



## MINUTES

# CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AND SPECIAL JOINT MEETING WITH THE GREAT PARK BOARD

**February 11, 2025**  
**City Council Chamber**  
1 Civic Center Plaza  
Irvine, CA 92606

### CALL TO ORDER - CITY COUNCIL

The regular meeting of the Irvine City Council was called to order at 4:19 p.m. on February 11, 2025, in the City Council Chamber, Irvine Civic Center, 1 Civic Center Plaza, Irvine, California; Mayor Agran presiding.

### ROLL CALL

Present: 5	Councilmember:	William Go
	Councilmember:	Melinda Liu
	Councilmember:	Kathleen Treseder
	Vice Mayor:	James Mai
	Mayor:	Larry Agran

Absent: 1	Councilmember:	Mike Carroll
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### 1. CLOSED SESSION

City Attorney Melching announced the following Closed Session items:

- 1.1 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION: Significant Exposure to Litigation (Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(2) or (3)): Two cases**

**1.2 CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS (Government Code § 54956.8) - Property: APNs 590-17-101, 590-17-404, 591-13-101, and 591-13-102; Agency Negotiators: Oliver Chi, City Manager; Pete Carmichael, Assistant City Manager; Jeffrey Melching, City Attorney; Negotiating Parties: City of Irvine, Heritage Fields El Toro, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, Dan Hedigan, representative; Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment**

There were no requests to speak.

**RECESS**

Mayor Agran recessed the City Council meeting to Closed Session at 4:24 p.m.

**RECONVENE TO THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Agran reconvened the City Council meeting at 5 p.m. City Attorney Melching, on behalf of the City Council, announced that no reportable action was taken in Closed Session.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Councilmember Liu led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Mayor Agran requested a moment of silence in memory of the victims of recent plane crashes in Washington, D.C., and Philadelphia.

**INVOCATION**

Changbyung Lee, Tony Lee, and Yuhwan Shin, 2025 National Trumpet Competition semi-finalists, performed the National Anthem and "America the Beautiful".

**2. PRESENTATIONS**

**ACTION: Moved by Mayor Agran, seconded by Vice Mayor Mai, and unanimously carried by those members present (Councilmember Carroll absent), to approve the proclamation and commendations listed under Presentation Item Nos. 2.1 through 2.3.**

**2.1 Proclaim February 11, 2025, as "Irvine 2/11 Marine Battalion Day"**

Mayor Agran introduced Lieutenant Colonel Clark Unger and Sergeant Major David Gonzalez, and presented a proclamation recognizing February 11, 2025, as "Irvine 2/11 Marine Battalion Day."

**2.2 Commend Trauma Intervention Program Orange County - 30th Anniversary**

Mayor Agran introduced Molly McLaughlin Perry, Vice Chair, Trauma Intervention Program (TIP) National Board of Directors, and presented a commendation in recognition of TIP Orange County's 30 years of service.

**2.3 Commend Portola High School "Bulldogs" Football Team CIF-Southern Section Division 11 Title and CIF-Southern California Regional Champions**

Mayor Agran introduced the coaching staff and members of the Portola High School "Bulldogs" Football Team and presented a commendation in recognition of their recent CIF-Southern Section Division 11 and CIF-Southern California Regional championships.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS - NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS**

Susan Sayre, Irvine resident, spoke in opposition to the management and decorum displayed at recent City Council meetings, and suggested alternative meeting protocols to ensure the completion of meeting agendas.

Wing Chow, Irvine resident, spoke in support of unity among City Councilmembers.

The following individuals spoke in support of continued City membership in the Orange County Power Authority:

- Braedon Schmidt, Irvine resident and University of California, Irvine, alumnus
- Dylan Slayton, engineering student
- Casey Gallagher, Orange County resident
- Frank Granda
- Tomas Castro, Irvine resident
- Tiffany Iwin, biomedical researcher and climate advocate with Sunrise Movement
- Kevin Li, Irvine resident

Stephen Dolle spoke in opposition to the lack of affordable housing in Irvine.

