MINUTES
FINANCE COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, October 13, 2026 - 4:00 p.m.
City of Huntington Beach
Council Chambers
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

For the audio recording of the October 13, 2026, Finance Commission Meeting, please visit the City's website at: https://huntingtonbeach.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx

Chair Lo Grasso called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and Commissioner LoGrasso led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Frank Lo Grasso, Chair David Cicerone, Vice-Chair Paul Geery, Commissioner Dave Chennault, Commissioner Jon Boomgarden, Commissioner Tracey Pellman, Commissioner
MEMBERS ABSENT:	None
STAFF PRESENT	Zack Zithisakthanakul, Chief Financial Officer Robert Szilagyi, Finance Manager Shelby Nobles, Finance, Management Aide

PUBLIC COMMENTS

CONSENT ITEMS

1. Item submitted by Commissioner Chennault – 4th of July Subcommittee

Commissioner Chenault presented the Fourth of July Subcommittee's preliminary recommendations for the upcoming Independence Day Celebration Request for Proposals (RFP). He reviewed the financial information received to date and noted that additional documentation had been requested from PSQ. He also identified individuals who had been invited to provide input but were unable to attend the meeting. The Commission reviewed the proposed recommendations and discussed opportunities to increase revenue, improve financial oversight, and strengthen contractor accountability. Discussion included potential sponsorship, merchandise sales, alternative parade routes, and additional family-friendly activities at the Sports Complex. City Manager Hopkins explained the Coastal Commission restrictions applicable to ticketed events on the beach during the summer months, including limitations on restricting public access. The Commission discussed potentially rerouting the bike parade to conclude at the Sports Complex to provide additional activities and revenue opportunities. Commissioners expressed concerns regarding the potential impact on downtown businesses and the importance of maintaining traditional Fourth of July activities. Commissioner Chenault reviewed PSQ's reported revenues, expenses, management fees, and financial surpluses. Commissioners requested clarification regarding the accounting and

carryover of surplus funds. Staff explained that surplus funds are applied toward subsequent years' event expenses, with any remaining balance returned to the City at the conclusion of the contract. The Commission also discussed the need for additional financial documentation, comprehensive cost reporting, and improved oversight. City Manager Hopkins clarified that City Council had requested the Finance Commission review the existing contract and provide recommendations to help shape the future RFP. The Commission discussed the importance of establishing City Council's financial objectives, including whether the celebration should operate at a break-even level, generate a profit, or maintain the status quo without a specific revenue goal. Following discussion, the Commission agreed to revise the recommendations under the title "Recommendations to Shape RFP." Revisions included specifying revenue goals for the Fourth of July events, identifying scope options for the RFP, improving the definition of contractor roles and responsibilities, including the 5K run, considering alternative bike parade routes, reviewing future television broadcasting revenue opportunities, and strengthening financial reporting and oversight provisions. The Commission emphasized that the recommendations were intended to provide guidance to City Council in developing the future RFP, with the final scope and financial objectives to be determined by City Council.

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Chennault and seconded by Commissioner Pellman to approve forwarding the Fourth of July Subcommittee's recommendations to the next City Council meeting, incorporating the following amendments. Change the presentation title to "Recommendations to Shape RFP." Revise the revenue recommendation to "Specify Revenue Goals for Parade/Fourth of July Events," identifying three options: break even, profit, or status quo. Revise the scope section heading to "Scope Options" and include the 5K run. Revise the contractor's recommendation to "Improve Definition of the Role of Contractors." Revise the bike parade recommendation to "Consider Rerouting the Bike Parade to End at the Sports Complex." Include a recommendation to review the television contract after 2027 to identify opportunities to increase revenue to the City. Replace "24/7 Access" with "Allowing Online Access" in the financial oversight recommendation.

The motion carried by the following votes: 6-0-0
Ayes: Lo Grasso; Cicerone; Geery; Chennault; Boomgarden, Pellman
Noes: None
Abstain: None

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Chennault and seconded by Commissioner Pellman for the City Attorney may comment on the content on the eventual contract created as the result of the RFP.

The motion carried by the following votes: 6-0-0
Ayes: Lo Grasso; Cicerone; Geery; Chennault; Boomgarden, Pellman
Noes: None
Abstain: None

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Chennault and seconded by Commissioner Pellman for the 4th of July subcommittee go to the next council meeting to present this to them and be available for any questions they might have and clarifications.

The motion carried by the following votes: 6-0-0
Ayes: Lo Grasso; Cicerone; Geery; Chennault; Boomgarden, Pellman
Noes: None
Abstain: None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

NONE

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Chennault and seconded by Commissioner Pellman adjourn the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

The motion carried by the following votes: 6-0-0
Ayes: Lo Grasso; Cicerone; Geery; Chennault; Boomgarden, Pellman
Noes: None
Absent: None

Submitted by:
Zack Zithisakthanakul, Chief Financial Officer
By: Shelby Nobles, Management Aide