

MINUTES

Regular meetings of the City Council and the Board of Directors of the Successor Agency of the former Redevelopment Agency of the City of Redlands held in the Council Chambers, Civic Center, 35 Cajon Street, on May 2, 2023 at 5:00 P.M.

Present: **Eddie Tejeda, Mayor**
 Paul Barich, Mayor Pro Tempore
 Denise Davis, Council Member
 Jenna Guzman-Lowery, Council Member
 Mario Saucedo, Council Member

Staff: **Charles M. Duggan, Jr., City Manager; Yvette M. Abich Garcia, City Attorney;**
 Jeanne Donaldson, City Clerk; Janice McConnell, Assistant City Manager; Chris
 Boatman, Assistant City Manager; Carl Baker, Public Information Officer;
 Danielle Garcia, Management Services/Finance Director; Brian Desatnik,
 Development Services Director; John Harris, Municipal Utilities and Engineering
 Director; Rich Sessler, Fire Chief; Rachel Tolber, Interim Police Chief

Mayor Tejeda called the meeting to order. He announced that due to child care needs that preclude in-person attendance at the meeting, Council Member Denise Davis has chosen to attend tonight's City Council meeting via teleconference under AB 2449 "Just Cause". This is the first of two allowable Just Cause exceptions under AB 2449.

The Mayor offered the public an opportunity to provide comment on any item on the agenda for the closed session and comments could be presented in-person, via Zoom, via cell phone or landline.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None forthcoming

CLOSED SESSION

Conference with legal counsel: Existing Litigation - Government Code §54956.9(d)(1)
(City Attorney Abich Garcia)
One Case:

- a. Davis v. City of Redlands, et al., San Bernardino Superior Court, Case No. CIVSB2132368

RECONVENE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The meeting reconvened at 6:00 P.M. with an invocation by Council Member Guzman-Lowery and an announcement with great sadness and sorrow, that City Treasurer Robert Dawes had passed away last weekend. The pledge of allegiance to the American flag was conducted by the Aztec Harmonies Honor Choir of Arroyo Verde Elementary School.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

City Attorney Garcia announced that no reportable action was taken during the closed session.

PRESENTATIONS

Redlands Pet Adoption

Animal Services Supervisor Jodi Kroeger and Animal Services Officer Trevor Houser introduced “Sandy”, an eight-year-old female German Shepherd mix who is available for adoption, along with thirty-nine other dogs and seventeen cats at the Redlands Animal Shelter. Ms. Kroeger informed the Council there had been twenty-one dogs adopted in April 2023.

Proclamation 125th Anniversary A.K. Smiley Public Library

Mayor Pro Tem Barich presented a Proclamation recognizing the 125th Anniversary of A.K. Smiley Public Library to Board President Bill Hatfield, Board Members Kate Pretorius and Rosa Gomez, Library Director Don McCue, Library Archivist Nathan Gonzalez and Library Clerk Monica Kalapaca.

Proclamation National Salvation Army Week

Council Member Saucedo presented a Proclamation recognizing May 15-21, 2023, as National Salvation Army Week in the City of Redlands to Mike Delgado and Naomi Goforth.

PUBLIC COMMENT

HRC Sponsored Health Fair - Chairperson Kenneth Ford invited everyone to attend a health fair sponsored by the Human Relations Commission scheduled for May 20, 2023, 9-2:00 P.M. at Texonia Park.

Teamsters Support - Rich Smith, representing the Teamsters Local 1932, was disappointed that during bargaining unit negotiations, the City Council appeared to be resisting change, and he added that excuses such as "we do it this way because it has always been done this way" was not acceptable. Several Teamsters were present in the Chambers with many more outside showing their support of unions.

AAPI Month - Dr. Sam Wong encouraged the Council to recognize Asian American Pacific Islanders and their heritage in the month of May 2023.

Lack of Housing - Robert Garrity stated there was a lack of housing in Redlands and he urged the Council to support projects intended to fill the need.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Minutes

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the regular meeting minutes of April 18, 2023.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Proclamation National Salvation Army Week

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the issuance of a proclamation recognizing May 15-21, 2023, as National Salvation Army Week in the City of Redlands.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Proclamation Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Mayor Tejeda presented a Proclamation declaring May 2023, as Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month to Dr. Sam Wong.

