is reinforced by Rosenberg’s Rules, the council’s parliamentary authority, which states (at 2):

[I]n a five-member body a quorum is three. When the body has three members present, it can legally transact business. If the body has less than a quorum of members present, it cannot legally transact business. And even if the body has a quorum to begin the meeting, the body can lose the quorum during the meeting when a member departs (or even when a member leaves the dais). When that occurs the body loses its ability to transact business until and unless a quorum is reestablished.

See also [LCC Annual Conference, May 2006, “Voting Requirements”](#) at 1, 4. “A quorum of at least three members, which is a majority of the five members, must be present before the council has legal authority to act...Vacancies... All of the quorum and voting

Rafferty to Mayor and Council re District 5 vacancy, page 3

requirements set forth in Parts 1 and 2 above continue to apply. The council may hold a legal meeting as long as three members are present.” [emphasis supplied]

At the inquorate meeting on January 29, 2025, the city attorney argued a case involving Arcadia held that vacancies reduced the number constituting a quorum. Nesbitt v. Bolz (1939) 13 Cal.2d 677 was decided before the current quorum provision (Gov. Code, § 36810) and long before the recent change to the local recall statute (Elections Code, §11382), which eliminated the concurrent election of successors in local recall elections. Nesbitt reasoned that the 1931 recall statute required the voters to choose between a special election and delegating any appointment to the remaining council members. This specific scheme superseded the 1881 quorum statute that required three members for certain purposes, specifically the adoption of an ordinance. Nesbitt was distinguished on these bases in Price v. Tennant Community Services Dist. (1987) 194 Cal. App. 3d 493, 498 (“Nesbitt interpreted a statutory scheme which authorized less than a majority of the whole board to fill vacancies under some circumstances. No similar statutory authorization is present here.”) . Nesbitt, which has not been cited by any other case, is both obsolete and irrelevant.

Under Rosenberg’s Rules, even if a member needed to establish the quorum attends but leaves the dais prior to the vote, the meeting loses its capacity to act. Section 36810 provides that “less than a majority may adjourn from time to time and compel attendance of absent members in the manner and under the penalties prescribed by ordinance.” However, Montebello has no such ordinance, so an inquorate meeting cannot compel absentees to attend or take any action other than to adjourn.

Working with the city attorney, each of the two incumbents can independently announce assurances that may be sufficient to encourage the mayor to call and attend a special meeting to consider a consensus appointment. Any action must be conducted in open session, in which each member’s continued attendance will be essential. We also ask that you reopen public comment on the finalist candidates and the option of a special election. If no accommodation is possible, we urge the mayor to call a special meeting limited to the calling of a special election. A decision to call such an election could avoid the need to seek judicial intervention, which will be costly to the city.

If no consensus is reached, Montebello’s status as an “small city” under Elections Code, §4004(a) entitles it to conduct its own all-mail election to fill council vacancies.

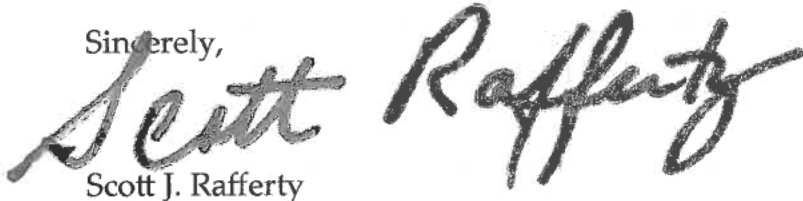
Rafferty to Mayor and Council re District 5 vacancy, page 4

Even if this cost \$5 per ballot, the cost of such an election would be less than \$26,000. Candidates have already been nominated, so the statutory deadline of 114 days would result in leaving District 5 unrepresented for six months. Given the public interest in having the council return to full strength, my clients are willing to join the city in support of a writ petition seeking to shorten that deadline. A similar provision was recently accepted by the Superior Court in Cruz v. City of Santa Clarita.

