

PIEDMONT CITY COUNCIL

Special and Regular Meeting Minutes for Monday, May 3, 2021

Special and Regular Sessions of the Piedmont City Council were held May 3, 2021, via teleconference, consistent with Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20 and the Alameda County Health Official's Order #20-04. In accordance with Government Code Section 54957(b), the agenda for this meeting was posted for public inspection on April 29, 2021.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Teddy Gray King called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Teddy Gray King, Vice Mayor Tim Rood, and Councilmembers Jennifer Cavanaugh, Betsy Smegal Andersen, and Conna McCarthy

Staff: City Administrator Sara Lillevand, City Attorney Michelle Marchetta Kenyon, Police Chief Jeremy Bowers, Public Works Director Daniel Gonzales, Planning & Building Director Kevin Jackson, Finance Director Michael Szczech, Senior Engineer John Wanger, Human Resources Administrator Stacy Jennings, Assistant City Administrator / City Clerk John Tulloch

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

Allocation of Transportation Development Act Article 3 Funds

WHEREAS, Article 3 of the Transportation Development Act (TDA), Public Utilities Code (PUC) Sections 99200, et seq., authorizes the submission of claims to a regional transportation planning agency for the funding of projects exclusively for the benefit and/or use of pedestrians and bicyclists; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), as the regional transportation planning agency for the San Francisco Bay region, has adopted MTC Resolution No. 4108, entitled "Transportation Development Act, Article 3, Pedestrian and Bicycle Projects," which delineates procedures and criteria for submission of requests for the allocation of "TDA Article 3" funding; and

WHEREAS, MTC Resolution No. 4108 requires that requests for the allocation of TDA Article 3 funding be submitted as part of a single, countywide coordinated claim from each county in the San Francisco Bay region; and

WHEREAS, the City of Piedmont desires to submit a request to MTC for the allocation of TDA Article 3 funds to support the projects described in Attachment B to this resolution, which are for the exclusive benefit and/or use of pedestrians and/or bicyclists.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Piedmont does hereby resolve, declare, determine, and order as follows:

1. The City of Piedmont declares it is eligible to request an allocation of TDA Article 3 funds pursuant to Section 99234 of the Public Utilities Code.

2. There is no pending or threatened litigation that might adversely affect the project or projects described in Attachment B to this resolution, or that might impair the ability of the City of Piedmont to carry out the project.

3. The project has been identified in the Pedestrian Bicycle Master Plan (“Master Plan”) as adopted by the City Council on November 7, 2016 and was identified in the Master Plan as a high priority project.

4. The Piedmont City Council attests to the accuracy of and approves the statements in Attachment A to this resolution.

5. The City Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this resolution and all accompanying documents to the countywide transportation planning agency of Alameda County for submission to MTC as part of the countywide coordinated TDA Article 3 claim.

(0525, 1000)

Agreement for Police Department Audio Visual Upgrades

Approval of an Agreement with AVI SPL for Audio Visual Upgrades to the Police Department Briefing/Training Room
(0045)

1st Reading of Ord. 760 N.S. – Property Lease with Gulf South Towers at 898 Red Rock Road

Introduction and 1st Reading of Ord. 760 N.S. – Property Lease with Gulf South Towers at 898 Red Rock Road
(0705, 0045)

Resolution No. 28-2021

RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the consent calendar.

Moved by Rood, Seconded by McCarthy

Ayes: McCarthy, Andersen, Cavenaugh, Rood, King

Noes: None

Absent: None

PUBLIC FORUM

Public Testimony was received from:

Christine Cumbelich requested the City's assistance with a development project on a parcel adjacent to her home.

REGULAR AGENDA

The Council considered the following items of regular business:

Legislative Briefing from the League of California Cities

Samantha Caygill, League of California Cities, gave a presentation on legislation pending in the state capitol. She also discussed the League's advocacy infrastructure and strategic priorities, as well as COVID-19 related funding for California and its cities from the American Rescue Plan.

Public Testimony was received from:

Sarah Karlinsky, Piedmont Racial Equity Campaign, suggested the Council consider advocating for proposed housing legislation that supports progressive housing policies and a mixture of housing types.

The Council thanked Ms. Caygill for her presentation and the League for tis work on behalf of cities.