Mona spoke in support of candidate Tammy Kim's withdrawal of candidacy from the Council District 5 Special Municipal Election and the City's withdrawal from the Orange County Power Authority, and in opposition to previous actions and comments by Councilmember Treseder.

Jason Garshfield, Irvine resident, spoke in support of previous comments made by another member of the public in opposition to former Mayor Khan, and in support of eliminating Zoom for public comments; and in opposition to Mayor Agran's lack of condemnation of pro-Hamas comments at the December 12, 2023, City Council meeting.

Sarah spoke in support of City Council prioritization of certain matters, including: overpayment to Orange County Fire Authority, raising the minimum wage for City employees, and bridge housing; and in opposition to increasing City Council compensation and previous comments by Councilmember Treseder.

Dana Cornelius, Irvine resident, introduced herself and her candidacy to represent Council District 5.

Robin Gurien spoke in opposition to inefficient City Council meetings, the calling of recent special meetings of the City Council, and difficulty in navigating the transparency portal.

Larry L. spoke in opposition to comments made by Mayor Agran at a previous City Council meeting and his perceived inaction to stop hate speech during prior meetings of that body.

Melisa Masri, Irvine resident, spoke in support of City development of a community education plan pertaining to immigration and associated civil rights, and in support of continued participation in the Orange County Power Authority.

Harvey Liss, Irvine resident, spoke in opposition to the Orange County Power Authority.

Doug Elliott, Irvine resident and Community Services Commissioner, spoke in opposition to reducing time limits for those providing public comments via Zoom, and in support of the Orange County Power Authority.

Eric Neshanian, Irvine resident, spoke in opposition to reducing time limits for those providing public comments via Zoom, in opposition to the City's handling of business licenses, and the lack of availability of ballots in Farsi for the upcoming Special Municipal Election; and noted inequities related to the issuance of proclamations.

Amal Alkalla expressed her appreciation to Mayor Agran and spoke in support of empathy for Palestinians.

Dee Fox, Irvine resident, spoke in opposition to the Orange County Power Authority and previous comments made by Councilmember Treseder.

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

There was no report.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS/COUNCIL REPORTS**

### Councilmember Liu

- Councilmember Liu noted that Teen Domestic Violence Awareness Month took place in February and that February 11 was Wear Orange Day to bring awareness. She also noted that Love is Respect was the organization that worked with public health groups to bring awareness to the issue.
- Councilmember Liu expressed appreciation to Mayor Agran for allowing her office to celebrate Lunar New Year.
- The Lantern Festival will be held in Costa Mesa on February 22.
- The Handel's Ice Cream fundraiser originally scheduled for February 13 would be delayed to a date to be determined due to inclement weather.

## **ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

City Manager Chi requested that Council Business Item No. 6.3 (Consideration of a Request by Councilmember Treseder to Discuss Extension and Modifications for Irvine Connect Public Transit Program) be considered prior to the remaining Council Business items; and that Council Business Item 6.2 (Statutory Adjustments to City Council Compensation) be continued to a future City Council meeting; and provided a brief summary related to state law as it pertained to City Council compensation and the rationale for continuing the item.

## **CONVENE TO THE SPECIAL JOINT MEETING WITH THE GREAT PARK BOARD**

Mayor/Director Agran convened the special joint meeting with the Great Park Board at 6:28 p.m. At Mayor/Director Agran's request, City Attorney/Board Counsel Melching noted the necessity for a special joint meeting.

## **ROLL CALL**

Present:	5	Councilmember/Vice Chairman:	William Go
		Councilmember/Director:	Melinda Liu
		Councilmember/Director:	Kathleen Treseder
		Vice Mayor/Director:	James Mai
		Mayor/Director:	Larry Agran

Absent:	1	Councilmember/Chairman:	Mike Carroll
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**3. CONSENT CALENDAR - CITY COUNCIL**

Prior to adoption of the Consent Calendar, the following individuals spoke on the following:

3.2

Eric Neshanian, Irvine resident, spoke in opposition to inequities related to the issuance of proclamations.

