

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
OF THE CITY OF BUENA PARK  
HELD MARCH 10, 2026

Vol. 55 Pg. 137

1. GENERAL

The City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber of the Civic Center, 6650 Beach Boulevard, Buena Park, California, Mayor Traut presiding.

1A. CALL TO ORDER

1B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Ahn, Franco, Sonne, Hoque, Traut  
ABSENT: None

Also present were: Aaron France, City Manager; Chris Cardinale, City Attorney; and Adria M. Vicuña, MMC, Director of Government and Community Relations/City Clerk.

1C. INVOCATION

The Invocation was led by Pastor Ed Choi, Thanksgiving Church and BPPD Police Chaplain.

1D. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ethan Lopez, Beatty Middle School.

1E. CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager France reported on the following:

- Director of Government and Community Relations/City Clerk Vicuña informed the community of the recent reports regarding door-to-door collection of petition signatures. It was clarified that this is not a City-affiliated effort. Rather, an initiative petition is being circulated and signatures are being gathered to amend the zoning code to allow full-service grocery sales by discount super stores at the Buena Park Downtown Mall. Residents are encouraged to verify any petitions prior to signing. Please visit the City's official election page at [www.buenapark.com/elections](http://www.buenapark.com/elections) for more information, or contact the City Clerk's Office at (714) 562-3750 or [cityclerk@buenapark.com](mailto:cityclerk@buenapark.com) for questions or concerns about the initiative process.
- 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Middle and High School Art Show Awards Reception, March 12, 2026, 6:00 p.m., in the Buena Park City Hall Council Chamber.
- 2026 Korean Resource Fair, March 14, 2026, 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., at the Buena Park Senior Center.
- OCFA Open House 2026, March 14, 2026, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., at 1 Fire Authority Road, Irvine, CA 92602.
- Coloring with a Cop, March 18, 2026, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the Buena Park Library.

2. PRESENTATIONS

2A. PRESENTATION BY ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CHAIR DOUG CHAFFEE ON THE GUN BUYBACK PROGRAM

OC Board of Supervisors Chair Chaffee presented certificates to the Buena Park Police Department officers who participated at the Gun Buyback Program event. Additionally, Chair Chaffee invited the Kids Fishing Derby that will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2026, 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at 4442 Carbon Canyon Rd, Brea, CA 92823.

2B. PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MARCH 2026 AS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Vice Mayor Hoque and Council Member Sonne presented the Proclamation recognizing March 2026 as Women's History Month to WE LEAD BP. A video featuring women from WE LEAD BP and their contributions to the organization was presented to the City Council and meeting attendees.

3A. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Traut announced the public may at this time address the members of the City Council on any matters within the jurisdiction of the City Council.

Director of Government and Community Relations/City Clerk Vicuña acknowledged an email correspondence from Sam Giahi regarding implementing a City policy for use of AI to increase efficiency and speed of operations.

Art Brown, Buena Park resident and Buena Park Noon Lions member, spoke regarding the Buena Park Noon Lions' trip to San Clemente via the Metrolink train. An estimated 75 participants joined including members of the Climate Action Commission. Mr. Brown thanked Sustainability Manager Thai for coordinating the participation of the members of the Climate Action Commission.

Mr. Rodriguez, Buena Park resident, spoke regarding the issues raised concerning The Source property and ongoing illegal parking on Brenner Avenue.

Christine Marick, OC Commission on the Status of Women and Girls, spoke regarding the Commission's inaugural report on the status of women and girls in Orange County.

There being no additional requests to speak, Mayor Traut closed oral communications.

City Manager France provided an update on the issues raised by Mr. Rodriguez at last month's City Council meeting, and assured that City staff are working on resolving the matter.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR (4A – 4J)

Mayor Traut announced that Consent Calendar Item Nos. 4A through 4J would be acted upon by one motion affirming the actions as recommended on the agenda and agenda bills submitted and inquired if anyone present desired to have any item removed for separate consideration.. There being no requests for separate consideration, the following action was taken on Item Nos. 4A – 4J:

- MOTION: Traut
- SECOND: Ahn
- AYES: Traut, Ahn, Franco, Hoque, Sonne
- NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED that all actions recommended on Consent Calendar Item Nos. 4A – 4J be approved.