(0185)

Housing Element Update Consulting Services Agreement

Planning & Building Director Kevin Jackson recommended that the Council approve an agreement with Lisa Wise Consulting for update of the City's Housing Element for 2023-2031. He shared the reasons the sixth cycle Housing Element Update will be more complex and challenging than in past

years. He reported that staff issued a Request for Proposals (RFP), two firms expressed interest and attended a pre-proposal conference, and Lisa Wise Consulting was the only firm to submit a proposal. He noted the evaluation panel's findings regarding Lisa Wise Consulting's proposal and the recommendation for the Council to approve an agreement with Lisa Wise Consulting, Inc.

Public Testimony was received from:

Sarah Karlinsky, Piedmont Racial Equity Campaign, indicated that the process should highlight the ways affordable and inclusive housing make a community stronger and include the potential need for Charter amendments.

The Council thanked Mr. Jackson for his presentation and asked questions regarding the scope of the work and the financial impacts of the proposed agreement.

Resolution No. 29-2021

RESOLVED, that the City Council approves a consulting services agreement in an amount not to exceed \$691,230 between the City of Piedmont and Lisa Wise Consulting, Inc. for services related to an update of the Housing Element of the Piedmont General Plan; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council encumbers a total of \$700,000 from the General Fund, consisting of an appropriation of \$500,000 in FY 2021-22 and \$200,000 in FY 2022-23 for the services provided under the scope of the agreement.

Moved by Rood, Seconded by McCarthy

Ayes: McCarthy, Andersen, Cavanaugh, Rood, King

Noes: None

Absent: None

(0045)

**Traffic Calming
Improvements at the
Intersection of Grand
and Lower Grand
Avenues**

Public Works Director Daniel Gonzales related that the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan identifies the intersection of Grand and Lower Grand Avenues as requiring additional traffic calming measures and prioritizes work at the intersection due to its unique geometry. He added that Grand Avenue has the highest traffic volume of any roadway in Piedmont.

Mr. Gonzales reported that the original plans have been modified to replace the landscaped island with reflective bollards and striping to increase visibility and clarify the flow of motor vehicles. He noted plans were further revised in response to comments provided at Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee (PBAC) and community meetings. He advised that the revised plans will be just as effective as the original plans but less expensive.

There was no **Public Testimony** on the matter.

Resolution No. 30-2021

RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the design of the proposed improvements to the intersection of Grand Avenue and Lower Grand Avenue; authorizes staff to solicit bids for the proposed improvements; and should the bids for the project be less than \$75,000, authorizes the City Administrator to sign a contract with the lowest responsible bidder for installation of said improvements.

Moved by Rood, Seconded by Cavanaugh
Ayes: McCarthy, Andersen, Cavanaugh, Rood, King
Noes: None
Absent: None
(1000, 1060))

**REPORTS AND
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilmember Cavanaugh announced registration for Recreation Department summer programs and camps is open and gave details on their operation. She also announced Part 2 of the Consent Town Hall has been rescheduled for May 27th.

Councilmember Andersen encouraged residents to register for emergency notifications through AC Alert and review wildfire prevention at www.readyforwildfire.org. She also announced wildfire prevention measures to be undertaken by the City. She reminded residents of the Inside PPD Video series, announced the League of Women Voters annual meeting, and encouraged residents to apply for the Pool Advisory Committee.

Councilmember McCarthy announced that East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) and the City are sponsoring a program to loan an induction cooktop to residents. She congratulated Pete Docter on his winning a third Academy Award.

Mayor King requested staff explore providing HEPA filters to the Piedmont Unified School District using the City's American Rescue Act Funds.

**ADJOURNMENT TO
CLOSED SESSION**

At 8:18 p.m., Mayor King adjourned the open session of the meeting in memory of Councilmember Cavanaugh's father-in-law, who recently passed away. The Council then adjourned to Closed Session for a Conference with Labor Negotiators (Govt. Code §54957.6); Agency Designated Representative(s): Michael Szczech, Monica McQueen, and Gena Burns; Represented Labor Groups: Piedmont Firefighters Assn; Piedmont Firefighters Assn., Fire Captains Unit; Piedmont Police Officers Assn; SEIU Local 1021 (General and Public works Units); Unrepresented Employees: City Administrator, Assistant City Administrator/City Clerk, Finance Director; Confidential Employees; Public Works Director; Professional, Technical & Supervisory Employees; Planning Director, Parks & Project Manager; Building Official; Police Chief; Police Captain, Police Support Services Commander; Fire Chief; Recreation Director; Recreation/Childcare Employees.

Mayor King announced there was no reportable action and adjourned the meeting at 10:30 p.m.