If no accommodation can be reached before Thursday, my clients will promptly seek to vindicate their independent right to require a special election by seeking an election writ. They will also petition the attorney general to bring an action to prevent the candidate named in the inquorate meeting from unlawfully exercising the powers of council member. Each of these actions will impose costs on the city that the Council can and should avoid by calling a special election.

The Council should also consider the political implications of attempting to defend an appointment made by only two members. It is profoundly undemocratic for two members, representing just 40% of the city's population, to choose the representative of the city's neediest district. This is precisely the outcome that districting was designed to avoid.

Sincerely,



Scott J. Rafferty

Attachments: Prior email exchange with city attorney
Cal. Att. Gen. Opp. 10-901 (2011)

Any
Questions / Negotiations
you call
call our
Attorney!
Thank you.

February 12, 2025

Good evening,

I would like to ask the City Manager or anyone else up on the dais have any of you attended a police academy, please raise your hand.

I have, until you put a uniform and badge on to defend your community putting your life on the line you do not have the right to malign the good name and reputation of Chief Espinosa.

You have demoralized our Police Department by firing a very qualified Chief with over 30 years of experience in law enforcement.

We support all our City's Public safety employees, both in the Police and Fire Department.

We are hearing rumors you Raul have plans to bring Captains from the Huntington Park Police Department to take positions away from Officers currently serving our city.

As a retired Deputy Sherriff, I served 29 years wearing the badge and serving to protect law and order, to keep people safe.

Those in law enforcement know the police officers from Huntington Park are the rejects fired from other Police departments, the worst and that is what you want to bring here?

Many years ago, the Cities of Maywood/Bell shared a Police department with corrupt cops. The Feds came in and disbanded the Police Department and the Los Angeles County Sheriffs took over protecting those cities. I was a Deputy Sheriff when that occurred. Is that what you want to happen here?

You Raul Alvarez AKA Resendez state Chief Espinosa of maleficence and are arbitrarily accusing an outstanding Officer of the law!

How dare you, charge the Chief who has thirty years of law enforcement experience. Mr. Alavarez who appointed you judge and jury? Where is your evidence? The residents have the right to know.

The Chief has the right to due process of the law, you are not the king of this city.

February 12, 2025

Good evening,

My name is Linda Nicklas Co-Founder of MATCH90640,

Did I just hear correctly? The City Attorney Glasman lied during the last Special meeting and gave illegal directions to Tamayo and Peralta they could appoint Alonzo knowing full well two council members did not constitute a quorum?

So, can someone explain to us the residents why Alonzo is sitting up on the dais now?

We demand he step down immediately and resign as his appointment was illegal.

I am a former client of Strumwasser and Woocher, they are a very prestigious law firm. They would never agree to go along with Glasman to break the law.

Mr. Glasman shame on you for not doing your duty to serve and give legal counsel to the city you are contracted to protect and paid over a million dollars a year.

Can someone explain to me why Chief Espinosa was on the agenda for closed session? That should not have been posted for close session on the Agenda.

I direct this to you Raul, how dare you use lies to fire our Chief Espinosa. He is a man of integrity and experience of over 30 years.

You do not have the qualifications to be City Manager and now your lil ego thinks you can direct our Police Department, that is ridiculous.

You along with your incompetent Directors need to be gone and God willing you will be soon.

Once you are out you will never get any type of city management position again, I guarantee you that.

Thank you

November 13, 2024: City Council Meeting

OF 2021 FOR THE MONTEBELLO TRANSFORMATIVE CORRIDORS ENHANCED INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING DISTRICT (EIFD) FEASIBILITY STUDY

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 24-77 authorizing participation in the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Regional Early Action Planning Grant Program of 2021 for the Montebello Transformative Corridors Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD) Feasibility Study; and
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement and all necessary documents related to the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Early Action Planning Grant Program of 2021 for the Montebello Transformative Corridors Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD) Feasibility Study; and
3. Take such additional, related action that may be desirable.

22.

