

# MINUTES

Regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Redlands held in the Council Chambers, Civic Center, 35 Cajon Street, on February 3, 2026 at 5:00 P.M.

**Present:** Mario Saucedo, Mayor  
Marc Shaw, Mayor Pro Tem  
Paul Barich, Council Member  
Eddie Tejada, Council Member  
Denise Davis, Council Member

**Staff:** Charles M. Duggan, Jr., City Manager; Yvette M. Abich Garcia, City Attorney; Jeanne Donaldson, City Clerk; Phillip Doolittle, City Treasurer; Janice McConnell, Assistant City Manager; Chris Boatman, Assistant City Manager/Interim Development Services Director; Carl Baker, Public Information Officer; Danielle Garcia, Management Services/Finance Director; Rich Sessler, Fire Chief; Rachel Tolber, Police Chief; Tabitha Crocker, Facilities and Community Services Director; Robert Meteau, HR/Risk Management Director; Ray Casey, Interim Municipal Utilities and Engineering Director

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

## PUBLIC COMMENT

None forthcoming

## CLOSED SESSION

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

1. Coyote Aviation v. City of Redlands, et al. San Bernardino County Superior Court Case No. CIVSB2418252

## RECONVENE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The meeting reconvened at 6:00 P.M. with an invocation by Council Member Barich. The Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag was conducted by Victoria 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 Joe Alcaez and Kennel Attendant Hailey Stuck showed off "Wizard", a three-year-old male German Shepherd mix, who is available for adoption, along with twenty-four other dogs and four cats at the Redlands Animal Shelter. Mr. Alcaez provided the Shelter statistics for December 2025 through January 2026, which included: 72 adopted dogs and 3 adopted cats.

## Black History Month Proclamation

Mayor Saucedo presented Black History Month Proclamations to Redlands Community Reunion Members, Jimmy Dixon, Sandra Dixon, Reggie Harrison, and Tony Smith.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

First Amendment & Rule of Law - Tracy Wise thanked the City for their continued support and protection of the First Amendment and the rule of law. She reminded everyone to act with basic decency, and she proposed that Federal Agents should adhere to the following: no masks allowed; must have identification; and must obtain warrants.

Food Shortages - With the end to the grocery gift card program, Bruce Laycook requested the Council reevaluate the budget, shift dollars and find the funds to continue the program, which has been a lifeline for those who lost their SNAP benefits. He added that food collection locations have been targeted by ICE, only increasing food insecurities in the community.

Traffic & Safety Concerns - Roberta Lehfeltd, Juan Carlos Ulora, Lucy Larriba, Jose Rojas, and a Zoom caller urged the City to address their traffic and safety concerns on Clay Street. They complained that employees of the Boys and Girls Club are severely impacting the neighborhood, overtaking residential parking spaces from those who live on the street, and creating congestion and unsafe double-parking hazards. They claimed the employees are disrespectful and have been unwilling to cooperate with the neighborhood.

City Manager Duggan said that staff would investigate the matter.

Meeting Agenda Format - Andy Hoder questioned how staff reports are formatted. He thought the motion language should follow discussion and be found at the end of the report, instead of at the beginning.

RUSD Concerns - Raydon Rice cited the Redlands Unified School District has spent over \$50 million in the last decade regarding charges of sexual abuse of children, which he claimed demonstrated a clear lack of care for students. He advocated for the community to work together and create programs to engage young people and give them a sense of purpose.

Citywide Mayoral Election - Steve Rogers recommended the Council approve a ballot measure for 2026 allowing voters to determine the method for selecting the mayor, and he supported a hybrid voting system, offering voters the ability to vote across districts.

## CONSENT CALENDAR

## Minutes

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejada, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Marc Shaw, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the regular meeting minutes of January 20, 2026, and the special meeting minutes of January 14, 2026, and January 23, 2026.

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

### Electrical Infrastructure Capacity in District 2

Council Member Tejada provided background on his proposal to consider sending a letter to Southern California Edison (SCE) regarding electrical infrastructure capacity limitations that may affect several City-approved commercial and residential development projects in District 2. These limitations have the potential to delay both public and private projects. The letter outlines concerns regarding insufficient electrical infrastructure to support approved development projects, including commercial and residential developments. The letter requests that Southern California Edison prioritize the planning and construction of necessary electrical infrastructure in the affected areas and emphasizes the importance of timely improvements to avoid extended delays that could adversely affect the community.

