



# City of Commerce

## Meeting Minutes

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Tuesday, February 19, 2019 - 5:00 PM

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**CONCURRENT JOINT MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
COMMERCE, JOINT POWERS FINANCING AUTHORITY AND THE GOVERNING BODY  
OF THE SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE COMMERCE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
COMMISSION**

**5:00 P.M. CLOSED SESSION**

**CALL TO ORDER**

*Mayor Argumedo called meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. in the Council Chambers.*

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 5 - Mayor Argumedo  
Councilmember Mendoza  
Mayor Pro Tem Soria  
Councilmember Altamirano  
Councilmember Rebollo

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

*Gloria Nezahualcoya submitted a petition urging the City Council to reconsider termination of Camp Commerce employee.*

**RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION**

*City Council recessed to Closed Session at 5:07 p.m.*

1. Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6 the City Council will confer with its labor negotiator, Edgar Cisneros, with respect to labor negotiations pertaining to:
  - A. The Memoranda of Understanding between the City and the City of Commerce Employees Association on behalf of the part-time employees.
  - B. The Memoranda of Understanding between the City and the City of Commerce Employees Association on behalf of the mid-management and non-management full-time employees.
2. Conference with Legal Counsel Pursuant to Government Code Sections 54956.9(d)(2) and 54956.9(e)(3) Regarding Anticipated/Potential Litigation - one (1) Matter
3. Public Employee Performance Evaluation  
Pursuant to Government Code § 54957

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City Administrator / City Manager (Evaluation of Responsibilities, Powers and Authority)

4. Pursuant to Government Code §54956.8, the City Council will confer with its real property negotiator, Edgar Cisneros, with respect to real estate negotiations concerning proposed price and other terms relating to the properties located at:
- A. 5476 Jillson St. (APN 6335-019-023), 5530 Jillson St. (APN 6335-019-042), 2500 S Eastern Ave. (APN 6335-024-046), (APN 6335-024-03), (APN 6335-024-039), (APN 6335-024-048), (APN 6335-024-04), (APN 6335-024-043), (APN 6335-024-044), (APN 6335-024-045), 5600 Jillson St. (APN 6335-023-049), (APN 6335-023-0), (APN 6335-023-054), 5611 E Washington Blvd. (APN 6335-023-048), 5571 E Washington Blvd. (APN 6335-024-056), (APN 6335024057), and 5555 E. Washington, Commerce, CA 90040
  - B. 5550 Harbor St., Commerce, CA 90040 (6335-025-009), 2300 S. Eastern Ave. (6335-025-010)
  - C. 5625 Jillson St., Commerce, CA 90040 (6335-025-905)
  - D. 5555 Jillson St., Commerce, CA Property (APN 6335-025-906)
  - E. (APN 6335023800), (APN 6335023801), (APN 6335025807), and (APN 6335025805)
  - F. 5736 E. Washington Blvd, Commerce, CA 90040 (APN 6334006038), and 5733 Sheila St., Commerce, CA 90040 (APN 6334006039)
  - G. Commerce Refuse-to- Energy Authority Facility site located at 5926 Sheila St., Commerce, CA 90040
  - H. (APN 6357-018-005) and (APN 6357-019-904)
  - I. With Craig Realty Corporation concerning proposed price and other terms relating thereto, comprised of the former Commerce Community Development Commission-owned real property located along the Telegraph Road Corridor, south of Gaspar Avenue and north of the Commerce Casino [Tubeway Avenue], formerly known as 5809, 5819, 5823, 2901/2903, 5933, 5959, 6000, 6003 and 6233 Telegraph Road and 2240 Gaspar Avenue; 2311, 2322 and 2366 Travers Avenue, Commerce, California.
  - J. Wash-Tel Commerce, LLC concerning proposed price and other terms relating thereto, comprised of 6329 and 6355 Washington Boulevard, Commerce, California, commonly referred to as the Stahl Trust property.

**RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

*City Council reconvened to Open Session at 6:12 p.m.*

**ORAL CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT**

*Assistant City Attorney Copado reported on Closed Session items:*

*Item #1- staff provided an update to the City Council and no reportable action was taken on this item.*

*Item #2- staff provided an update to the City Council, and the City Council provided further direction.*

*item #3- staff provided an update, and no reportable action was taken on this item.*

*Item #4 - Assistant City Attorney Copado stated that item #4.C, 4.D and 4.F were not discussed in the Closed Session. For the rest of item #4 -staff provided an update and the City Council provided further direction to staff and no reportable action was taken on this item.*

*Closed session concluded at 6:05 pm.*

**6:00 P.M. - CITY COUNCIL MEETING****CALL TO ORDER**

*Mayor Argumedo called regular City Council meeting to order at 6:12 p.m. in the Council Chambers.*

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 5 - Mayor Argumedo  
Councilmember Mendoza  
Mayor Pro Tem Soria  
Councilmember Altamirano  
Councilmember Rebollo

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

*Library Director Sarmiento led the Pledge of Allegiance*

**INVOCATION**

*Councilmember Altamirano offered the invocation*

**APPEARANCES AND PRESENTATIONS**

1. Recognition of the Commerce Casino for their Support of Library Services, and Presenting Commerce Casino with the Key to the Library

*Library Director Sarmiento presented John Grippo with the Key to the Library.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

*There were no individuals within to address City Council on any items within their jurisdiction.*

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

*Councilmember Rebollo requested to pull item #14 for discussion.*

*Item #14 - Parks and Recreation Director Lipton provided a brief overview of the staff report.*

*Discussion took place regarding new organization Model City Cancer Fighters that was added to the Civic Organizations recommended list. Discussion took place whether Model City Cancer Society is associated with the Relay for Life, and what happens to the funds collected from fundraiser.*

*Councilmember Rebollo moved to approve Civic Organization of the City of Commerce for the 2019 calendar years as recommended by the Parks and Recreation Commission, except Model City Cancer Fighters.*

*Councilmember Mendoza stated that he was in support of approving all organizations as recommended. Mayor Pro Tem Soria and Councilmember Altamirano agreed with Councilmember Rebollo that they would need more information about the new proposed organization. Mayor Argumedo recommended that Councilmembers not politicize this matter.*

*Councilmember Mendoza moved to approve all organizations as recommended by Parks and Recreation Commission. The motion carried by the following vote:*

*AYES: Councilmember Mendoza and Mayor Argumedo*

*NAYES: Councilmembers Altamirano, Rebollo and Mayor Pro Tem Soria*

*Councilmember Rebollo reiterated her original motion of approving all organizations except Model City Cancer Fighters organization and stated that this*

*matter of approving Model City Cancer Society could be brought at a later once additional information is provided to the City Council. The motion carried by the following vote:*

*AYES: Councilmembers Altamirano, Rebollo, Mayor Pro Tem Soria and Mayor Argumedo*

*NAYES: Councilmember Mendoza*

*Place on next meeting*

*None.*

**Mayor Pro Tem Soria moved, seconded by Councilmember Rebollo, to approve the Consent Calendar minus item #14. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** 5 - Mayor Argumedo, Councilmember Mendoza, Mayor Pro Tem Soria, Councilmember Altamirano, and Councilmember Rebollo

2. Approval of Warrant Register Nos. 15A and 15B
3. Proclamation Declaring Wednesday, March 27, 2019, as Arbor Day in the City of Commerce
4. Amendment #1 to the Funding Agreement with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority for the Garfield Avenue/Washington Boulevard Multimodal Project
5. Weed Abatement - Declaring that Weeds, Brush, Rubbish are a Public Nuisance
6. Project Acceptance and Completion for the Washington Boulevard & Yates Avenue and the Garfield Avenue & Yates Avenue Traffic Signal and Sidewalks Improvement Project
7. Garfield Avenue Railroad Crossing Maintenance Agreement
8. Award of Contract to California Facility Specialist for Purchase and Installation of 6 Basketball Backboard Systems for the Veteran's Park Gymnasium
9. Award of Contract to Koa, Corp. for the Sidewalk Connectivity, and Street Improvement Project from Gage Avenue to Telegraph Road

10. Contract with Deodate Strategies to Provide Real Estate Analyses, and Strategies for Property Acquisitions
11. Policy for the Investments of the City of Commerce Funds
12. Resident and Industrial Resident Las Vegas Trip
13. Results of the City of Commerce Homeless Count 2019
14. Approval of 2019 Civic Organizations

### PUBLIC HEARING

15. Weed Abatement

*Director of Administrative Services and City Clerk provided a brief overview of the staff report.*

*Mayor Argumedo opened Public Hearing. There were no individuals wishing to speak on this item. Mayor Argumedo closed Public Hearing.*

**Mayor Pro Tem Soria moved, seconded by Councilmember Rebollo, to approve the Abatement Order directing the Los Angeles County Agricultural Commissioner/Director of Weights and Measures to abate the public nuisance, and allow those property owners affected by the Weed Abatement Program to protest the inclusion of their properties within the program. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** 5 - Mayor Argumedo, Councilmember Mendoza, Mayor Pro Tem Soria, Councilmember Altamirano, and Councilmember Rebollo