**Minutes**

4A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Recommended Action: Approve the Minutes of the Special and Regular City Council Meetings of February 24, 2026.

APPROVED the recommended action.

**Finance 75**

**4B. RESOLUTIONS APPROVING CLAIMS AND DEMANDS**

Recommended Action: 1) Adopt Resolutions approving the Claims and Demands.

ADOPTED the following titled resolutions:

RESOLUTION NO. 15084

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA, ALLOWING CERTAIN CLAIMS AND DEMANDS IN THE SUM OF \$2,105,957.96 DEMAND NOS. 434671 THROUGH 434888 CANCELLED NOS. 431587, 431852, 431904, 433750, 434294, AND 434578

RESOLUTION NO. 15085

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA, ALLOWING CERTAIN CLAIMS AND DEMANDS IN THE SUM OF \$1,153,323.03 COVERING REGULAR PAYROLL ENDING FEBRUARY 13, 2026

**Proclamations 119**

**4C. PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MARCH 2026 AS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**

Recommended Action: Approve Proclamation.

APPROVED the recommended action.

**Contracts 70 C-3627 Public Works Proj. 125 PW-987**

**4D. FINAL PAYMENT TO LETNER ROOFING COMPANY FOR THE CITY YARD ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

Recommended Action: 1) Accept the project as complete and approve a final payment to Letner Roofing in the amount of \$4,400.91; and 2) Direct the Public Works Department to file a Notice of Completion.

APPROVED the recommended action.

**Contracts 70 C-3656 Public Works Proj. 125 PW-992 Budgets 47**

**4E. APPROVE A CONTRACT WITH SQUARE SIGNS LLC FOR THE WILLIAM PEAK PARK MONUMENT SIGNS INSTALLATION PROJECT AND APPROVE AN ASSOCIATED BUDGET TRANSFER**

Recommended Action: 1) Award a contract to Square Signs LLC in the amount of \$37,000 for the William Peak Park Monument Signs Installation Project; 2) Authorize contingency funds in the amount of \$4,000 in the same purchase order; 3) Authorize the City Manager and City Attorney to make any necessary, non-monetary changes to the contract; 4) Authorize the City Manager and City Clerk to execute the contract; and, 5) Authorize a budget transfer in the amount of \$45,000 from the Brenner Park Account (32-9806-290155) to the Park Monument Signs Account (11-9806-190065) for this purpose.

APPROVED the recommended action.

**Budgets 47**

**4F. RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR PRIOR YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, OTHER CARRYOVERS, AND MID-YEAR BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS**

Recommended Action: 1) Adopt a resolution appropriating funds for prior year capital improvement projects, other carryovers, and mid-year budget adjustments.

APPROVED the recommended action and ADOPTED the following titled resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 15086

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA, APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR PRIOR YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT CARRYOVERS, OTHER CARRYOVERS, AND MID-YEAR BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

**Purchasing 127****4G. PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF BATTERY BACKUP SYSTEM UPGRADES FOR VARIOUS TRAFFIC SIGNAL LOCATIONS FOR THE 25-26 ANNUAL BATTERY BACKUP UPGRADES PROJECT**

Recommended Action: 1) Authorize the purchase of traffic signal battery backup upgrade equipment from Yunex, LLC for the 25-26 Annual Battery Backup Upgrades Project; and 2) Dispense with competitive bidding pursuant to Buena Park Municipal Code Section 3.28.080 (C).

APPROVED the recommended action.

**Grants 185 Police Dept. 117 Budgets 185****4H. ACCEPT FUNDS ALLOCATED TO THE BUENA PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT BY THE COUNTY OF ORANGE UNDER THE PROP 69 DNA FINGERPRINT, UNSOLVED CRIME AND INNOCENCE PROTECTION ACT OF 2004, AND AUTHORIZE USE OF THE FUNDS FOR PURCHASING FORENSIC EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING**

To accept funds allocated by the County under Prop 69 and expend those funds for a permissible purpose. The forensic equipment and tools approved by the County for procurement will enhance the collection and processing of DNA evidence at crime scenes.