3.4

Wesley Heuler, Irvine resident and co-owners of Irvine Recreation Park and Irvine Lanes, introduced himself and his business to the City Council.

Neal Swerdlow, Chief Financial Officer for Irvine Recreation Park, spoke in support of continuing the item and in opposition to its placement on the agenda.

Alan Meyerson, Irvine resident, expressed appreciation to the owners of Boomers and Irvine Lanes for keeping amenities open.

3.5

Alan Meyerson, Irvine resident, spoke in support of the proposed budget adjustment and suggested the hiring of additional part-time staff to address a shortage of volunteers at Lakeview Senior Center.

Dana, Irvine resident, spoke in support of increasing the proposed budget allocation.

Robin Gurien spoke in opposition to the lack of information regarding the proposed budget adjustment in the staff report.

Eric Neshanian, Irvine resident, spoke in support of hiring local students to staff senior centers.

4.1

The following individuals spoke in opposition to the lack of information regarding certain expenditures in the staff report:

- Mona
- Sarah
- Robin Gurien

Eric Neshanian, Irvine resident, spoke in support of Great Park Live and use of the facility as a training ground for local students interested in entertainment production.

Dee Fox, Irvine resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed sole source contract.

**Moved by Councilmember Treseder, seconded by Councilmember Liu, and unanimously carried by those members present (Councilmember Carroll absent), to approve City Council Consent Calendar Item Nos. 3.1, through 3.3 and 3.6. City Council Consent Calendar Item Nos. 3.4 and 3.5, and City Council/Great Park Board Consent Calendar Item No. 4.1, were removed for separate discussion.**

### **3.1 MINUTES**

**ACTION:**

- 1) Approved the minutes of a special meeting of the City Council held on January 14, 2025.
- 2) Approved the minutes of an adjourned regular meeting of the City Council held on January 14, 2025.

### **3.2 PROCLAMATIONS**

**ACTION:**

- 1) Ratified and Proclaimed February 2-8, 2025, as "National Burn Awareness Week."
- 2) Proclaimed February 11, 2025, as "2-1-1 Orange County Day."
- 3) Proclaimed February 2025, as "Black History Month."
- 4) Proclaimed February 2025, as "Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month."

### **3.3 WARRANT AND WIRE TRANSFER RESOLUTION**

**ACTION:**

Adopted RESOLUTION NO. 25-17 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IRVINE, CALIFORNIA, ALLOWING CERTAIN CLAIMS AND DEMANDS AND SPECIFYING THE FUNDS OUT OF WHICH THE SAME ARE TO BE PAID

**3.4 CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE GENERAL PLAN AND ZONING DESIGNATIONS OF COMMERCIAL RECREATION FOR THE BOOMERS AND IRVINE BOWLING LANES SITE ADDRESSED AS 3405 AND 3409 MICHELSON DRIVE IN PLANNING AREA 19 (RANCHO SAN JOAQUIN)**

This item was removed for separate discussion at the request of Councilmember Treseder, who suggested that the item be continued to allow for staff to engage with the impacted landowners.

Oliver Chi, City Manager, responded to questions. Stephanie Frady, Director of Community Development, and Alyssa Matheus, Planning Manager, were also available for questions.

City Council discussion included: inquiring about time sensitivity, if any, for considering the matter; questioned whether the item was previously agendized; and noted all stakeholder interests.

**ACTION: Moved by Councilmember Treseder, seconded by Councilmember Liu, and unanimously carried by those members present (Councilmember Carroll absent), to:**

Continue the item an appropriate future City Council meeting within the next couple of months.

**3.5 FISCAL YEAR 2024-25 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FOR ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

This item was removed for separate discussion at the request of Mayor Agran, who acknowledged the outstanding efforts of volunteers at Lakeview Senior Center, and suggested that staff take steps to address the shortfall of volunteers for the senior lunch program, which included recruitment efforts and potential provisions of an honorarium.

Sandra Salcedo, Manager of Community Services, responded to questions.

City Council discussion included: inquiring about utilizing volunteers from other senior centers and/or other organizations throughout the City.