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Mario Saucedo, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the issuance of a proclamation declaring May 2023, as Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Proclamation 125th Anniversary A.K. Smiley Public Library

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the issuance of a proclamation recognizing the 125th Anniversary of the Gifting of A.K. Smiley Public Library.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Resolution No. 8452 Destruction of Public Records

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, Resolution No. 8452 approving the destruction of certain public records in the City Manager's Office.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Resolution No. 8441 Destruction of Public Records

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, Resolution No. 8441 approving the destruction of certain public records in the Human Resources/Risk Management Division.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Resolution No. 8465 Destruction of Public Records

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, Resolution No. 8465 approving the destruction of certain public records in Management Services/Finance Department.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Officer De-Escalation Training

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the sole source purchase of an Apex Officer Pro Training Simulator and Apex Officer X2 Hardware Upgrade from Govred Technology, Inc. in the amount of \$73,406.25 for officer de-escalation training.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Resolution No. 8434 Annual SLD and LMD Assessments

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, Resolution No. 8434 initiating proceedings to continue levying assessments, appointing an assessment engineer, and ordering the preparation of the Engineer's Reports for Street Lighting District No. 1 and Landscape Maintenance District No.1.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Emergency Operations Center Furniture PO

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, the City Council unanimously authorized, by roll call vote, a purchase order with Watson Furniture Group for the Emergency Operations Center office reconfiguration in the amount of \$115,623.87 through master cooperative agreement No. 00318.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Facility Use Agreement Redlands Theatre Festival

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of the Facility Use Agreement with Redlands Theatre Festival is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15061 (b)(3) of the State's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines; and approved the Facility Use Agreement with Redlands Theatre Festival for use of the Sewall Theatre within Prospect Park.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Automated Refuse, Recycling, Green Waste & Organic Waste Collection

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of the agreement for the provision of the rerouting and route optimization of residential automated refuse, recycling, green waste, and organic waste curbside collection and commercial recycling routes with RouteSmart Technologies is exempt from further environmental review pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the state's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act; and approved an agreement with RouteSmart Technologies for the Rerouting and Route Optimization of residential automated refuse, recycling, green waste, and organic waste curbside collection and commercial recycling routes for the amount of \$97,380.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Redlands Festival of Arts Event

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of the Redlands Festival of Arts event is categorically exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the state's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act; approved the request by the Redlands Arts Festival, Inc. to hold the Redlands Festival of Arts event on May 27-28, 2023, authorized the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages during the event and the expenditure of City resources and in-kind support in the amount of \$4,363; and authorized the closure of 4th Street and Eureka Street from 10:00 a.m. on May 27, 2023, through 5:00 p.m. on May 28, 2023.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Orange Street Alley Park Umbrellas

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that the aging inventory of umbrellas within the Orange Street Alley Park is surplus property; and approved the donation of surplus Orange Street alley umbrellas to the Redlands Visitor Center.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Vehicle Lease Agreement Toyota of Redlands Staff requested this item be removed from the agenda, to be considered at a future City Council meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS

WWTP Awards Recognition

Municipal Utilities and Engineering Director Harris was proud to announce Wastewater Treatment Plant employees and the facility itself received 2023 California Water Environment Association Santa Ana River Basin awards during the annual CWEA SARBS banquet held at Disneyland. MUED employees were recognized for their outstanding professional achievements. Employees included, Jung Park, Laboratory Manager, Supervisor of the Year, Ivan Pedraza, Laboratory Analyst, Laboratory Person of the Year, Karla Siordia, Laboratory Analyst, Laboratory Person of the Year and Shannon Simmers, Regulatory Compliance Officer. Additionally, the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant was recognized as the CWEA SARBS Wastewater Treatment Plant of the Year.

2023 Regional SCAG Conference Voting Delegate

Mayor Tejada opened the discussion to consider designating a Voting Delegate to represent the City at the 2023 Regional Conference of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) and General Assembly. As public comment, Greg Brittain voiced concerns that SCAG's authority had grown too powerful, and he urged the delegates to vote to preserve the City's way of life and to avoid limiting housing.

