



AGENDA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, March 1, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers

Meeting Location
El Cerrito City Hall
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

Greg Lyman – Mayor

Mayor Pro Tem Janet Abelson
Councilmember Jan Bridges

Councilmember Mark Friedman
Councilmember Gabriel Quinto

ROLL CALL

7:00 p.m. CONVENE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

- 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OR OBSERVATION OF MOMENT OF SILENCE** – Councilmember Jan Bridges.
- 2. COUNCIL / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS** (*Reports of Closed Session, commission appointments and informational reports on matters of general interest which are announced by the City Council & City Staff.*)
- 3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

All persons wishing to speak should sign up with the City Clerk. Remarks are typically limited to 3 minutes per person. The Mayor may reduce the time limit per speaker depending upon the number of speakers. Kindly state your name and city of residence for the record. Comments regarding non-agenda, presentation and consent calendar items will be heard first. Comments related to items appearing on the Public Hearing or Policy Matter portions of the Agenda are taken up at the time the City Council deliberates each action item. Individuals wishing to comment on any closed session scheduled after the regular meeting may do so during this public comment period or after formal announcement of the closed session.

- 4. PRESENTATIONS**

[Environmental Quality Committee Workplan](#) – Presentation by Howdy Goudey, Chair, Environmental Quality Committee.

Receive a presentation on the Environmental Quality Committee's accomplishments, goals and workplan.

5. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR – Item Nos. 5A through 5G

A. Approval of Minutes

Approve the February 16, 2016 Regular City Council meeting minutes.

B. Women’s History Day and Month Proclamation

Approve a proclamation proclaiming March 2016 as Women’s History Month and March 8, 2016 as International Women’s Day in the City of El Cerrito, and encouraging all residents to reflect on, honor, and celebrate the history, courage, commitment, accomplishments, and contributions of women, not only in El Cerrito but throughout America.

C. Administrative Analyst for the Recreation Department

Adopt a resolution authorizing the addition of an Administrative Analyst II position to the Recreation Department.

D. Support Seed Saving in El Cerrito and Changes in State Seed Law

At the request of Mayor Lyman adopt a resolution: 1) Supporting and encouraging the ongoing 10,000 year legacy of seed sharing between community members without legal barriers of labeling fees and germination testing and encouraging the efforts of seed libraries to facilitate sharing of locally grown and saved seed; 2) Supporting the work of seed libraries in seed saving, educating community members about the value of seed sharing, developing best practices to enhance seed saving skills, and encouraging voluntary and accurate seed labeling; and 3) Support Assembly Bill 1810 (Levine), “The Seed Exchange Democracy Act,” which supports the sharing of seeds between individuals and through seed libraries by removing the application of any labeling, testing, and permitting requirements to interpersonal or seed library seed sharing.

E. Resolution Opposing Islamophobia

At the request of Councilmembers Friedman and Quinto, adopt a resolution joining with the City of Richmond in stating the City Council’s support for its Muslim neighbors and respect for the world religions which make up the City of El Cerrito and calling on all municipalities of the United States to show support for their Muslim neighbors and state opposition to Islamophobia.

F. Tree Committee Appointment

Approve a Tree Committee recommendation to appoint Mary Torrusio to the Tree Committee, effective March 1, 2016.

G. Quarterly Cash and Investment Report

Receive and file the City’s Quarterly Investment Report for the period ending December 31, 2015.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

7. POLICY MATTERS

A. Discussion and Possible Direction on a New El Cerrito Library Location

Staff requests that the Council take the following actions: 1) Receive a presentation on the status of a potential new library for the City of El Cerrito; 2) Adopt a resolution approving a staff and consultant recommendation selecting the “Lower Portola Playfield – Option 1B” as the preferred option and location for a new, modern and safe El Cerrito Library, and formally requesting that the West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) enter into a fifty year lease at no cost or a nominal cost to the City for the “Lower Portola Playfield,” and ensuring adequate room for a Fairmont Elementary School temporary campus until completion of a new or renovated school at the current location as soon as possible; and 3) Direct the Mayor and City Manager to work with the School District to facilitate such a lease, and to direct staff to work with the WCCUSD to develop a plan for the ultimate

disposition of the current Senior Center and Library sites adjacent to Fairmont Elementary School upon successful passage of a ballot measure to fund the new library.

B. Authorize Agreements Related to Public Information Effort for a Potential New Library Facility

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into standard professional service agreements with the Lew Edwards Group for the proposed public information strategy and associated materials and mailings and Godbe Research for a targeted library survey in a total amount not to exceed \$96,000 for technical assistance associated with a potential ballot measure to fund construction of a safe, modern library facility; and approve a budget amendment to appropriate these funds from the unrestricted General Fund balance.

8. COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS/LIAISON REPORTS

Mayor and City Council communications regarding local and regional liaison assignments and committee reports.

9. ADJOURN REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The next regular City Council meeting is Tuesday, March 15, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito.

The City of El Cerrito serves, leads and supports our diverse community by providing exemplary and innovative services, public places and infrastructure, ensuring public safety and creating an economically and environmentally sustainable future.

- Council Meetings can be heard live on FM Radio, KECG – 88.1 and 97.7 FM and viewed live on Cable TV - KCRT-Channel 28 and AT&T Uverse Channel 99. The meetings are rebroadcast on Channel 28 the following Thursday and Monday at 12 noon, except on holidays. Live and On-Demand Webcast of the Council Meetings can be accessed from the City's website <http://www.el-cerrito.org/ind-ex.aspx?NID=114>. Copies of the agenda bills and other written documentation relating to items of business referred to on the agenda are on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the City Clerk, at the El Cerrito Library and posted on the City's website at www.el-cerrito.org prior to the meeting.
- In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk, (510) 215-4305. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).
- ***The Deadline for agenda items and communications*** is eight days prior to the next meeting by 12 noon, City Clerk's Office, 10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, CA. Tel: 215-4305 Fax: 215-4379, email cmorse@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us
- IF YOU CHALLENGE A DECISION OF THE CITY COUNCIL IN COURT, YOU MAY BE LIMITED TO RAISING ONLY THOSE ISSUES YOU OR SOMEONE ELSE RAISED AT THE COUNCIL MEETING. ACTIONS CHALLENGING CITY COUNCIL DECISIONS SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE TIME LIMITATIONS CONTAINED IN CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE SECTION 1094.6.
- The City Council believes that late night meetings deter public participation, can affect the Council's decision-making ability, and can be a burden to staff. City Council Meetings shall be adjourned by 10:30 p.m., unless extended to a specific time determined by a majority of the Council.