**ACTION: Moved by Mayor Agran, seconded by Councilmember Liu, and unanimously carried by those members present (Councilmember Carroll absent), to:**

Approve a budget adjustment in the amount of \$350,000 to establish a capital improvement project for senior center kitchen renovations.

**3.6 ACCEPTANCE OF 2024 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT**

**ACTION:**

- 1) Accepted the 2024 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant award in the amount of \$11,604 as a subgrantee of the County of Orange.
- 2) Approved a budget adjustment request in the amount of \$11,604 reflecting an increase in revenues and appropriations.

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR - CITY COUNCIL / GREAT PARK BOARD**

**4.1 GREAT PARK LIVE TEMPORARY AMPHITHEATER CAPITAL UPDATES AND RENTALS**

This item was removed for separate discussion at the request of Vice Mayor/Director Mai, who requested clarification regarding the proposed appropriation and contract.

Oliver Chi, City Manager/Executive Director, and Steve Torelli, Deputy Director of Great Park, responded to questions. Lylyana Bogdanovich, Deputy City Manager, was also available for questions.

City Council discussion included: inquiring about the rationale for a sole source contract; questioned whether the procurement process for the proposed \$4.9 million appropriation was conducted in the same manner as the proposed agreement with Bar None Group, Inc.; expressed appreciation to staff and others for their efforts in planning a successful 2024 season at Great Park Live; and provided historical context regarding sole source contracts at the Great Park.

**ACTION: Moved by Mayor/Director Agran, seconded by Vice Mayor/Director Mai, and unanimously carried by those members present (Councilmember/Chairman Carroll absent), to:**

- 1) Authorize the City Manager to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$4.9 million annually for the purchase and rental of capital equipment for Great Park Live.
- 2) Authorize the City Manager to execute and enter into agreements for the procurement of capital goods and services for Great Park Live, including a sole source with the Bar None Group, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$3.4 million, **as amended** per the Errata memo dated February 11, 2025, subject to the execution of the Amendment with PSQ Productions. **(Contract No. 12012)**

## **ADJOURNMENT - SPECIAL JOINT MEETING WITH THE GREAT PARK BOARD**

Moved by Mayor/Director Agran, seconded by Councilmember/Director Liu, and unanimously carried by those members present (Councilmember/Chairman Carroll absent), to adjourn the special joint meeting with the Great Park Board at 7:21 p.m.

## **RECONVENE TO THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Agran reconvened the City Council meeting at 7:21 p.m.

### **5. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

#### **5.1 APPEAL OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION DECISION APPROVING A MASTER PLAN MODIFICATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN APPROXIMATELY 540,000-SQUARE-FOOT WAREHOUSE FACILITY LOCATED AT VON KARMAN CORPORATE CENTER IN PLANNING AREA 36 (IRVINE BUSINESS COMPLEX)**

Mayor Agran opened the public hearing at 7:22 p.m., at which time Jeff Melching, City Attorney, left the meeting due to a conflict-of-interest. Ajit Thind, Special Counsel, Colantuono Highsmith and Whatley, PC, attended the hearing on behalf of the City.

Oliver Chi, City Manager, presented the staff report and responded to questions. Special Counsel Thind and Hernan DeSantos, Senior Planner, and Alyssa Matheus, Planning Manager, were also available for questions.

Samir Patel, on behalf of applicant Von Alton I/IRA Capital, spoke in support of the proposed Option to Purchase agreement and expressed appreciation to the City Council and City Manager Chi for their collaboration.

Susan Sayre, Irvine resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed warehouse project and in support of the proposed option agreement; and expressed concern regarding the Planning Commission's decision-making process.

Alan Meyerson, Irvine resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed warehouse project and inquired about the option agreement's implementation timeframe.

Jeff Luzzi questioned whether the proposed project would be entirely residential or mixed-use, and whether the matter could be revisited in the event the project became industrial in nature.

Jenny, Irvine resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed warehouse project.

