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**CITY OF MONTEBELLO  
REGULAR MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2026 AT 6:00 PM**

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

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**OPENING CEREMONIES**

**CALL TO ORDER - 6:00 P.M.**

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

**ROLL CALL**

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

*City Attorney Arnold Alvarez-Glasman, City Manager Raul Alvarez, Assistant City Manager Angelica Palmeros, Management Analyst Samantha Nevarez, and Department Directors Kimberly Guillen, Michael Solorza, Joseph Palombi, Ramon Figueroa, John Soria, David Sosnowski, Cesar Roldan, Fire Chief Pelaez, and Police Chief Lopez 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 Tamayo recessed the meeting into Closed Session at 6:01 p.m. to consider the following Closed Session items:*

- 1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**  
Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)  
Significant exposure in two cases

**2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION**

Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)  
*Maria Concepcion Sanchez v. City of Montebello, et al.*  
Case No.: 24STCV22807

**REGULAR SESSION - 7:00 P.M.**

**CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

*Mayor Tamayo reconvened the meeting at 7:08 p.m.*

*All five 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, no action was taken, and nothing to further to report; Item No. 2, a briefing was provided to City Council, direction was provided to the City Attorney's Office, no action was taken, and nothing further to report.*

**INVOCATION**

*Led by City Treasurer Matanga.*

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

*Led by Kadence Fierro.*

**CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA - CITY MANAGER**

*None.*

**CEREMONIAL ITEMS/PRESENTATIONS**

**3. PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**

*Led by Mayor Tamayo.*

**4. PROCLAMATION FOR AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH**

*Led by Mayor Tamayo.*

**5. PROCLAMATION FOR ARMENIAN HISTORY MONTH**

*Led by Mayor Tamayo.*

**6. PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH**

*Led by Mayor Tamayo.*

**7. PROCLAMATION FOR INVINCIBLE DAY**

*Led by Mayor Tamayo.*

**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 twelve (12) 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**

None.

**REGULAR BUSINESS - NONE**

**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 motioned, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Romero, that Item No's. 8-16, be approved; the motion passed unanimously.

**8. PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH**

**RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:**

- 1. Approve a Proclamation declaring April as National Volunteer Month.

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

**9. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NOS. 26-24 AND 26-25 APPROVING THE CANCELLATION OF REGULARLY SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS AND HOLIDAY CLOSURES OF CITY HALL AND RELATED ADMINISTRATIVE FACILITIES**

**RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:**

- 1. Adopt Resolution No. 26-24, approving the cancellation of regularly scheduled City Council meetings on July 8, 2026; July 22, 2026; November 11, 2026; November 25, 2026; and December 23, 2026; and
- 2. Adopt Resolution No. 26-25, approving the closure of City Hall and the Recreation and Community Services on Wednesday, November 25, at 1:00 p.m.; and
- 3. Take such additional, related action that may be desirable.

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

**10. ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 26-22 DECLARING THE CITY'S INTENTION TO LEVY FISCAL YEAR 2026-27 ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS FOR THE NATASHA LANE SEWER AND STORM WATER PUMP STATION ASSESSMENT DISTRICT 2005-2**

**RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:**

- 1. Adopt Resolution No. 26-22 (Attachment A) establishing the City's intention to increase the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Levy of Annual Natasha Lane Sewer and Storm Water Pump Stations Assessment District No. 2005-2; and
- 2. Authorize the City to order the preparation and filing of an Engineer's Report; and
- 3. Take such additional, related action that may be desirable.

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

**11. APPROVE ISSUING REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQual) NO. 26-03 TO SOLICIT STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR LABOR COMPLIANCE AND PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT SERVICES**

**RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:**

1. Authorize staff to publish a Request for Qualifications (RFQual No. 26-03) to solicit statement of qualifications from qualified firms for on-call labor compliance and program administration support services; and
2. Take such additional, related action that may be desirable.

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

**12. APPROVE ISSUING REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS NO. 26-04 TO SOLICIT STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR MATERIAL TESTING AND SPECIAL INSPECTION SERVICES**

**RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:**

1. Authorize staff to publish a Request for Qualifications (RFQual No. 26-04) to solicit statement of qualifications from qualified firms for on-call material testing and special inspection services; and
2. Take such additional, related action that may be desirable.

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

**13. APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO AGREEMENT NO. 4282 WITH TOWNSEND PUBLIC AFFAIRS, INC. TO MODIFY THE COMPENSATION STRUCTURE FOR GRANT WRITING SERVICES**

**RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:**

1. Approve Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. 4282 with Townsend Public Affairs, Inc. to modify the compensation structure from a monthly services rate to a project-based rate; and
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. 4282 with Townsend Public Affairs, Inc; and
3. Take such additional, related action that may be desirable.