Recommended Action: 1) Accept grant funds in the amount of \$32,196, allocated by the County of Orange to the Buena Park Police Department, under the Proposition 69 DNA Fingerprint, Unsolved Crime and Innocence Protection Act of 2004 ("Prop 69"); 2) Authorize the purchase of one "FFLEX" Fuming Cabinet, one UV Kit for "FFLEX", and "FFLEX" Product Training with these funds; and, 3) Authorize a budget appropriation in the amount of \$32,200 for this purpose.

APPROVED the recommended action.

**City Council 55****4I. APPROVAL OF BUENA PARK YOUTH MICROGRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES**

Recommended Action: 1) Approve the Buena Park Youth Microgrant Program guidelines.

APPROVED the recommended action.

**Audits 40 Reports & Studies 129****4J. ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT (ACFR) FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

Recommended Action: 1) Receive and file the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the year ended June 2025.

APPROVED the recommended action.

**END OF CONSENT CALENDAR****5. NEW BUSINESS (5A – 5B)****Contracts 70 C-3657 Public Works Proj. 125 PW-993 Budgets 47****5A. RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT WITH HARDY AND HARPER, INC. FOR THE DALE STREET REHABILITATION PROJECT FROM CRESCENT AVENUE TO SR-91, AND APPROVING A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF ANAHEIM**  
Presented by Jaden Miller, Principal Engineer

Recommended Action: 1) Adopt a resolution approving the plans and specifications for the Dale Street Rehabilitation Project from Crescent Avenue to SR-91; 2) Award a contract to Hardy and Harper, Inc. in the amount of \$1,850,000; 3) Authorize contingency funds in the amount of \$140,000 in the same purchase order; 4) Authorize construction engineering in the amount of \$100,000; 5) Authorize a purchase order for the Solis Group in the amount of \$6,000 for administration of the Community Workforce Agreement (CWA); 6) Authorize contingency funds in the amount of \$1,000 for CWA administration; 7) Approve a cooperative agreement with the City of Anaheim for the Dale Street Rehabilitation Project; 8) Authorize the City Manager and City Attorney to make any necessary, non-monetary changes to the contract and agreement; 9) Authorize the City Manager and City Clerk to execute the contract; 10) Authorize the Mayor, the Director of Public Works and the City Clerk to execute the agreement; and 11) Authorize a budget transfer in the amount of \$700,000 from the Commonwealth Avenue Account (24-9806- 590190) for this purpose.

Principal Engineer Miller reported on the Dale Street Rehabilitation Project from Crescent Avenue to SR-91. The project will involve rehabilitating the asphalt pavement, removing and replacing damaged curb and gutter, cross gutters, sidewalks, and curb ramps that do not meet ADA compliance standards, as well as making necessary utility adjustments. Additionally, there would be installation of new Class II bike lanes from La Palma Avenue to the cul-de-sac near the SR-91 freeway, new enhanced visibility crosswalks, and additional signage in accordance with the CA MUTCD. The City notified the City of Anaheim that a small portion of the project lies within Anaheim’s right-of-way at the intersection of Dale Street and Crescent Avenue, as well as along a segment of the cul-de-sac near the SR-91 freeway. City staff proposed a cooperative (CO-OP) agreement between Buena Park and Anaheim to rehabilitate the entire roadway, including the portions within Anaheim. Under the agreement, the City of Anaheim will reimburse the City of Buena Park for its proportionate share of the construction costs. The project was advertised for competitive bids on February 9, 2026 and six (6) bids were received and publicly opened on February 25, 2026. The lowest, responsible bid submitted by Hardy and Harper, Inc. of Lake Forest, California was in the amount of \$1,850,000. Hardy and Harper, Inc. possesses the required contractor’s license to complete the project and they have successfully completed similar pavement projects. It was recommended that the City Council award a contract to Hardy and Harper, Inc.; as well as approve contingency funds, construction engineering, and CWA administration services for a total project amount of \$2,097,000. Staff also recommended entering into a cooperative agreement (CO-OP) with the City of Anaheim to receive reimbursement from Anaheim in the amount of \$56,000. The original budget allocation for the project was \$1,400,000; however, based on total project costs, an additional budget transfer of \$700,000 from the Commonwealth account is required. Construction is anticipated to begin in April 2026 and be completed by June 2026. Finally, staff noted that they are preparing an “Art in Crosswalk” design to be incorporated into the crosswalk at Dale Street and Carnation Drive. The design will be developed in coordination with the City Council and the Cultural and Fine Arts Commission and will be implemented after the roadway rehabilitation work is completed.