Mario Albuquerque, Irvine resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed warehouse project and inquired about the property developer's qualifications and financing in the event the option agreement is exercised.

Chris Wong, Irvine resident, spoke in support of development of a multi-family residential project on the site by IRA Capital instead of the City.

Harvey Liss, Irvine resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed warehouse project and in support of an increase in the notification radius due to its magnitude.

City Council discussion included: inquiring about the anticipated purchase price associated with the proposed option agreement; questioned the absence of a guarantee of lower density housing provision; inquired about necessary steps related to the appeal required prior to the proposed option agreement taking effect; questioned whether there was a legal difference between denial and dismissal of the appeal; inquired about the probability of the site developing into a residential project; questioned timeframes associated with the proposed option agreement; inquired about whether the proposed project would be entirely residential or mixed use; inquired about the existence of an option to revisit the project if it becomes industrial; questioned the qualifications of the property developer; discussed financing mechanisms in the event that the option to purchase was exercised; inquired about the rationale for the 500 foot notification radius; questioned the requirement for obtaining an industrial permit; inquired about Community Workforce Agreement applicability for a potential housing development; and suggested that notification requirements be extended beyond zoning code requirements to residents within 2,000 feet of proposed future development.

**ACTION: Moved by Councilmember Treseder, seconded by Vice Mayor Mai, and unanimously carried by those members present (Councilmember Carroll absent), to close the public hearing at 7:56 p.m.**

**ACTION: Moved by Mayor Agran, seconded by Councilmember Treseder, and unanimously carried by those members present (Councilmember Carroll absent), to:**

Adopt RESOLUTION NO. 25-18 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IRVINE, CALIFORNIA, DENYING THE APPEAL (FILE NO. 00945336-PPA) AND UPHOLDING PLANNING COMMISSION APPROVAL OF MASTER PLAN MODIFICATION 00911837-PMPC FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A 541,344-SQUARE-FOOT WAREHOUSE FACILITY LOCATED AT 16715–16969 VON KARMAN AVENUE AND 2121 ALTON PARKWAY IN PLANNING AREA 36 (IRVINE BUSINESS COMPLEX); APPEAL FILED BY DAVID COULTER

**5.2 APPEALS OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION DECISIONS APPROVING THREE VESTING TENTATIVE PARCEL MAPS IN DISTRICT 2 AND DISTRICT 6 OF GREAT PARK NEIGHBORHOODS IN PLANNING AREA 51 (GREAT PARK)**

Mayor Agran opened the public hearing at 8:06 p.m. Jeff Melching, City Attorney, returned to the meeting at that time.

Hernan DeSantos, Senior Planner, presented the staff report and responded to questions. Oliver Chi, City Manager, and Ann Wu, Principal Planner, were also available for questions.

Kory Lynch, Executive Vice President of Entitlements and Engineering at FivePoint, on behalf of the applicant, provided a brief overview of the proposed project.

Kylah Staley, attorney with Lozeau Drury LLP on behalf of appellant Supporters Alliance for Environmental Responsibility, provided reasons why her client filed the appeal in opposition to the proposed parcel maps.

Youssef Kaddeche, Irvine resident, spoke in support of control of warehouse developments near Irvine Station.

James, Irvine resident, spoke in opposition to land uses for warehouses, offices, and medical near Irvine Station and in support of mixed-use, transit-oriented development.

Sylvia Walker and Jeremy Ficarola, Irvine residents, spoke in support of mixed-use, transit-oriented development near Irvine Station.

City Council discussion included: inquiring about transit-oriented development in the proposed project area; questioned current uses and development plans for the three parcels in question; and inquired about the presence of endangered species in the area.

