



MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

June 3, 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 9:05 a.m. on June 3, 2025, in the City Council Chamber, Irvine Civic Center, 1 Civic Center Plaza, Irvine, California; Mayor Agran presiding.

ROLL CALL

Present: 7	Councilmember:	Mike Carroll
	Councilmember:	William Go
	Councilmember:	Melinda Liu
	Councilmember:	Betty Martinez Franco
	Councilmember:	Kathleen Treseder
	Vice Mayor:	James Mai
	Mayor:	Larry Agran

1. CLOSED SESSION

City Attorney Melching announced the following Closed Session item:

1.1 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT: Government Code Section 54957 - Title: Interim City Manager

Eric Neshanian, Irvine resident, spoke in support of City Manager Chi's departure and the selection of Pete Carmichael as interim and permanent City Manager.

RECESS

Mayor Agran recessed the City Council meeting to Closed Session at 9:10 a.m.

RECONVENE TO THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Agran reconvened the City Council meeting at 10 a.m. City Attorney Melching, on behalf of the City Council, announced that the City Council voted unanimously to appoint Sean Crumby, Assistant City Manager, as Interim City Manager, and that formalization of his appointment would occur on June 24, 2025, at which time the City Attorney will present the Interim City Manager agreement to the City Council for consideration.

2. COUNCIL BUSINESS

2.1 CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY MAYOR AGRAN TO ADOPT A MINIMUM WAGE ORDINANCE FOR CITY STAFF AND CERTAIN SERVICE PROVIDERS

This item was agendaized at the request of Mayor Agran, who asked for City Council consideration regarding a minimum wage ordinance for City staff and certain service providers.

Oliver Chi, City Manager, responded to questions.

Eric Neshanian, Irvine resident, spoke in support of Finance Commission consideration and the completion of an analysis of the proposed minimum wage ordinance.

City Council discussion included: inquiring about current compensation practices; questioning whether any compensation adjustments, specifically for contractors, would be passed directly to the individuals providing services to the City; noted potential impacts on future negotiations with labor organizations; inquired about potential impacts on smaller businesses; and expressed concern about the possible inability of private companies to establish wages for their employees.

ACTION: Moved by Mayor Agran, seconded by Councilmember Carroll, to:

Introduce for first reading and read by title only ORDINANCE NO. 25-14 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IRVINE, CALIFORNIA ADDING DIVISION 6 TO TITLE 2 OF THE IRVINE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO MINIMUM WAGE REQUIREMENTS

The motion carried as follows:

AYES: 6 COUNCILMEMBERS: Carroll, Go, Liu, Martinez Franco, Treseder, and Agran

NOES: 1 COUNCILMEMBERS: Mai

ABSENT: 0 COUNCILMEMBERS: None

ABSTAIN: 0 COUNCILMEMBERS: None

2.2 CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY COUNCILMEMBER LIU TO DISCUSS A SOBER LIVING AND GROUP HOMES ORDINANCE

This item was agendized at the request of Councilmember Liu, who asked for City Council consideration to discuss an ordinance related to sober living and group homes.

Stephanie Frady, Director of Community Development, responded to questions.

The following individuals spoke in support of a sober living and group homes ordinance:

- Julian Serur, Policy Intern representing Orange County Board of Supervisors Vice Chair Katrina Foley
- Eric Neshanian, Irvine resident

City Council discussion included: noting the need to protect public health and safety without over burdening facility operators; discussed enforcement and inventory of sober living homes in the City; inquired about adopted ordinances in neighboring cities; and suggesting the development of a model ordinance with provisions exceeding those of neighboring cities while remaining fully compliant with state law.

ACTION: Moved by Councilmember Liu, seconded by Councilmember Carroll, and unanimously carried to:

Direct the City Manager, City Attorney, and City staff to propose a comprehensive Sober Living and Group Homes Ordinance within the City of Irvine, with a comprehensive overview of the application, requirements, permitting, zoning, and other necessary supplemental items, including: a) a minimum 1,000-foot spacing requirement between homes, b) a 24/7 on-site manager, and c) anti-curbng regulations.

2.3 CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY VICE MAYOR MAI TO DISCUSS “IRVINE’S 100 FLAGS INITIATIVE” – A PERMANENT PATRIOTIC LANDMARK PROGRAM LEADING TO AMERICA’S 250TH ANNIVERSARY

This item was agendaized at the request of Vice Mayor Mai, who asked for City Council consideration regarding the “100 Flags Initiative” as a permanent patriotic landmark program leading to America’s 250th anniversary.