### SCHEDULED MATTERS

16. A Presentation by the County of Los Angeles Community Development Commission Regarding Smart Funding

*Kerry Jenkins, Economic Development Manager for County of Los Angeles, and Emily Kadia, who is part of team who oversee the program, provided presentation regarding Smart Funding program available for small to medium size businesses. There was no action taken on this item. It was informational only.*

17. Eastside Transit Corridor (Gold Line) Washington Blvd Light Rail Alternative Update and Support of the Washington Blvd Alternative for the Eastside Corridor Alternative

*City Administrator Cisneros stated that the City Council even supporting in*

*concept, did not officially approve resolution supporting the Washington Blvd alternative for the Eastside Transit Corridor and recommended that the City Council authorizes staff to coordinate with the Gold Line Washington Boulevard cities to advocate accelerates start dates for each project.*

*Discussion took place that in the past there was an opposition to the project from business community, however, since the different alternative was selected, the City in support of the proposed alternative. Discussion took place whether East Los Angeles will be in support of the Washington Boulevard alternative.*

**Councilmember Mendoza moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Soria, to adopt Resolution supporting the Washington Blvd alternative for the Eastside Transit Corridor, and authorizing staff to coordinate with Gold Line Washington Boulevard cities, corridor cities and business communities and organizations to advocate accelerated start dates for each project. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** 5 - Mayor Argumedo, Councilmember Mendoza, Mayor Pro Tem Soria, Councilmember Altamirano, and Councilmember Rebollo

**18. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

*Assistant Finance Director Brooks provided an overview of the annual audit. Assistant Director Brooks stated that the City was issued unmodified opinion, and City received a certificate of achievement for Fiscal Year 2017. Discussion ensued. There were no action taken on this item. It was receive and file.*

**19. Mid-Year Budget Review - Amending the Annual Operating and Capital Budgets for Fiscal Year 2018-2019**

*Finance Director Domic provided an overview of the staff report.*

*Discussion ensued about the Bristow Park plumbing repairs, Bandini Park plumbing repairs, and Bristow Park kitchen repairs. Councilmember Rebollo recommended that the City considers replacing Bristow Park kitchen cabinets instead of refurbishing.*

**Councilmember Rebollo moved, seconded by Councilmember Mendoza, to adopt Resolution amending the Annual Operating and Capital Budgets for Fiscal Year 2018-2019, and amending Resolution No. 18-78. Staff was directed to reevaluate Bristow Park kitchen refurbishing and come back for additional funds if numbers will change. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** 5 - Mayor Argumedo, Councilmember Mendoza, Mayor Pro Tem Soria, Councilmember Altamirano, and Councilmember Rebollo

## ORDINANCES

### 20. An Ordinance Amending Chapter 2.04 (City Administrator) of the Commerce Municipal Code - First Reading

*City Administrator Cisneros provided an overview of the staff report. Councilmember Mendoza asked about the difference between City Administrator and City Manager proposed change. Further discussion ensued.*

**Councilmember Rebollo moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Soria, to introduce Ordinance of the City of Commerce Amending Chapter 2.04 (City Administrator) to change the title of the City Administrator to City Manager and assign the City Manager with responsibilities and authority more consistent with cities that have a council-manager type of government, and read the Ordinance by title only. Director of Administrative Services and City Clerk read the title of the Ordinance. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** 5 - Mayor Argumedo, Councilmember Mendoza, Mayor Pro Tem Soria, Councilmember Altamirano, and Councilmember Rebollo

## CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY REPORTS

*Councilmember Altamirano asked that staff looks into issues that recently happened regarding flooding of the Telegraph Road and provide report to the City Council.*

*Councilmember Rebollo offered her condolences to family of Oralía Cordoza. Councilmember Rebollo praised Brenda Hernandez and her team of crafters for putting on a great weekend for participants. Councilmember Rebollo reported that she attended COG meeting.*

*Councilmember Mendoza reported that he attended United Family of Bristow breakfast, LA County Vector Control meeting, and Altamed celebration event.*

*Mayor Pro Tem Soria reported that he attended Eastside Transit Corridor meeting, and asked that staff begins planning for City's Birthday celebration and ad hoc committee is created.*

## ADJOURNMENT

*Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m. in the memory of Horalía Cordoza.*