**ACTION: Moved by Mayor Agran, seconded by Councilmember Treseder, and unanimously carried by those members present (Councilmember Carroll absent), to close the public hearing at 8:22 p.m.**

**ACTION: Moved by Councilmember Go, seconded by Councilmember Liu, and unanimously carried by those members present (Councilmember Carroll absent), to:**

- 1) Adopt RESOLUTION NO. 25-19 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IRVINE, CALIFORNIA, DENYING THE APPEAL (FILE NO. 00947420-PPA) AND UPHOLDING PLANNING COMMISSION APPROVAL OF VESTING TENTATIVE PARCEL MAP 2024-110 (FILE NO. 00925356-PTP) TO SUBDIVIDE APPROXIMATELY 30.7 GROSS ACRES INTO TWO NUMBERED LOTS FOR OFFICE AND MEDICAL PURPOSES; LOCATED SOUTH OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY AND NORTH OF BARRANCA PARKWAY IN GREAT PARK NEIGHBORHOODS DISTRICT 6, WITHIN PLANNING AREA 51 (GREAT PARK); FILED BY LOZEAU DRURY LLP ON BEHALF OF SUPPORTERS ALLIANCE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY (SAFER)
- 2) Adopt RESOLUTION NO. 25-20 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IRVINE, CALIFORNIA, DENYING THE APPEAL (FILE NO. 00947419-PPA) AND UPHOLDING PLANNING COMMISSION APPROVAL OF VESTING TENTATIVE PARCEL MAP 2021-203 (FILE NO. 00925353-PTP) TO SUBDIVIDE APPROXIMATELY 36.1 GROSS ACRES INTO FOUR NUMBERED LOTS FOR MULTI-USE (OFFICE); LOCATED SOUTH OF MARINE WAY AND NORTH OF INTERSTATE 5 (I-5), BETWEEN ALTON PARKWAY AND BAKE PARKWAY IN GREAT PARK NEIGHBORHOODS DISTRICT 2, NEIGHBORHOODS WITHIN PLANNING AREA 51 (GREAT PARK); FILED BY LOZEAU DRURY LLP ON BEHALF OF SUPPORTERS ALLIANCE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY (SAFER)

- 3) Adopt RESOLUTION NO. 25-21– A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IRVINE, CALIFORNIA, DENYING THE APPEAL (FILE NO. 00947422-PPA) AND UPHOLDING PLANNING COMMISSION APPROVAL OF VESTING TENTATIVE PARCEL MAP 2021-202 (FILE NO. 00925350-PTP) TO SUBDIVIDE APPROXIMATELY 37.2 GROSS ACRES INTO FOUR NUMBERED LOTS FOR OFFICE AND WAREHOUSE PURPOSES; LOCATED SOUTH OF MARINE WAY AND NORTH OF INTERSTATE 5 (I-5), BETWEEN ALTON PARKWAY AND BAKE PARKWAY IN GREAT PARK NEIGHBORHOODS DISTRICT 2, WITHIN PLANNING AREA 51 (GREAT PARK); FILED BY LOZEAU DRURY LLP ON BEHALF OF SUPPORTERS ALLIANCE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY (SAFER)

Prior to a brief recess, Mayor Agran noted the reordering of the agenda to consider Council Business Items 6.3, 6.5, and 6.4 prior to all other outstanding Council Business items once the meeting was reconvened.

## **RECESS**

Mayor Agran recessed the City Council meeting at 8:33 p.m.

## **RECONVENE TO THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Agran reconvened the City Council meeting at 8:45 p.m.

## **6. COUNCIL BUSINESS**

### **6.2 STATUTORY ADJUSTMENTS TO CITY COUNCIL COMPENSATION**

This item was continued to a future City Council meeting. See page 5 (Additions and Deletions).

### **6.3 CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY COUNCILMEMBER TRESEDER TO DISCUSS EXTENSION AND MODIFICATIONS FOR IRVINE CONNECT PUBLIC TRANSIT PROGRAM**

This item was agendized at the request of Councilmember Treseder, who asked for City Council consideration regarding the extension and modifications for the Irvine CONNECT public transit program.

Sean Crumby, Assistant City Manager, responded to questions.