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

**14. REJECT BIDS RECEIVED FOR CHET HOLIFIELD COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT (CP 945) IN ACCORDANCE WITH PUBLIC CONTRACT SECTION 22038(A)(1) AND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO PROCEED WITH READVERTISING AND REBIDDING THE PROJECT**

**RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:**

1. Reject all bids received for the Chet Holifield Community Garden Project (CP 945) in accordance with Public Contract Code Section 22038(a)(1); and
2. Authorize staff to refine the project plans and specifications and re-advertise the Notice Inviting Bid in accordance with Public Contract Code Section 22038(a)(1); and
3. Authorize the City Clerk's office to release bidders' bonds; and
4. Take such additional, related action that may be desirable.

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

**15. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MARCH 25, 2026, CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:**

1. Approve said Minutes as is.

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

**16. PAYMENT OF BILLS: ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 26-23 APPROVING THE CITY WARRANT REGISTER OF DEMANDS DATED APRIL 08, 2026**

**RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council:**

1. Adopt Resolution No. 26-23 approving the Warrant Register dated April 08, 2026.

*Councilmember Peralta motioned, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Romero, 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.

- **Salvador Melendez, Councilmember**

- **Ric Alonzo, Councilmember**

- **Danielle Romero, Mayor Pro Tem**

- **Scarlet Peralta, Councilmember**

- **Georgina Tamayo, Mayor**

1. **Seek consensus to ask staff to explore the feasibility of adding uplighting to City Hall to enhance visibility and civic pride and report back with recommendations.**

*1. City Manager Alvarez informed the City Council that staff would review the matter and report back.*

**CLOSED SESSION - CONTINUED**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The City of Montebello will adjourn to the next **Regular Meeting on April 22, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.**, which can be live-streamed at <https://www.montebellocal.gov> (Click on Live Stream).

I, Kimberly Guillen, Director of City Clerk Services for the City of Montebello, hereby certify that a copy of this agenda has

been posted on or before **Sunday, April 5, 2026, no later than 6:00 p.m.**



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Kimberly Guillen, Director of City Clerk Services

*Mayor Tamayo adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p.m.*

***THE MINUTES OF APRIL 8, 2026, ARE HEREBY APPROVED AND ADOPTED ON THIS 23RD DAY OF APRIL 2026.***

**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

7 ✓

CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. \_\_\_\_\_



# 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:** 5-24 **TIME RECEIVED:** 5:23

**SPEAKER'S FULL NAME:** David Brambilla **PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Optional)

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Optional)

**ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED:** American Legion

**NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TRANSLATION NEEDED:** No  Yes  **Language:** \_\_\_\_\_

**RECEIVED BY STAFF:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. \_\_\_\_\_



# SPEAKER CARD

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**TYPE OF COMMENT:** Closed Session  Non-Agenda Item  **AGENDA ITEM NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

Opposed  In Support  Neutral  **TOPIC:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MEETING DATE:** 5-23 **TIME RECEIVED:** 5:24

**SPEAKER'S FULL NAME:** Nicholas Rosa **PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Optional)

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Optional)

**ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED:** American Legion

**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:**

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**TYPE OF COMMENT:** Closed Session  Non-Agenda Item  **AGENDA ITEM NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

Opposed  In Support  Neutral  **TOPIC:** Safety Issue - Traffic

**MEETING DATE:** 4-8-20 **TIME RECEIVED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SPEAKER'S FULL NAME:** Lisa Lozano **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. 4 ✓



# SPEAKER CARD

**Please Note:**

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**TYPE OF COMMENT:** Closed Session  Non-Agenda Item  AGENDA ITEM NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Opposed  In Support  Neutral  TOPIC: \_\_\_\_\_

**MEETING DATE:** 04-08-2026 **TIME RECEIVED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SPEAKER'S FULL NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **PHONE:**  (Optional)

**ADDRESS:** ROSA TAMAYO (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:

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**TYPE OF COMMENT:** Closed Session  Non-Agenda Item  **AGENDA ITEM NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

Opposed  In Support  Neutral  **TOPIC:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MEETING DATE:** 4/8/2026 **TIME RECEIVED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SPEAKER'S FULL NAME:** PAUL HURSTON **PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Optional)

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Optional)

**ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TRANSLATION NEEDED:** No  Yes  Language: \_\_\_\_\_

**RECEIVED BY STAFF:** \_\_\_\_\_



# SPEAKER CARD

**Please Note:** Address and phone number are optional and not required to speak.

Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to City Clerk's Office prior to 5:00 p.m. for live meetings or in accordance with Assembly Bill 361 for video/audio meetings.