MOTION: Sonne  
 SECOND: Franco  
 AYES: Sonne, Franco, Ahn, Hoque, Traut  
 NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED to approve the recommended action and ADOPTED the following titled resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 15087  
 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA,  
 APPROVING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR DALE STREET REHABILITATION  
 PROJECT FROM CRESCENT AVENUE TO SR-91 IN SAID CITY

**Grants 185 Budgets 47**

5B. RESOLUTION ACCEPTING GRANT FUNDS FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (CALTRANS) FOR THE 2026 COMMUNITY CLEANUP AND EMPLOYMENT PATHWAY GRANT AND APPROVAL OF THE ASSOCIATED RESTRICTED GRANT AGREEMENT (RGA)  
Presented by Lotus Thai, Sustainability Manager

Recommended Action: 1) Adopt a resolution accepting grant funds from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for the Community Cleanup and Employment Pathway Grant in the total amount of \$240,258; 2) Approve the Restricted Grant Agreement (RGA) with Caltrans for the grant; 3) Authorize the City Manager and City Attorney to make any necessary, non-monetary changes to the agreement; 4) Authorize the City Manager and City Clerk to execute the RGA and other grant-related documents as necessary; and, 5) Approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$240,300 for this purpose.

Sustainability Manager Thai indicated that the City submitted an application for the California Department of Transportation's (Caltrans) Community Cleanup and Employment Pathway Grant with the help of Townsend Public Affairs (TPA). The purpose of the grant is to support litter abatement and public right-of-way beautification efforts on locally owned property while providing workforce development opportunities for individuals facing barriers to employment. The City was awarded \$240,258 to implement regular neighborhood cleanups from April 2026 through April 2027. The City intends to partner with Orange County Conservation Corps (OCCC) to provide at-risk young adults with training, employment, and educational programs through conservation-driven projects. Grant funds will also be used to pay for EDCO waste hauling fees, community engagement efforts, the reincorporation of the Fillmore/Jackson Owners' Association, and two part-time Code Enforcement Officers to maintain, report, and monitor the cleanup efforts. It was noted that cleanup efforts will be Citywide but the grant funds will mainly focus on three disadvantaged communities that receive a disproportionate number of illegal dumping calls for service: Fillmore/Jackson, Western/Fullerton, and Kingman/Franklin. "Free Declutter Days" will be hosted once a month to gather bulky items such as couches, refrigerators, and mattresses. Educational materials will be distributed highlighting EDCO's free bulky item pickup program, and this information will continue to be shared through the reestablished Fillmore/Jackson Owners' Association to encourage long-term proper disposal practices and reduce future illegal dumping. To sustain neighborhood cleanliness beyond the grant period, staff will continue providing education and outreach to residents.

Council Member Franco suggested the City partner with OC Apartments Association to take efforts further in ensuring the three neighborhoods identified stay clean.

Mayor Traut asked about the process taken to select areas to implement regular neighborhood cleanups.

Sustainability Manager Thai explained that the Code Enforcement Division provided the data of areas that the City receives disproportionate number of illegal dumping calls for service.

- MOTION: Sonne
- SECOND: Ahn
- AYES: Sonne, Ahn, Franco, Hoque, Traut
- NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED to approve the recommended action and ADOPTED the following titled resolution:

RESOLUTION NO.15088  
A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA, ACCEPTING GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT \$240,258 FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNITY CLEANUP AND EMPLOYMENT PATHWAY GRANT AND DESIGNATING AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE DOCUMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACCEPTING THE GRANT FUNDS

6. PUBLIC HEARING (6A)

**Environmental Impact 179**

6A. RESOLUTION ADOPTING FINAL INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE PEAK PARK WATER WELL PROJECT  
Presented by Jason Tran, Associate Engineer

Recommended Action: 1) Adopt a resolution for the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Peak Park Water Well project.