The following individuals spoke in support of the proposed extension and modifications for the Irvine CONNECT Public Transit Program:

- Susan Sayre, Irvine resident
- Alan Meyerson, Irvine resident
- Leeza Bondarchuk, Irvine resident and Cal Poly Pomona student
- Spencer Lynch, University of California, Irvine, student
- Yui Saito, Irvine resident
- James, Irvine resident
- Riya Gupta, Northwood High School student
- Melisa Masri, Irvine resident
- Harvey Liss, Irvine resident
- Tomas Castro, Irvine resident
- Mahba Ahmad, Irvine Valley College student
- Doug Elliott, Irvine resident
- Ana

Jay Bruce spoke in support of taking action above and beyond the proposed extension and modifications for the Irvine CONNECT Public Transit Program.

Eric Neshanian, Irvine resident, noted the need for additional data and information related to cost and environmental sustainability, which included cost per boarding and whether buses would be electric.

City Council discussion included: suggesting reallocating *i*-Shuttle funds to Irvine CONNECT and the feasibility in doing so; proposed shuttle stop visibility improvements and enhanced assistance for riders in getting to stops; suggested collaboration with homeowners associations regarding shuttle stop aesthetics; provided historical background on transit funds; inquired about ridership totals for Irvine CONNECT in comparison to the the *i*-Shuttle program; suggested expanding operation to later in the evening; and noted the availability of the Anteater Express shuttle to Irvine residents.

**ACTION: Moved by Councilmember Treseder, seconded by Mayor Agran, and unanimously carried by those members present (Councilmember Carroll absent), to:**

- 1) Direct the City Manager to analyze ways of both expanding the service area and extending the duration of the Irvine CONNECT system, to include: a) exploration of stops that have been mentioned during discussion and possible funding sources, and b) potentially diverting shuttles from the *i*-Shuttle program to Irvine CONNECT; and conduct outreach to relevant homeowner associations.

- 2) Direct staff to return with options for City Council consideration in April 2025.

**6.5 CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY VICE MAYOR MAI TO DISCUSS THE INSTALLATION OF A RYAN CHOMYN MEMORIAL PLAQUE AT HERITAGE COMMUNITY PARK**

This item was agendaized at the request of Vice Mayor Mai, who asked for City Council consideration regarding the installation of a Ryan Chomyn memorial plaque at Heritage Community Park.

Oliver Chi, City Manager, responded to questions.

John Freeman, on behalf of Councilmember Carroll, spoke in support of the installation of a Ryan Chomyn Memorial Plaque at Heritage Community Park and expansion of the DARE program.

Harvey Liss and Melisa Masri, Irvine residents, also spoke in support.

Eric Neshanian, Irvine resident, spoke in opposition.

City Council discussion included: inquiring about a timetable for a staff update to the City Council.

**ACTION: Moved by Vice Mayor Mai, seconded by Councilmember Treseder, and unanimously carried by those members present (Councilmember Carroll absent), to:**

- 1) Direct and authorize the City Manager to establish an appropriately scaled memorial plaque at Heritage Community Park in honor of Ryan Chomyn.
- 2) Direct the City Manager to develop a specialized program – in coordination with the DARE initiative – to enhance both parent and student awareness regarding the dangers associated with substance abuse.
- 3) Direct staff to develop a pathway for other families to also share their stories and add to the memorial.
- 4) Direct staff to provide a report to the City Council at its March 25, 2025, meeting.

**6.4 CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY VICE MAYOR MAI TO DISCUSS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ADDITIONAL BROADBAND INTERNET OPTIONS IN IRVINE**

This item was agendaized at the request of Vice Mayor Mai, who asked for City Council consideration of establishing additional broadband internet options in Irvine.

Luis Estevez, Acting Director of Public Works & Sustainability, provided a brief overview of the proposed expansion of broadband availability in Irvine and responded to questions. Oliver Chi, City Manager, also responded to questions.

Melisa Masri, Irvine resident, and Jay Bruce spoke in support of additional broadband internet options in Irvine.

Eric Neshanian, Irvine resident, spoke in opposition to those not in favor of improving internet service if doing so would include the installation of necessary equipment within close proximity of their homes and neighborhoods.

City Council discussion included: inquiring about incentives for broadband providers to install fiber networks and provide services; questioned the timeline for a progress report to the City Council; inquired about the utilization of union workers by Cityside Fiber; and noted the importance of maintenance.

