

# CITY OF EL CERRITO

## MINUTES

### SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING GOAL SETTING WORKSESSION

Sunday, March 11, 2007, 10:00 a.m.

#### Meeting Location

Community Center - 7007 Moeser Lane, El Cerrito

#### ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Abelson, Bridges, Jones, Potter and Mayor Moore.  
All Councilmembers present.

Mayor Moore convened this special goal setting worksession at 10:03 a.m.

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Amy Rakely, El Cerrito, reported that her neighborhood came together on a Saturday morning to work together on crime issues. Ms. Rakely also asked that the impacts of Cougar Field be discussed.

Rosemary Loubal, El Cerrito, stated that she needed to remind the Council and staff that not much is being done for greenscaping in the city. Ms. Loubal said she cares about trees very much and emphasized the city's need for trees and further stated that she does not see a commitment to put money into parks and that the city needs to consider taking care of the green part of Parks and Recreation.

#### WORKSESSION

Scott Hanin, City Manager, introduced Royleen White, principal of Royleen White Associates, as the facilitator of today's special City Council Goal Setting Worksession.

Royleen White, Principal, Royleen White Associates, facilitated the worksession and stated that the outcomes of today's special meeting would be to: 1) Set Priorities for 2007; and 2) Provide staff direction and clarification as needed. Ms. White distributed a list of projects identified by the Council and city staff as priorities.

The City Council identified top priorities for this year as: Finishing City Hall, San Pablo Avenue Beautification and Specific Plan, and holding Town Meetings regarding street conditions.

Other items discussed by the City Council at the worksession included:

- 1) The Library and the importance of completing a needs assessment, the possibility of a state bond measure failure and loss of funds, and development of conceptual plans. The Council also discussed the issue of library plans being somewhat dependent on School Board decisions regarding the Fairmont and Portola sites;
- 2) Senior Center, Community Center and Library. The Council discussed how combining use would require flexibility and that several potential projects could be inter-dependent. The consideration of configuration is based on land and a versatile space could be used for a variety of programs. The possibility of including a teen center and gym were suggested. The Council agreed that they would like the City to be ready if opportunities become available;
- 3) Public Safety Building Assessment;
- 4) Community Efforts regarding Creeks, specifically, staff coordination, volunteer efforts such as the possibility of an Adopt a Creek Program, tree planting and consideration of including additional resources with next year's budget cycle;
- 5) The City's 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. The City Council agreed that the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is something to be proud of and that projects are already in process including a big celebration planned for the Fourth of July;
- 6) Un-Reinforced Masonry, seismic safety and the need to move forward in 2007;
- 7) Soft-Story Construction, specifically direction to staff to brief the Council in 2007;
- 8) Protocol for the Public at City Council Meetings including development of a brochure or handout regarding protocol, meeting order and decorum and citizen participation that can be distributed to the public;
- 9) Update of the Community Center specifically focus on the large hall and patio, interior design, lighting and sound with direction to the City Manager to present Council with a recommendation during the next budget cycle; and
- 10) Environmental Leadership. City Manager Hanin introduced a worksheet regarding environmental services. The Council agreed that environmental leadership should be a guiding principle and discussed overall resource issues related to staffing, funds, development of regulations, operations and the potential for long-term cost savings. The Council agreed that the City should "set the tone" for environmental leadership but be careful not to duplicate other services. Council directed the City Manager to come back to Council with a presentation in the next budget cycle.

**ADJOURNED** at 12:16 p.m.

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Special City Council Goal Setting Worksession of March 11, 2007 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council.

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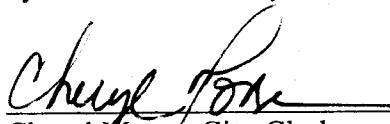
Cheryl Morse, City Clerk

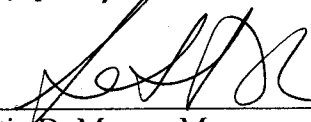
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Letitia D. Moore, Mayor

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