



**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, April 20, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.
701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, CA 94025
City Council Chambers**

5:00 P.M. CLOSED SESSION (Council Conference Room, 1st floor of City Hall)

Mayor Cline called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m. with all members present.

1. Closed Session pursuant to Government Code section 54957.6 to conference with labor negotiators regarding labor negotiations with the Service Employees International Union Local 521 (SEIU). Attendees: Glen Rojas, City Manager, Dan Siegel, Acting City Attorney, Starla Jerome-Robinson, Assistant City Manager, Glen Kramer, Personnel and Information Services Director, and Charles Sakai, Labor Negotiator
2. Closed Session pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9 to conference with legal counsel regarding existing litigation. Case: Town of Atherton, Planning and Conservation League, City of Menlo Park et al. v. California High Speed Rail Authority; Sacramento Superior Court, Case No. 34-2008-80000022; City Council will be considering matters related to the litigation involving the High Speed Rail Authority.

Note: Councilmember Cohen and Acting City Attorney Siegel are recused from this item and left the Closed Session.

Council members Boyle, Cline, Fergusson, and Robinson returned to open session at 6:37 p.m.

OPEN SESSION (Council Chambers) convened at 6:37 p.m.

3. Approval of a comment letter on the revised draft Program Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the Central Valley to Bay Area Segment of the California High Speed Rail Project ([Staff report #10-049](#))
Charles Taylor, Transportation Manager presented the draft letter.

Public Comment:

Morris Brown - the letter should include the abandonment of the Cal Train Corridor

Action: Motion and second (Robinson/Fergusson) to approve the comment letter on the revised draft Program EIR/IES for the Central Valley to Bay Area Segment of the California High Speed Rail Project and to consider incorporating modifications submitted by H. Robinson and comments made during the meeting with the discretion of the Mayor passes unanimously.

Councilmember Cohen and City Attorney Siegel arrived at 7:23 p.m.

STUDY SESSION convened at 7:23 p.m.

Announcement:

K. Fergusson announced that the Second Annual Drive Less Challenge begins on April 22nd. Participants can register by logging into the website to report your trips. There will be a celebration at Keplers with prizes at the conclusion of the challenge.

Action for Closed Session – Item 1: There is no reportable action.

Action for Closed Session – Item 2: In a 4-0 vote (Cohen recused), the Council will join the petition to seek to have the court vacate its previously entered judgment in this case based on newly discovered evidence, particularly the ridership numbers that previously had been improperly withheld, from the petitioners, public, and the court.

Public Comments:

- Howard Crittendon – talked about the progress with the Park Theatre on El Camino
- Ana Adriano – Requested that the cut back in hours at the Belle Haven Library as well as any reduction in police services in that neighborhood be reconsidered
- Jose Archundia – Requested that the hours at Belle Haven Library not be reduced and to include hours on the weekend as it would benefit the community

4. Discussion and direction regarding the 2010-11 budget process ([Staff report #10-050](#))
Glen Rojas, City Manager and Carol Augustine, Finance Director presented the budget strategies for 2010-11.

The Council addressed the following budget strategies as posed in the staff report.

Strategy: Charge rent in the new contract for the Burgess Pool beginning 5/11

The entire City Council supported consideration of this policy and requested staff develop alternatives for the Onetta Harris Pool as well.

Strategy: Increase TOT (Hotel Tax) Rate

The Council directed staff to bring this as a separate agenda item, to consider what the appropriate increase would be and the necessary timing to place it on the November ballot if they choose to move forward.

Strategy: Reduce / Eliminate Community Funding

The entire Council supports continuation of community funding.

Strategy: Shift 50% of C/CAG member dues from General Fund to Measure A

The Council was in agreement that this could be considered. Some members felt this was an accounting issue and staff should budget the dues in the most appropriate account.

Strategy: Increase the UUT

The Council was not prepared to increase the UUT at this time.

Strategy: Decrease CIP transfer

The majority of the Council supported reducing the CIP transfer as a “one time strategy” depending on circumstances, but not on a continuous basis. There was discussion and a split decision as to whether CIP projects should be reduced if the transfer is reduced.

Strategy: Use Reserves

The Council agreed that this could be an appropriate one time strategy depending on circumstances. They would like to see the projected deficit in the budget be less than \$500,000.

It was the Council consensus to move forward with the recommendations in the staff report regarding the sustainable budget strategies for preparation of the preliminary budget.

ADJOURNMENT – 10:16 p.m.

Margaret S. Roberts, MMC
City Clerk

These minutes were accepted at the Council meeting of May 4, 2010.