Mayor Traut stated that this was the time and place for a public hearing to consider the adoption of a resolution for the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Peak Park Water Well project.

Associate Engineer Tran described the purpose of the Initial Study (IS) in pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and as it is associated with the construction and operations of the Peak Park Water Well Project. The Initial Study (IS) recommends mitigation measures that have been incorporated into the project to reduce potential significant environmental impacts. In accordance to CEQA guidelines, a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) is prepared to state that after incorporation of the mitigation measures, potentially significant environmental impacts would be eliminated or reduced to an insignificant level. Following completion of the study, staff and the consultant issued a Notice of Intent to Adopt the IS/MND, initiating a 30-day public review period between October and November 2025. Staff received comments during the review period, and the consultant prepared responses to those comments and incorporated them into the final IS/MND. As required by CEQA guidelines, the IS/MND will be implemented during the construction and operation of the Peak Park Water Well Project, which is expected to begin in Summer 2026 and be completed by Summer 2027.

Mayor Traut opened the public hearing and inquired if anyone present desired to speak. There being none, Mayor Traut closed the public hearing.

- MOTION: Sonne
- SECOND: Ahn
- AYES: Sonne, Ahn, Franco, Hoque, Traut
- NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED to approve the recommended action and ADOPTED the following titled resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 15089  
A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING AN INITIAL STUDY / MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND MITIGATION MONITORING PROGRAM FOR THE PEAK PARK WATER WELL PROJECT

7. COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONFERENCE REPORTS AND CALENDAR REQUESTS

7A. REPORT

Council Member Ahn reported the following:

- February 25 BPPD Baker to Vegas Relay Running Team BBQ Fundraiser
- March 2 BP Community Academy
- March 3 AUHSD/City of Buena Park Liaison Meeting
- March 4 OC Sanitation District Operations Board Meeting
- March 6 Stakeholder Interview (Strategic Arts Master Plan)

Council Member Franco reported the following:

- City of Buena Park and Buena Park Noon Lions Trip to San Juan Capistrano
- Composting Workshop with FIT Committee and Cool OC

Council Member Franco requested a cleanup of the Beach Boulevard and 91 freeway off-ramp.

Council Member Sonne reported the following:

- March 2 BP Community Academy
- March 3 AUHSD/City of Buena Park Liaison Meeting
- March 9 OCPA Board Meeting

Council Member Sonne indicated that at its March 9, 2026 meeting, the OCPA Board reviewed the Renter Energy Efficiency Program which will roll out beginning March 12, 2026 with applications due by April 5, 2026. Council Member Sonne also calendared a review and consideration to support bills aimed at lowering energy costs.

Vice Mayor Hoque reported the following:

- February 25 OC Sanitation District Board Meeting
- March 1 4<sup>th</sup> Annual LA Grand Interfaith Event
- March 2 BP Community Academy
- March 3 AUHSD/City of Buena Park Liaison Meeting

Vice Mayor Hoque and Mayor Traut jointly calendared explore partnering with Knotts Berry Farm to host the first Summer Concerts in the Park at Independence Hall in celebration of America's 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

Mayor Traut reported the following:

- February 26 OCFA Board Meeting
- March 2 Stakeholder Interview (Strategic Arts Master Plan)
- March 2 BP Community Academy
- March 3 AUHSD/City of Buena Park Liaison Meeting
- March 3 Snacks and Sustainability-Tea Workshop
- March 6 Read Across America at San Marino Elementary School
- March 6 North OC Ramadan Celebration
- March 7 Introductory City Meeting with an AI Plan Check System for ADUs

Mayor Traut indicated that at its February 26, 2026 meeting, the OCFA Board discussed supporting an item about enhancing the "Standards of Cover" for air operations.

#### 8. RECESS/RECONVENE

Mayor Traut recessed the meeting at 6:03 p.m. and announced the meeting would be reconvened in the City Council Chamber. The meeting was reconvened at 6:15 p.m.