Eric Neshanian and Jeremy Ficarola, Irvine residents, spoke in opposition to the proposed initiative.

City Council discussion included: expressing concern about the potential impacts of upkeep and maintaining a permanent display; noted the contributions and diversity of the City; and suggested that the motion allow the flexibility for staff to explore potential alternatives.

ACTION: Moved by Vice Mayor Mai, seconded by Councilmember Carroll, and unanimously carried to:

Direct City staff to work with the Finance Commission and create a report outlining cost estimates, proposed locations, community partnerships, and a detailed implementation timeline and return to the City Council within 60 days to ensure completion by 2026.

2.4 CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY COUNCILMEMBER LIU TO DISCUSS SUPPORT FOR ASSEMBLY BILL 91 - “MENA INCLUSION ACT”

This item was agendaized at the request of Councilmember Liu, who asked for City Council consideration regarding support for the MENA Inclusion Act - Assembly Bill 91 (AB 91).

Oliver Chi, City Manager, responded to questions.

The following individuals spoke in support of AB 91:

- Ghazal Elgendy
- Eric Neshanian

City Council discussion included: establishing City Council protocols and procedures for taking positions on pending assembly bills.

ACTION: Moved by Councilmember Liu, seconded by Councilmember Go, and unanimously carried to:

Adopt RESOLUTION NO. 25-69 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IRVINE, CALIFORNIA, IN SUPPORT OF ASSEMBLY BILL 91 – “MENA INCLUSION ACT

2.5 CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY VICE MAYOR MAI TO DISCUSS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CITYWIDE HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE PROGRAM

This item was agendized at the request of Vice Mayor Mai, who asked for City Council consideration regarding the establishment of a Citywide holiday toy drive program.

Eric Neshanian, Irvine resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed Citywide Toy Drive Program.

City Council discussion included: expressing concern that the proposed program would potentially compete with other charitable programs; suggested that the program not impede on the operations of existing charitable organizations; discussed expansion of the program beyond a toy drive; suggested the development of a comprehensive plan that would organize charitable donations year-round; and suggested that the draft plan and program be reviewed by the Community Services Commission.

ACTION: Moved by Vice Mayor Mai, seconded by Councilmember Martinez Franco, and unanimously carried to:

Direct staff to develop a detailed implementation plan for a Citywide toy drive program in collaboration with and enhancing the efforts of non-profit leaders within the City, and report back to the City Council within 90 days.

The motion carried as follows:

AYES: 6 COUNCILMEMBERS: Carroll, Go, Mai, Martinez Franco, Treseder, and Agran

NOES: 1 COUNCILMEMBERS: Liu

ABSENT: 0 COUNCILMEMBERS: None

ABSTAIN: 0 COUNCILMEMBERS: None

Councilmember Carroll left the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

2.6 CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY MAYOR AGRAN TO DISCUSS THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CITY PROGRAM TO ENSURE DUE PROCESS PROTECTIONS FOR ALL IRVINE CONNECTED INDIVIDUALS

This item was agendaized at the request of Mayor Agran, who asked for City Council consideration regarding the development of a City program to ensure due process protections for all Irvine connected individuals.

Oliver Chi, City Manager, responded to questions.

The following individuals spoke in opposition to a City program to ensure due process protections:

- Eric Neshanian, Irvine resident
- Jason Garshfield, Irvine resident

City Council discussion included: ensuring that the City’s informational pamphlet was translated into multiple languages to increase accessibility; proposed the additional creation of a concise informational card with a QR code linking to resources; suggested the publication of the selection process and available resources on the City’s webpage; and suggested referring the matter to subject matter experts.

ACTION: Moved by Mayor Agran, seconded by Councilmember Liu, to:

Direct staff to develop an immigration response readiness program to ensure due process rights for all individuals in the City of Irvine, and to report back to the City Council within 30 days.

The motion carried as follows:

AYES: 5 COUNCILMEMBERS: Go, Liu, Martinez Franco, Treseder, and Agran

NOES: 1 COUNCILMEMBERS: Mai

ABSENT: 1 COUNCILMEMBERS: Carroll

ABSTAIN: 0 COUNCILMEMBERS: None

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councilmember Liu, seconded by Vice Mayor Mai, and unanimously carried by those members present (Councilmember Carroll absent) to adjourn the meeting at 12:09 p.m.


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF IRVINE


CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF IRVINE

July 8, 2025