As public comment, Ray Kayacan, representing Regency Centers, said they were recently informed by SCE there is insufficient power available for their project located at Tennessee Street and Lugonia. He stressed the critical need for the electrical infrastructure for the project to be successful, and yet he said that SCE has not been responsive. Bruce Laycook wondered how the Planning Commission could approve projects in an area where there was not enough electrical output and suggested a moratorium on any future projects coming for review. Stephen Rogers listed what he considered to be certain deficiencies with the City's General Plan, contested the procedures employed by the Council for project approvals, and reminded the City of their role to protect the public's health and safety. Matt Jordan stated that SCE's electrical capacity shortage is a statewide crisis, and not just a regional one. He stressed the community's need for the planned projects in District 2 and thanked the Council for their assistance.

City Manager Duggan added that SCE informed staff they have plans to upgrade distribution lines in 2028. Mayor Pro Tem Shaw and Council Member Barich expressed dissatisfaction with the response from SCE and fully endorsed the letter as a means to leverage necessary access.

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejada, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously authorized, by roll call vote, Mayor Saucedo to sign a letter to Southern California Edison requesting immediate attention regarding electrical infrastructure capacity in District 2.

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

### February 2026 Black History Month Proclamation

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejeda, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Marc Shaw, the City Council unanimously authorized, by roll call vote, the issuance of a proclamation declaring the month of February 2026 as Black History Month in the City of Redlands.

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

#### Airport Advisory Board Appointment

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejeda, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Marc Shaw, the City Council unanimously appointed, by roll call vote, Austin Crane to serve the remainder of a four-year term on the Airport Advisory Board, ending May 1, 2028.

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

#### Traffic and Parking Commission Appointments

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejeda, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Marc Shaw, the City Council unanimously appointed, by roll call vote, Dr. Iyan Barrera-Sandri to serve the remainder of a four-year term on the Traffic and Parking Commission, ending December 21, 2029; and appointed Jake Mayuga-Allen to serve the remainder of a four-year term on the Traffic and Parking Commission, ending December 20, 2028.

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

#### Cultural Arts Commission Appointments

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejeda, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Marc Shaw, the City Council unanimously reappointed, by roll call vote, Daniel Gohman to serve a second four-year term on the Cultural Arts Commission ending January 6, 2030; reappointed Daniel Rodriguez to serve a second four-year term on the Cultural Arts Commission ending January 6, 2030, and appointed Robert Schooley to serve a four-year term on the Cultural Arts Commission ending January 6, 2030.

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

#### Resolution No. 8748 New Water Distribution Connections & Sewer Collection Systems

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejeda, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Marc Shaw, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, Resolution No. 8748 for new connections to the City of Redlands water distribution and sewer collection systems for seven vacant parcels located at the northeast corner of the intersection Nice Avenue and Turquoise Avenue and identified as county of San Bernardino Assessor's Parcel Numbers 0298-103-14-0000 through 0298-103-20-0000 in the unincorporated community of Mentone within San Bernardino County; and determining that approval of the Resolution is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Sections 15303 and 15319 of the California Environment Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines.

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

### Mills Act Contract for 1106 West Highland Avenue

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejada, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Marc Shaw, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of this Mills Act Contract with the property owners for the single-family residence located at 1106 West Highland Avenue is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the California Environmental Quality Act; and approved the Historic Property Contract by and between the City of Redlands and Jaret Fischer for the residential property located at 1106 West Highland Avenue, within the West Highland Avenue Historic and Scenic District (Historic District No. 7).

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

### Cooperative Purchase Getac Mobile Data Computers

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejada, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Marc Shaw, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the Cooperative Purchase of Getac Mobile Data Computers for the Police Department from Code 3 Technologies in the amount of \$94,386.50.

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

### Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation Grant Award for RESA

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejada, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Marc Shaw, the City Council unanimously accepted, by roll call vote, the grant award from the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation to fund the Redlands Emergency Services Academy in the amount of \$60,000 for FY2025-26 and FY2026-27; and authorized an additional appropriation of the same amount to the Police Department.

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

### Resolution No. 8746 MOU Redlands Police & U of R

Police Chief Tolber introduced Resolution No. 8746 approving a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) pursuant to Penal Code Sections 830.7(b) and 836, outlining the authority and responsibilities of University of Redlands and the Redlands Police Department (RPD) in accordance with the Jeanne Clery Act and California Act and California Education Code Section 67381. The University and RPD have had a continuous Memorandum of Understanding since March 19, 1996, allowing the University's Department of Public Safety, which includes non-sworn Public Safety Officers, to exercise powers of arrest during the course of their employment. This updated MOU will incorporate the grant of limited authority available to Public Safety Officers as outlined in California Penal Code Sections 830.7(b) and 836 on the University's campus located at 1200 East Colton Avenue in Redlands and will strengthen law enforcement on and near the University Campus.