On motion of Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, to designate Council Member Mario Saucedo to serve as the voting delegate and Mayor Pro Tem Barich to serve as the alternate voting delegate at the 2023 Regional Conference of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG).

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Resolution. No. 8464 - Street Vacation No. 189

Mayor Tejada declared the meeting open as a public hearing and called on Principal Planner Sean Reilly for a review of Resolution. No. 8464, Street Vacation No. 189, to consider a request to vacate a portion of excess street right-of-way that is 30 feet in width and approximately 927 feet in length, and totaling approximately 27,805 square feet in area, located on the north side of Edgemont Drive along the property frontages of 212 and 226 Edgemont Drive. The Applicant, Aysar Helo, explained that authorizing the street vacation would remove the right-of-way from his property. One written comment was received from Steve Rogers, who objected to the Council approving the vacation without the appropriate review and oversight of the City Engineer. With no further discussion, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

On motion of Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, seconded by Council Member Mario Saucedo, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, Resolution No. 8464 to vacate a portion of excess street right-of-way (Street Vacation No. 189) that is 30 feet in width and approximately 927 feet in length, and totaling approximately 27,805 square feet in area, located on the north side of Edgemont Drive along the property frontages of 212 and 226 Edgemont Drive (APNs: 0294-141-33-0000 and 0294-141-12-0000). The proposal is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Resolution No. 8471 HSPC Decision Appeal

Mayor Tejeda declared the meeting open as a public hearing and called on Principal Planner Sean Reilly for a detailed report on an Appeal of the Historic and Scenic Preservation Commission's decision to deny Demolition Permit No. 357, related to a request to demolish a 2,794 square foot single family dwelling over 50 years of age located at 130 Sierra Vista Drive by Bryan and Celina McKernan. Consultants Alexandra Perlman and John LoCascio, of Historic Resources Group (HRG), identified the methods they used to perform the integrity analysis and examine the property. It was determined that the home was not eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historical Resources, and not eligible for designation as a City of Redlands Historic Landmark or Historic Resource. The property had undergone substantial alterations and no longer retained sufficient integrity to convey any potential significance under the required criteria to be eligible for listing. A peer review, performed by ECORPS, concurred with HRG's conclusions. Appellant Celina McKernan expressed disappointment with the Historic and Scenic Preservation Commission (HSPC) decision to deny the demolition and reminded everyone the subject property was currently not recorded in the City's list of local historic resources.

As public comment, Kathleen Beall and John P Beall passionately spoke of the unique aspects of this mid-century modern house and its architect, Clare Henry Day. They recently submitted an application, along with other appropriate documents, to nominate 130 Sierra Vista for inclusion on the Local Historic Resource List and it was their opinion that property rights were not an issue because no property was being taken away from the owners. They reminded everyone that demolitions were permanent actions. City Attorney Garcia clarified the nomination paperwork was an application to add the property to the Resource List and would not pause any actions related to the property at this time. Six written comments were received, with four requesting the Council deny the appeal, one requesting approval of the appeal and one requesting the Council consider sending this back to the HSPC. As rebuttal, Morgan Gallagher, representing Bryan and Celina McKernan, urged the Council to consider the experts who evaluated the property, with both consultants coming to the same conclusion. Mayor Tejeda closed the public hearing.

Council Members agreed this was a tough decision to make. Several comments were raised and discussed, including the merits of the two consultant's reports that were in opposition to the opinions of the H&SP Commissioners, the guidelines as spelled out in the Municipal Code and a suggestion from Mayor Tejeda to preserve the home by soliciting a buyer who could move the property to another location.

On motion of Council Member Mario Saucedo, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, the City Council approved, by roll call vote, Resolution No. 8471 to uphold the appeal and reverse the Historic and Scenic Preservation Commission's decision to deny Demolition Permit No. 357 and to approve Demolition Permit No. 357, to demolish a 2,794 square foot single family dwelling over 50 years of age located at 130 Sierra Vista Drive (APN: 0176-173-09-0000).

