



MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

April 8, 2025
City Council Chamber
1 Civic Center Plaza
Irvine, CA 92606

CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Irvine City Council was called to order at 2:10 p.m. on April 8, 2025, in the City Council Chamber, Irvine Civic Center, 1 Civic Center Plaza, Irvine, California; Mayor Agran presiding.

ROLL CALL

Present: 6	Councilmember:	Mike Carroll
	Councilmember:	William Go
	Councilmember:	Melinda Liu
	Councilmember:	Kathleen Treseder
	Vice Mayor:	James Mai
	Mayor:	Larry Agran

1. STUDY SESSION

1.1 *Review of the Current Project Proposals Included in the City's Draft Climate Action & Adaptation Plan (CAAP) Document*

This item was agendaized at the request of Mayor Agran, who requested a Study Session to review the current project proposals included in the City's draft CAAP document.

Luis Estevez, Acting Director of Public Works & Sustainability, presented an overview and status of the current measures and actions included in the City's draft CAAP document and responded to questions. Oliver Chi, City Manager, and Melissa You, Manager of Sustainability, also responded to questions. Hannah Kornfeld, on behalf of Ascent, Inc., was also available for questions.

Kev Abazajian; Irvine resident, Sustainability Commission (SC) Chair, and University of California, Irvine, faculty member; spoke in support of the CAAP, including 1) prioritizing transportation and building usage, and 2) Community Choice Energy via a strong partnership with the Orange County Power Authority (OCPA) as a means of meeting climate goals; and suggested that the SC's next step be a feasibility and cost analysis.

Tomas Castro, Irvine resident and on behalf of Climate Action Campaign, spoke in opposition to the timing of the special meeting; and spoke in support of adoption of the CAAP and the City's continued membership in the OCPA.

Don Geller, Irvine resident and Finance Commission Chair, spoke in support of consulting with and soliciting feedback from the City's commissions.

Alan Meyerson, Irvine resident, inquired about a formal commission referral process for projects such as those outlined in the CAAP, and suggested that one be instituted if one was not currently in place.

City Council discussion included: reiterating the applicability of the lower Basic Choice tier for many OCPA customers; inquired about impact, cost, and measurables of expanding the Irvine CONNECT system; discussed aggressive tree planting and rooftop solar and battery storage programs; inquired about the possibility of proceeding with some but not all CAAP projects; questioned total implementation costs and funds spent to date on all CAAP projects; inquired about the completion of a cost and scope analysis; discussed potential impacts on residents and businesses; inquired about the applicability of CAAP measures to the University of California, Irvine (UCI) and suggested a potential partnership with the university; referenced UCI's adopted CAAP; questioned the City's return on investment in OCPA; suggested commission involvement in the CAAP process; inquired about the Sustainability Commission's prioritization of projects; questioned the absence of sequestered carbon amounts noted in the staff presentation; questioned the availability of technology to assist the City with meeting its CAAP goals; inquired about similar actions taken by nearby municipalities; suggested transportation improvements; noted OCPA efforts related to larger scale solar infrastructure; suggested that the public have additional opportunities to review the CAAP as presented; noted the importance of balancing all stakeholder interests; and noted differences between the draft CAAP document from October 2024 and what was presented.

By consensus, received and filed.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Vice Mayor Mai, seconded by Councilmember Liu, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 3:54 p.m.



CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF IRVINE


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF IRVINE

May 13, 2025