Chief Tolber announced there was a typo in the MOU, in the insurance section, found on page 8 - 20. b. The corrected amounts have been updated to read as follows: Comprehensive General

Liability insurance in the minimum amount of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence and Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) aggregate, for public liability, property damage and personal injury is required, instead of the numbers originally listed in parentheses as \$2,000,000 and \$4,000,000. As public comment, Bruce Laycook supported updating the MOU but suggested this item did not belong on the Consent Calendar. He thought this important matter deserved a thorough review and discussion.

On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Marc Shaw, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously adopted, by roll call vote, Resolution No. 8746 approving a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) as amended, pursuant to Penal Code Sections 830.7(b) and 836, outlining the authority and responsibilities of University of Redlands and the Redlands Police Department in accordance with the Jeanne Clery Act and California Act and California Education Code Section 67381; and adopted the Resolution rescinding the MOU between the City of Redlands and the University of Redlands dated October 18, 2005.

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

#### Consulting Agreement Zero Emission Vehicle Fleet Review

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejeda, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Marc Shaw, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of the Professional Services Agreement with ICF Consulting, LLC. dba ICF Consulting Group, Inc., is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15061 (b)(3) of the State's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act; and approved the Professional Services Agreement with ICF Consulting, LLC. dba ICF Consulting Group, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$137,896.93 for Zero Emission Vehicle Fleet Review and Assessment Services.

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

#### COMMUNICATIONS

##### Annual Report Street Tree Commission

Chairwoman Chris Sedmack was unable to attend tonight's meeting to provide the Annual Report for the Street Tree Commission.

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejeda, seconded by Council Member Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously agreed, by roll call vote, to receive and file the Annual Report for the Street Tree Commission.

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

##### Food Security Task Force

Homeless Solutions Manager David Rabindranath offered background on the Food Security Task Force program. On November 4, 2025, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 8732 establishing the City of Redlands Food Security and Child Nutrition Support Initiative. The resolution directed staff to take a series of coordinated actions, including convening a Food Security Task Force,

identifying City-owned sites for food access programs, expanding youth nutrition partnerships, exploring community mini-grants, and pursuing external funding and advocacy opportunities,

Based on feedback received during the inaugural Food Security Task Force meeting, staff is seeking City Council direction on suggested next steps that reflect the issues and needs identified by community partners. Those potential next steps include continuing to convene the Food Security Task Force to support coordination and further explore ways for the City to assist with information-sharing, including aggregating and disseminating updates related to federal and state nutrition programs, benefit changes, and funding opportunities. Assistant City Manager Boatman highlighted the biggest takeaway was the need for the City to act as a central repository, a collaborative hub to centralize information and resources.

Council Member Davis thanked staff for their efforts and was pleased with the community's support. She proposed the task force meet regularly and work towards developing a concrete framework to offer guidance as they move forward. She emphasized that food insecurity is inextricably linked to housing instability, and she advocated for a comprehensive strategy to support city residents. Council Member Barich asked about funding sources and suggested the City engage local stakeholders to supplement municipal funding. Mayor Saucedo supported the Task Force and agreed to make the City a "clearinghouse of resources", but he expressed concerns about placing additional burdens on City staff. He recommended the City rely heavily on our community action partners to work closely with staff. As public comment, Bruce Laycook passionately urged the City to prioritize food security for all residents, especially our young people. He argued that the Council should reallocate resources to protect the most vulnerable members of the community.

On motion of Council Member Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously directed staff, by roll call vote, to continue convening and coordinating with local nonprofit, faith-based, and school partners to address food insecurity and related basic needs in the City of Redlands, and to return to the City Council with periodic updates and recommended next steps.

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

### Ordinance No. 2999 Keeping of Hens

Mayor Saucedo declared the meeting open as a public hearing and called on Associate Planner Jazmin Serrato, who presented Ordinance No. 2999 amending Title 6 (Animals) and Title 18 (Zoning Regulations), and Resolution No. 8747 amending residential specific plans, to update permitted and accessory land uses and development standards for the keeping of hens within single-family residential zoning districts.

On November 4, 2025, the Council voted to direct staff to prepare an ordinance to amend the City's zoning regulations to allow for the keeping of hens on lots in single-family residential zones and districts. Currently, hens are only allowed in two residential zoning districts: the Rural Residential Animals (R-R-A) District and the Rural Estate Animals (R-A-A) District (see Attachment A). The proposed code amendment would allow the incidental keeping and raising of

chickens (hens only) in all single-family residential zoning districts as well as single-family districts of Specific Plans.

Regulations will also be updated governing the number of hens permitted (based on lot size) and other reasonable standards to ensure compatibility with surrounding properties. This ordinance would encourage sustainable small-scale food production in residential areas, protect public health and animal welfare, and prevent nuisances from noise, odor, and sanitation. The keeping of hens would be ancillary/accessory to an existing primary single-family dwelling unit, in accordance with the amended Redlands Municipal Code (RMC) Section 18.29.030. On December 9, 2025, the Planning Commission voted 6 to 0 to adopt Resolution No. 1728 recommending the text amendment Ordinance No. 371 to update the zoning regulations to permit the keeping of chickens (hens only) in single-family residential zones. There were no written comments received and with no further discussion, Mayor Saucedo closed the public hearing.