Vote: 3 - 2 Passed

NEW BUSINESS

ESRI Enterprise License Agreement

Claudia Caceres, GIS Supervisor, explained the need for the Enterprise License Agreement with Esri for mapping software and services for a period of three years in the amount not-to-exceed \$273,409.

On motion of Council Member Mario Saucedo, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the Enterprise License Agreement with Esri for a period of 3 years at an amount not-to-exceed \$273,409 for mapping software and services.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Resolution No. 8439 Flag Display Policy

City Attorney Abich Garcia provided a timeline and background of the request to amend the Display Policy for the United States, State, Local and Other Flags to Authorize the Flying of the Rainbow Pride Flag at City Hall in the Month of June. She explained the First Amendment does not require the government to allow all speech on city property and she reviewed the U.S. Supreme Court decision acknowledging that when the government has a clear policy and guidelines, the government may advance its own speech without requiring viewpoint neutrality when the government itself is the speaker, so long as the government speech does not show religious preference or encourage a certain vote in an election.

As public comment, twenty-two people supported amending the existing policy to allow the Pride flag to fly in the month of June, as a visible sign that the City supports and protects marginalized groups and is committed to creating a safe and welcoming community for all. Eight people were opposed to flying the Pride flag and thought the change in policy was divisive, showing a preference for one group over another. They recommended the City retain its current flag display policy authorizing only the US, state, local and MIA/POW to fly on City poles.

Each Council Member offered their perspectives on the matter. Council Members Davis and Guzman-Lowery were in support of amending the policy and noted that the Pride flag was already being flown at the state level and on some federal sites and this action would put Redlands in alignment with the City's Strategic Plan, promoting diversity, equity and inclusion. Council Member Saucedo said the US flag already promoted inclusivity, representing all people. Furthermore, he supported the LGBTQ+ community and was in favor of anyone who chose to fly the Pride flag on their own private property. Mayor Pro Tem Barich was uncomfortable giving preference to one group over another. Mayor Tejeda was concerned about the Supreme Court decision and was worried that approving the policy might handcuff future city councils. He said there was no guarantee future council members would support this. Council Members were appreciative of all the speakers who took the time to address the Council.

On motion of Council Member Denise Davis, seconded by Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, the City Council failed to approve, by roll call vote, Resolution No. 8439 amending the Display Policy for the United States, State, Local and Other Flags to Authorize the Flying of the Rainbow Pride Flag at City Hall in the Month of June. With the motion failing, Resolution No. 6633 will remain as the City display policy for flags, restricting the use of city-owned flag poles to display only the U.S., State of California and City of Redlands flags and the POW/MIA flag.

Vote: 2 - 3 Failed

COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Mayor Tejeda and Council Member Saucedo participated in the Community Day of Service. Improvements to Israel Beal Park were quite significant.

Mayor Pro Tem Barich attended the Fire Department Promotion and Awards Ceremony. He hosted the Mayor of Fremont, CA and provided a tour of Step Up in Redlands, showing off the facility as an example of ways to deal with homelessness.

Council Member Davis was proud of the Redland Youth Council's efforts during the recent resource fair held at Step Up in Redlands.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:48 P.M. in memory of City Treasurer Robert Dawes. Each Council Member expressed their sympathy for the loss of such a great man, who served selflessly in so many ways and touched the lives of us all. He will be greatly missed. The next regular meeting of the City of Redlands City Council will be held on May 16, 2023.

SUCCESSOR AGENCY OF THE FORMER REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY OF REDLANDS

Chairperson Tejeda called the meeting to order and offered anyone present the opportunity to address the Board on any subject not already on the agenda, within the jurisdiction of the Successor Agency.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None forthcoming

Minutes

On motion of Vice Chair Barich, seconded by Board Member Saucedo, the minutes of the regular meeting of April 4, 2023 were unanimously approved, by roll call vote.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Successor Agency Board of Directors' meeting was adjourned at 9:49 P.M. The next regular meeting of the Agency will be held on June 6, 2023.

[GO TO PREVIOUS PAGE](#)

[GO TO THE TOP OF THE PAGE](#)