#### 9. STUDY SESSION (9A – 9C)

##### 9A. DISCUSS AND PROVIDE DIRECTION REGARDING FIFA WORLD CUP COMMUNITY VIEWING PARTIES AT THE SOURCE Presented by Jessica Fewer, Senior Management Analyst

Senior Management Analyst Fewer discussed interest by Radio Korea about hosting community viewing parties at the Source OC (the Source) for the FIFA World Cup 2026 in June. Radio Korea has held similar events since 2006 in the Los Angeles area and is also in the process of planning a 2026 World Cup Los Angeles-area viewing party series. The proposed viewing parties at the Source will serve as the Orange County viewing destination being Buena Park as the Center of the Southland and the location of Koreatown. It was noted that Radio Korea proposed to host up to four community viewing parties at three locations within the Source – Main Plaza, Sunken Stairs, and Southwest Deck Area. The organizer's estimate that each viewing party at the three locations within the Source will attract approximately 1,000 to 1,500 attendees. Although the event is still in the planning stages, the organizers currently do not anticipate including alcohol sales, though they continue to explore that possibility. Attendees will also be encouraged to patronize existing eateries and restaurants onsite. The viewing parties would be free to the public and would not require a ticket. Radio Korea in partnership with OC Korean Chamber of Commerce, is requesting the City join the event as an official municipal planner. Showing the games in the aforementioned capacity requires a viewing license and the process would be easier and less expensive if the City agrees to be an official event partner. Radio Korea also understands that a Temporary Use Permit (TUP) from the Community and Economic Development Department will be required for these events. The TUP application process will provide detailed information on logistics, including security, traffic control, alcohol sales, parking, and other event-related considerations. Staff sought City Council direction on being an official partner of the viewing parties and authorization of the Mayor to sign the official partnership letter.

City Manager France spoke regarding requests to waive the \$545 TUP fee and to acquire the payment of \$6,000 – \$8,000 in security costs for all four viewings.

Mayor Traut asked about a previous waiving of TUP fee for another event.

Director of Community and Economic Development Foulkes indicated that the City has previously waived a TUP fee for a state or regional legislator's event.

The City Council supported being an official partner of the viewing parties at the Source OC; waived the \$545 TUP fee and security costs for all four viewings; and, authorized the Mayor to sign the official partnership letter.

**9B. DISCUSS AND PROVIDE DIRECTION REGARDING THE NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION DAY PROGRAM**

Presented by Jessica Fewer, Senior Management Analyst

Senior Management Analyst Fewer presented the proposed Neighborhood Action Day Program which aims to bring concentrated beautification efforts to targeted neighborhoods within the City to foster community pride and ownership. The proposal outlines a pilot program to carry out beautification efforts at two to three neighborhood sites prior to year-end. The locations must be geographically diverse throughout the City and no district may have more than one project. Senior Management Analyst Fewer described examples of small maintenance/upgrade projects similar to those done during Love Buena Park. This pilot program intends to quickly address minor neighborhood maintenance issues to prevent them from developing into more significant problems. While Public Works or other City staff will assist with project management, this program will call on neighbors, local non-profits, local churches, local organizations/businesses, scout troops, and school staff to complete the project. This is an effort to engage community members who have not previously participated in City programs or activities which is another goal of the program. Local businesses also have the opportunity to sponsor a project or provide in-kind volunteers on the day of the event. In return, they may have a banner displayed at the project site and be recognized in the City's social media posts about the event. Moreover, an ad hoc committee, comprised of two Council Members, a Public Works Department staff member and a staff member from any other relevant departments, will decide on site locations and scope of each project. Upon completion of a project, staff will report summary of the project details in the City Manager's Weekly. There is no budget allocated for the new, proposed program. Therefore, a budget allocation of \$15,000 from the undesignated General Fund balance would be required to proceed with this item. Also, the City Council would need to appoint an ad-hoc committee to begin the discussion of potential project locations and details.

The City Council supported the pilot program budget allocation and established an ad-hoc committee comprised of Mayor Traut and Council Member Franco.