**Type of Comment:**

Closed Session

Non-Agenda Item

**AGENDA ITEM NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Meeting Date:** 4-7-26

**Time Received:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Received:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SPEAKER'S FULL NAME:** Bill Paolisso

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Optional)

**ADDRESS:** South Montebello (h)

(Optional)

**ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED:** \_\_\_\_\_

Opposed

In Support

Neutral

**TOPIC:** Parking Issues in SM

**NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Translation Needed:** No

Yes

Language: \_\_\_\_\_

**Received by Staff** \_\_\_\_\_

**Received Via:** Email

Phone

In Person

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

7 ✓

CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. \_\_\_\_\_



# 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:** Montebello Blvd

**MEETING DATE:** 4/17/06 **TIME RECEIVED:** 6:25

**SPEAKER'S FULL NAME:** Dorise Haggan **PHONE:** [REDACTED]

(Optional)

**ADDRESS:** [REDACTED]

**ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED:** Heavenly Choke (Optional)

**NOTES:** Regarding Removal of center parts of center divider

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TRANSLATION NEEDED:** No  Yes  Language: \_\_\_\_\_

**RECEIVED BY STAFF:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

8 ✓

CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. \_\_\_\_\_



# SPEAKER CARD

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**TYPE OF COMMENT:** Closed Session  Non-Agenda Item  **AGENDA ITEM NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

Opposed  In Support  Neutral  **TOPIC:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MEETING DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **TIME RECEIVED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SPEAKER'S FULL NAME:** *Grda Dickles* **PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Optional)

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED:** *MATH 90640*  
(Optional)

**NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TRANSLATION NEEDED:** No  Yes  **Language:** \_\_\_\_\_

**RECEIVED BY STAFF:** \_\_\_\_\_

Absent

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CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. \_\_\_\_\_



# SPEAKER CARD

**Please Note:** Address and phone number are optional and not required to speak. Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to City Clerk's Office prior to 5:00 p.m. for live meetings or in accordance with Assembly Bill 361 for video/audio meetings.

Type of Comment:

Closed Session

Non-Agenda Item

AGENDA ITEM NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Date:

4/7/26

Time Received:

6:35

Date Received:

4/7/26

SPEAKER'S FULL NAME:

Mike Reyes

PHONE:

[Redacted]

(Optional)

ADDRESS:

[Redacted]

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED:

One Stop Graphics

Opposed

In Support

Neutral

TOPIC:

Remove Parts of Center divide on Montebello Blvd

NOTES:

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Translation Needed:

No

Yes

Language: \_\_\_\_\_

Received by Staff \_\_\_\_\_

Received Via: Email

Phone

In Person



# SPEAKER CARD

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Public Comment/Speaker Card must be submitted to City Clerk's Office prior to 5:00 p.m. for live meetings or in accordance with Assembly Bill 361 for video/audio meetings.

**Type of Comment:**

Closed Session

Non-Agenda Item

**AGENDA ITEM NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Meeting Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Time Received:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Received:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SPEAKER'S FULL NAME:**

SARKIS

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Optional)

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED:**

Ani Chicken <sup>(Optional)</sup>

Opposed

In Support

Neutral

**TOPIC:**

Remove Parts of Center Divide  
too many accidents

**NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Translation Needed:**

No

Yes

Language: \_\_\_\_\_

**Received by Staff** \_\_\_\_\_

**Received Via:**

Email

Phone

In Person

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

11 ✓

CITY OF MONTEBELLO

Request No. \_\_\_\_\_



# SPEAKER CARD

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**TYPE OF COMMENT:** Closed Session  Non-Agenda Item  AGENDA ITEM NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Opposed  In Support  Neutral  TOPIC: \_\_\_\_\_

**MEETING DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **TIME RECEIVED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SPEAKER'S FULL NAME:** *Tila Gregorian* PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Optional)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Optional)

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

ACCOMMODATIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

TRANSLATION NEEDED: No  Yes  Language: \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED BY STAFF: \_\_\_\_\_



# SPEAKER CARD

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**Type of Comment:**

Closed Session

Non-Agenda Item

**AGENDA ITEM NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Meeting Date:**

4/8/26

**Time Received:**

1920

**Date Received:**

4/8/26

**SPEAKER'S FULL NAME:**

GRACE BOYER

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Optional)

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Optional)

**ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED:** \_\_\_\_\_

Opposed

In Support

Neutral

**TOPIC:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Translation Needed:**

No

Yes

Language: \_\_\_\_\_

**Received by Staff** \_\_\_\_\_

**Received Via:**

Email

Phone

In Person

**NEWS** • News

# City of Industry, Santa Fe Springs campaign aims to compete with Sun Belt states over business incentives



On Jan. 27, 2026, the City of Industry's Planning Commission unanimously voted in favor of pushing forward the Marici Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Facility project for City Council consideration. (Photo by Josh Silla)

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By **JOSHUA SILLA** | sjllasilla@gmail.com