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejada, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Marc Shaw, the City Council unanimously introduced, by roll call vote, Ordinance No. 2999, amending Title 6 (Animals) and Title 18 (Zoning Regulations), adopted Resolution No. 8747, amending residential specific plans, to update permitted and accessory land uses and development standards for the keeping of hens within single-family residential zoning districts; and finding that the proposal is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Sections 15061(b)(3) and 15378(b)(5) of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines.

**Vote: 5 - 0 Passed**

## NEW BUSINESS

### 2026-2027 CDBG Program Proposed Projects

Management Analyst Tricia Munoz presented staff's recommendation for FY 2026-2027 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program proposed project listing. Staff recommended funding requests for projects based on an evaluation and analysis of all the applications submitted, received and deemed eligible for the 2026-2027 CDBG Program Year, beginning on July 1, 2026. These include:

- Sylvan Park Rehabilitation Project Phase II - Restroom Replacement & ADA Improvements for \$170,201
- Family Service Association of Redlands - Housing and Food Assistance for \$7,500
- Boys & Girls Club of Greater Redlands - Riverside - Family Strengthening for \$7,500
- YMCA of the East Valley - Legal Aid Services for \$7,500
- Partners Against Violence - Supportive Services for Victims of Violence for \$7,500

The estimated allocation for Redlands Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-2027 is \$200,201, which represents a decrease of \$111,146 from the prior year, which is based on a projected 10% reduction in program funding from the most current U.S. Census statistics for poverty, overcrowded housing conditions and population estimates.

As public comment, Bruce Laycook was concerned that \$170,000+, earmarked for a park bathroom, overshadowed the \$7,500 for food assistance, and he thought this was misaligned with

the community's most urgent needs. Stephen Rogers said that engineering staff should manage the public works project through all phases from design to construction.

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejada, seconded by Council Member Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously directed staff, by roll call vote, to prepare the 2026-2027 Community Development Block Grant Program Cooperating City of Recommended Projects Form using the recommendations in this report and submit it to the County of San Bernardino Community Development and Housing Division.

**Vote: 5 - 0 Passed**

#### Contract Award Guardrail Installations Garden Street & Redlands Blvd

Facilities and Community Services Director Crocker reviewed a Public Works Contract with Alcorn Fence Company for guardrail installations on Garden Street at Hilton Avenue and at Redlands Boulevard between Ford Street and Palm Avenue, for an amount not to exceed \$293,195.95. Furthermore, she explained the request to reject the lowest bid from R&J Construction in the amount of \$290,575.25 as non-responsive. Staff evaluated each bid and identified Alcorn Fence Company as the lowest responsive and responsible bid. As public comment, Stephen Rogers reiterated his concern that an engineer should manage the public works project through all phases from design to construction, and he noted the staff report failed to include approval from engineering staff.

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejada, seconded by Council Member Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that the project is categorically exempt from environmental review in accordance with Section 15301 of the State's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act; rejected the bid from R&J Construction in the amount of \$290,575.25; and approved the Public Works Contract with Alcorn Fence Company for an amount not to exceed \$293,195.95.

**Vote: 5 - 0 Passed**

#### COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Mayor Saucedo attended the Common Vision Coalition Disability Resource Luncheon, a Measure I Ad Hoc Committee meeting, and the League of California Cities Community Policy Planning meeting. He participated in the Disaster Council meeting, toured the University of Medicine and Science in Colton, attended the League of California Cities Divisional Regional Meeting in Grand Terrace, visited the Black Chamber of Commerce Art Exhibit at the San Bernardino County Museum, and the Municipal Utilities and Public Works Commission meeting held on February 2nd.

Mayor Pro Tem Shaw submitted his report of activities for the month of January 2026, as available online and attached to the staff report.

Council Member Barich and Mayor Pro Tem Shaw enjoyed the Annual Kid's Fishing Derby at Ford Park on January 24. He praised staff for hosting such a great event that seems to attract more participants every year.

Council Member Tejada attended a council member briefing and enjoyed the Chamber of Commerce Annual Civic Awards & Installation Dinner at the Orton Center.

Council Member Davis attended the Chamber of Commerce Annual Civic Awards & Installation Dinner at the Orton Center, and she hosted the January Youth Council meeting, where Josiah Bruny, CEO and Founder of Music Changing Lives, energized and engaged the students.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further action required the meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M. The next regular meeting of the City of Redlands City Council will be held on February 17, 2026.

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