APPROVE THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO COMMERCIAL CANNABIS BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT NO. 23-19

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Approve a Second Amendment to Cannabis Business Development Agreement No. 23-19 ("Second Amendment") to allow a change of business name and ownership for cannabis business located at 7733 Telegraph Road, in a form approved by the City Attorney's Office; and
2. Adopt findings contained herein exempting the Second Amendment from further California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review under CEQA Sections 15301 and 15061 and direct staff to prepare and file the applicable Notice of Exemption for the project recommended for approval; and
3. Take such additional, related action that may be desirable, and/or provided the City Attorney's office and/or staff with additional or alternative directive(s).

23.

AUTHORIZE RECEIPT OF GRANT AWARD FROM DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PROPOSITION 56 TOBACCO GRANT AWARD FUNDING

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Approve the acceptance of \$317,181 in grant funds awarded to the City by the Department of Justice (DOJ) Proposition 56 Tobacco Grant program; and
2. Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute any documents or agreements, and any amendments thereto, necessary for the City's participation in the Proposition 56 Tobacco Grant program; and
3. Amend the Fiscal Year 2024-25 budget by increasing appropriations by \$317,181 in Account No. 251-50-531-5000.10 (Tobacco Grant Program, Community Development, Tobacco Grant Program, Regular Salaries [expenditures]) and \$317,181 in Account No. 251-99-4198.50 (Tobacco Grant Program, Miscellaneous Grants, Tobacco Grant Program [revenue]); and
4. Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

24.

APPROVE THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO COMMERCIAL CANNABIS BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT NO. 16-19

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Approve the Second Amendment to Cannabis Business Development Agreement No. 16-19 ("Second Amendment") to increase the square footage of the current cannabis cultivation operations in the City of Montebello, and authorize the City Attorney's Office to make final and technical edits or revisions, if any, prior to execution; and
2. Approve Strategic Solutions, LLC's request to remove manufacturing from its current business license; and
3. Adopt findings contained herein exempting the Second Amendment from further CEQA review under CEQA Section 15301, and direct staff to prepare and file the applicable Notices of Exemption for the project recommended for approval; and



MONTEBELLO APPOINTS PAUL ESPINOSA AS ITS NEW POLICE CHIEF

Chief Espinosa replaces retiring Chief Brad Keller

Montebello City Manager René Bobadilla today announced the appointment of Paul Espinosa to the full time position of Chief of Police for the Montebello Police Department. Chief Espinosa was selected following an extensive search and recruitment effort during which outgoing Chief Brad Keller agreed to remain in place as police chief in order to facilitate continuity and a smooth transition to new leadership. Chief Espinosa officially assumes his new position on April 11, 2022.

"We are very excited and pleased that Paul has agreed to join and help lead our police force into the future," said Mr. Bobadilla. "His extensive and distinguished career with the Los Angeles Police Department and deep experience in many aspects of modern policing will provide immediate value to our City and our residents." Chief Espinosa has served 28 years with the LAPD and brings a wealth of knowledge and insight having operated among 11 different LAPD stations and within many of their specialized divisions including training, community policing, gang impact and narcotic enforcement.

Chief Espinosa is looking forward to working with Montebello's resident community and officers to help improve the safety and quality of life in the City for all residents. "I am honored to accept this important and vital position serving Montebello," said Chief Espinosa. "I look forward to working with each and every member of the Police Department, the City Council and City leaders to ensure we find meaningful ways to enhance policing and public safety. I want to work collaboratively with all stakeholders to create a culture of protection and service that focuses on improving the quality of life here in Montebello."

In addition to dedicating time to LAPD and his family, Chief Espinosa enjoys running, cycling, swimming, and almost all outdoor athletic activities. Family, faith, public service, and fitness are his priorities in life. He is an active member of several external law enforcement groups including the Latin American and Asian and Pacific Islanders Law Associations. He received his bachelor degree in political science from Cal State Northridge and is pursuing a master of law enforcement at the University of San Diego.

Please, Submit on the
Record, February 12, 2025
Council Meeting
Mark Mon.