



Budget Engagement Commission Special Meeting Minutes

April 5, 2018 – 5:00 pm,
Mayor's Ceremonial Room

Commission Chairperson Calls Meeting to Order

Commission Chairperson Mendez called to order the special meeting of the Budget Engagement Commission Meeting at 5:02 pm on April 2, 2018 at the Mayor's Ceremonial Room located on the seventh floor of Riverside City Hall.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Commission Chairperson Mendez

Commission Secretary Calls Roll – Commissioners Fine, Mayes, and Vice Chairperson Lee were not present during roll call. The Ward 2 – Business and Citywide – Business Commissioner positions are vacant. All other commissioners were present. Commissioner Mayes arrived during the presentation of Item 2.

Public Comment

1. Public Comment

Chairperson Mendez called for public comments. Ben Clymer, Jr. submitted a request to speak and thanked the Commissioners for their service.

Discussion Calendar

2. Fiscal Year 2017-18 Second Quarter Financial Report and Measure Z Update

Kristie Thomas, Interim Budget and Revenue Manager presented the Fiscal Year 2017-18 Second Quarter Financial Report and Measure Z Update.

Chairperson Mendez called for public comment but there were no requests for comment from the public. The Commissioners discussed the item and asked questions about savings from position vacancies, citywide revenue declines, and clarification regarding the funding of the City Archive project.

3. Review of the Baseline Fiscal Years 2018-23 Five-Year Financial Plans for the Public Parking, Solid Waste, and Sewer Funds

Kris Martinez, Public Works Director presented the Baseline Fiscal Years 2018-23 Five-Year Financial Plans for the Public Parking, Solid Waste, and Sewer Funds.

Chairperson Mendez called for public comment but there were no requests for comment from the public. The Commission discussed the agenda item with specific comments and clarifying questions regarding:

Public Parking

- Use of the city owned parking garages by local businesses to generate additional revenue.
- Comparison of city parking rates to other cities and the private sector.
- Debt service for parking garage 7.
- Feedback from local business regarding the reduction of free parking from 90 minutes to 60.

Solid Waste/Refuse

- Share of costs for Railway cleanup.
- Future rate increases and planning a gradual increase of rates instead of a large one when funding is critical.
- Reason a portion of the residential and commercial services outsourced while the city continues to service some areas.
- Has there been a comparison of providing services using city employees versus outsourcing the function.
- Clarification about the cost of Homeless Camp clean-up for the department.

Sewer

- Service impacts due to proposed personnel reductions.
- Savings from re-negotiating vendor contracts.
- Cause for deficit increases in future years if revenue remains unchanged.

4. Review of Electric and Water Funds Fiscal Year 2018-23 Budget Assumptions and Five-Year Financial Plans

Todd Jorgenson, Public Utilities Interim General Manager presented the Electric and Water Funds Fiscal Year 2018-23 Budget Assumptions and Five-Year Financial Plans.

Chairperson Mendez called for public comment but there were no requests for comment from the public. The Commissioners discussed the item and asked questions about impact of rate increases on reserves, water use restrictions, Riverside Transmission Reliability Project (RTRP), steps taken to identify additional savings to offset need for rate increase, General Fund Transfer, and Public Benefits/Water Conservation.

5. Review of Proposed Fiscal Year 2018-20 Capital Improvement Program Budget and 2018-23 Five-Year Capital Improvement Program Plan

Marie Ricci, Assistant Chief Financial Officer presented the Proposed Fiscal Year 2018-20 Capital Improvement Program Budget and 2018-23 Five-Year Capital Improvement Program Plan.

Chairperson Mendez called for public comment but there were no requests for comment from the public. The Commissioners discussed the item and asked questions about railroad grade separations, work order management system, Eastside Library, future revisions to Measure Z designations.

COMMISSION BREAK FROM 6:20 – 6:31PM

6. Review of Proposed Fiscal Year 2018-20 Biennial Budget and 2018-23 Five-Year Financial Plan for General Fund and Measure Z

Kristie Thomas, Interim Budget and Revenue Manager presented the Proposed Fiscal Year 2018-20 Biennial Budget and 2018-23 Five-Year Financial Plan for General Fund and Measure Z.

Chairperson Mendez called for public comment but there were no requests for comment from the public. The Commissioners discussed the item and asked questions about critical unfunded needs.

7. Information Regarding the City Manager's Employment Agreement

Adam Raymond, City Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer introduced the item to be discussed by the Commission.

Chairperson Mendez called for public comments. Jason Hunter expressed opposition to the City Manager's Employment agreement. The Commissioners discussed the item and asked questions about the agreement.

Approval of Minutes

8. Commissioner Segura moved that the January 30, 31, February 22, and March 15, 2018 minutes be approved as submitted, Commissioner Hart seconded the motion. The motion was approved by 13 commissioners. Commissioners Arballo abstained and Commissioner Fine and Vice-Chair Lee were not present for the vote. The Ward 2 – Business and Citywide – Business Commissioner positions are vacant.

Miscellaneous Budget Engagement Commission Items

9. Items for Future Agendas and Updates from City Staff

- Commissioner Plascencia requested information about a Commission for Employee compensation. Adam Raymond, City Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer indicated it could be researched and more information provided to the Commission at a later date.
- Chairperson Mendez informed the Commission that he was asked to speak at a Residents for Responsible Representation (RRR) function on April 16, 2018 at 7pm. He invited all to attend.

10. Approve Absence of Arballo, Segura, and Vice Chairperson Lee from the February 22, 2018 BEC Special Meeting.

Commissioner Fierro moved that the absences be approved, Commissioner Mayes seconded the motion. The motion was approved by 13 commissioners. Commissioners Arballo abstained and Commissioner Fine and Vice-Chair Lee were not present for the vote. The Ward 2 – Business and Citywide – Business Commissioner positions are vacant.

Adjournment

Chairperson Mendez adjourned the meeting at 6:59 pm and announced the next meeting date, is Thursday, May 31, 2017 at 5 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen Johnson
Principal Management Analyst – City of Riverside