PUBLISHED: April 6, 2026 at 5:22 PM PDT | UPDATED: April 6, 2026 at 8:24 PM PDT

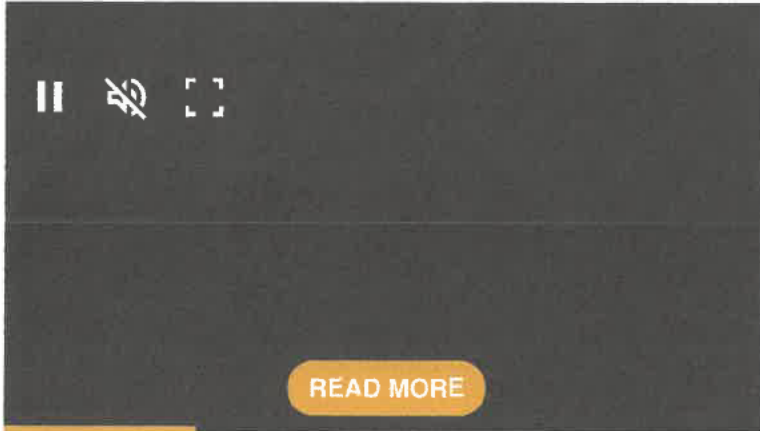
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Four Los Angeles County cities – the City of Industry, Commerce, Santa Fe Springs and Vernon – announced plans to stimulate economic development regionwide, by offering prospective businesses streamlined permitting processes and stronger business incentives compared to Sun Belt state competitors.

Called the BIG 4, the coalition launched a website listing individual advantages to developing within each respective city, framing themselves as a key logistics corridor to Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, as businesses nationwide weigh relocation and expansion to states such as Texas, Arizona, Nevada and Tennessee.

According to [California's Business and Economic Development website](#), the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach are part of the ten busiest container port complexes globally, while LAX ranks as the fourth busiest cargo airport in the nation.

Comparatively, cities such as Memphis – a major logistics hub, housing FedEx’s global headquarters and other global transport services – offer [public/private partnership programs](#) that offer tax incentives and reductions.



According to Industry City Manager Joshua Nelson, the BIG 4 – which represents 24% of all county industrial capacity – was created for businesses looking to expand or relocate in California, but who often face difficulties getting development approved by city halls.

“Too often, businesses are met with hurdles to expand their operation or relocate to California. City Hall can be a roadblock to new industries and jobs,” said Nelson in written statement to the Southern California News Group. “The BIG 4 was created to say yes – To find innovative solutions to support our current businesses and help industries easily relocate to California.”

In particular, the website touts City of Industry’s 92% industrial use zoning and 8% commercial zoning; strategic location between the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, and the Inland Empire; access to four freeways, two rail lines and international transit services; and ample industrial space for “Large Format Facilities.”

Further, Commerce's incentives include no city property, gross receipts or utility taxes; Santa Fe Springs touts low capital expenditure and buildout interest loans and corporation relocation subsidies; and Vernon offers lower public utility and gas rates, streamlined permitting and lower permitting costs due to no planning board approvals or California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) evaluation.

"The BIG 4 initiative will help retain our existing businesses, attract new industries, and create good-paying jobs," Vernon's City Administrator Brian Saeki said. According to their website, the cities carry a workforce of 200,000 and more than 5,000 businesses combined.

Additionally, specific industries the BIG 4 target include manufacturing, distribution and logistics, corporate space; information technology, defense and security; health care and financial services.

According to Nelson, the City of Industry is working to further "modernize [the] municipal code that governs development."

Though, since December, the City of Industry has faced public backlash for just that.

Last December, the City of Industry passed a resolution to allow for data centers to exist citywide; and in January, news of potential industry development, like the approved Marici Battery Energy Storage Facility project and potential data centers citywide spread concern to residents in neighboring cities.

According to city officials, the City of Industry has no existing applications for a data center; of the BIG 4, Vernon is the only city to house a hyperscale artificial intelligence data center. Vernon also has plans to open a second data center by June 2026.

Vape Shop

3

DRIVEWAY

6

HC DRIVEWAY

DRIVEWAY

BUS STOP

DIVIDER

1

5

Legend

1. Remove 4' of center Divider
2. Remove 14' of center Divider
3. Add U Turn ok sign
4. Create 5 parking spaces
5. Remove Red Curb
6. Remove Red curb
- Restore 1 parking space
- Remove Red parking spaces
- Restore 2 spaces

United Credit Union  
The Buffalo Spot

Montebello M.  
DRIVEWAY

Rios Pizzeria

Jersey Mike's  
Wawa Great 110

Juan's  
Great Fries

Parking  
|||||

The Habit

Chipotle  
Grill

Montebello M.  
DRIVEWAY

Victoria

Victoria

Connect Insurance

Ami Chicken

Princess One  
Narb Stop

Heavenly  
Graphics  
Choice