**9C. DISCUSS AND PROVIDE DIRECTION REGARDING ALL PARKS PROJECTS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION FOR REVIEW**

Presented by Eddie Fenton, Assistant City Manager/Director of Human Resources

Assistant City Manager/Director of Human Resources Fenton discussed the roles and responsibilities of the Climate Action Commission as approved by the City Council through Ordinance No. 1720. At its February 24, 2026 meeting, Council Member Sonne requested discussion on all parks projects to be submitted to the Climate Action Commission for alignment with the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) and environmental excellence. Some benefits of the Climate Action Commission review of the CAAP include Strategic Plan alignment, climate resilience, and environmental justice. On the other hand, potential challenges may cause redundancy in the work of staff and consultants, authority exceed their intended advisory scope, project delays, and increased costs. Staff sought City Council direction on the intent to expand the Climate Action Commission's roles and responsibilities to include a review of all parks projects for alignment with the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan and environmental excellence; or an alternate direction.

Brandon Schooner, Climate Action Commissioner, spoke regarding the benefits of the Climate Action Commission review of parks projects to ensure that the plan is climate resiliency forward, and suggested the consideration of Climate Action Commission liaisons in the review of existing park projects.

The City Council discussed the importance to recognize the knowledge and expertise of the members of the Climate Action Commission in guiding the City Council make responsible decisions for the design of City parks; addition of the Climate Action Commission review of City parks as a form of input rather than sign off; allow the Climate Action Commission to provide feedback on park designs to designated Commission staff liaisons, City staff and the consultant; initiate a park redesign discussion between Climate Action Commission and City staff, and include the Climate Action Commission's recommendations with that of the Community Services and Cultural Engagement Commissions to be presented to the City Council for consideration; and, allow the Community Services Commission to seek feedback from other City Commissions as it relates to elements in the design of future park projects.

Council Member Sonne asked about a possibility that necessitates the Climate Action Commission make recommendations that is of significant cost to implement yet expedite to achieve the components set with the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan.

Director of Community Services Box and Director of Public Works Mikhael explained the status of certain parks projects and the potential incurred costs for the consultant to attend and present at another Commission meeting.

Assistant City Manager/Director of Human Resources Fenton spoke regarding possible alternatives of sharing the Climate Action Commission's input on park projects in alignment with the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan.

Sustainability Manager Thai indicated that there are components of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan that require immediate attention or a more in-depth discussion while others could be deferred.

Director of Community and Economic Development Foulkes provided examples such as addition of EV parking in parking lots or installation of restroom facility fixtures, which align with the sustainability goals, are substantially less expensive to include during the design phase than to retrofit later. Additionally, as directed by the City Council, Director Foulkes and Sustainability Manager Thai acknowledged and accepted to relay the recommendations provided by the Climate Action Commission on park projects to Directors Box and Mikhael.

Brandon Schooner, Climate Action Commissioner, stated that the park designs were well-received and no major issues were noted. Mr. Schooner expressed concern on the minimal information received by the members of the Climate Action Commission compared to the information shared with the Cultural Engagement and Community Services Commissions. He stated the Climate Action Commission would like to be included in the process to be able to offer their perspectives; and, requested for the members of the Climate Action Commission be included, as Commissioners and not as audience members, in the discussion of park designs in the future.

For future parks, the City Council supported that information be forwarded through City staff to the Climate Action Commission for feedback and review, consistent with the Commission's stated purpose.

For Friendship Park and the District 2 Pocket Park, the City Council supported that information be forwarded through City staff to the Climate Action Commission for feedback and review consistent with the Commission's stated purpose.

## 10. CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager France reported on the following:

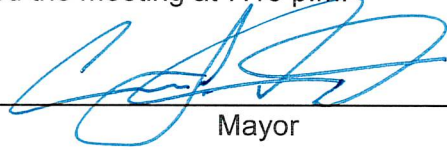
- Corey Elementary School College and Career Day, March 13, 2026, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Climate Action Commission Meeting to review and discuss Friendship Park design on April 7, 2026.
- City Council to hold a final review of Friendship Park on April 14, 2026.
- Climate Action Commission Meeting to review and discuss District 2 Pocket Park design on May 5, 2026.
- City Council Meeting to hold a final review of District 2 Pocket Park on May 12, 2026.
- St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 2026, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m., at the Mayor's Garden.

11. COMMISSION & COMMITTEE UPDATES

Director of Government and Community Relations/City Clerk Vicuña indicated that the City continuously accepts applications for commissions and committees. Interested residents may contact their District Council Member, submit an application online, or contact the City Clerk's Office for more information.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Traut adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant City Clerk