**ACTION: Moved by Vice Mayor Mai, seconded by Councilmember Liu, and unanimously carried by those members present (Councilmember Carroll absent), to:**

Direct the City Manager to explore ways to accelerate the delivery of high-speed internet service provider options for the various parts of the City in need of additional broadband internet options.

**6.6 CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY COUNCILMEMBER GO TO DISCUSS EXPANDING BICYCLE INFRASTRUCTURE IN IRVINE**

This item was agendaized at the request of Councilmember Go, who asked for City Council consideration regarding the expansion of bicycle infrastructure in Irvine.

Sean Crumby, Assistant City Manager, and Luis Estevez, Acting Director of Public Works & Sustainability, were available for questions.

Ken Montgomery, Irvine resident and Transportation Commission Vice Chair, spoke in support of the expansion of bicycle infrastructure in Irvine and including the Transportation Commission in the decision-making process.

The following individuals spoke in support of the expansion of bicycle infrastructure in Irvine:

- James, Irvine resident
- Melisa Masri, Irvine resident
- Youssef Kaddeche, Irvine resident

City Council discussion included: reiterating that the Irvine Station was owned by the City of Irvine and the potential to utilize it more as a multimodal transportation center; and compared similar endeavors in other jurisdictions.

**ACTION: Moved by Councilmember Go, seconded by Mayor Agran, and unanimously carried by those members present (Councilmember Carroll absent), to:**

Direct staff to develop a pilot program and report back to the City Council within 60 to 90 days on 1) establishing a bicycle maintenance center near the Irvine Station; 2) implementing a bike share program; and 3) expanding the number of secure bicycle storage lockers throughout Irvine. The maintenance center should include, but not be limited to, bike repairs, education, trading, and an apprentice program in partnership with local schools.

**6.1      *ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CHANGES AND ADDITIONS TO POSTED SPEED LIMITS***

By consensus of the members present (Councilmember Carroll absent), and with concurrence from City Manager Chi, this item was continued to the February 25, 2025, City Council meeting.

**6.7      *CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY VICE MAYOR MAI TO DISCUSS IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CITY'S WALNUT TRAIL***

This item was agendaized at the request of Vice Mayor Mai, who asked for City Council consideration regarding improvements to the City's Walnut Trail.

Oliver Chi, City Manager, and Sean Crumby, Assistant City Manager, responded to questions. Luis Estevez, Acting Director of Public Works & Sustainability, was also available for questions.

The following individuals spoke in support of improvements to the City's Walnut Trail:

- Elizabeth, on behalf of Councilmember Carroll
- James, Irvine resident
- Jay Bruce
- Youssef Kaddeche, Irvine resident
- Melisa Masri, Irvine resident

City Council discussion included: inquiring about potential challenges with Southern California Edison due to the trail's location along transmission lines; questioned additional connectivity options; suggested engagement with homeowner associations; inquired about the status of funding for undergrounding overhead transmission lines; and questioned the approximate timetable for staff to provide a progress report to the City Council.

**ACTION: Moved by Vice Mayor Mai, seconded by Mayor Agran, and unanimously carried by those members present (Councilmember Carroll absent), to:**

Direct the City Manager to develop a landscape improvement plan for the Walnut Trail, while also identifying options for connecting the Walnut Trail directly into the Great Park.

**6.8 CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY VICE MAYOR MAI TO DISCUSS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INAUGURAL IRVINE NON-PROFIT WEEK PROGRAM**

**ACTION: Moved by Vice Mayor Mai, seconded by Mayor Agran, and unanimously carried by those members present (Councilmember Carroll absent), to:**

Continue the item to the February 25, 2025, City Council meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT - CITY COUNCIL**

**Moved by Councilmember Treseder, seconded by Mayor Agran, and unanimously carried by those members present (Councilmember Carroll absent), to adjourn the meeting at 10:49 p.m.**



CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF IRVINE

  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF IRVINE

March 11, 2025