

DRAFT

**WORK SESSION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF EL MIRAGE
EL MIRAGE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
10000 N. EL MIRAGE ROAD
4:00 PM -TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026**

Minutes

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Alexis Hermosillo; Vice Mayor Jacquelyn Parsons; Councilmember Monica Dorsey; Councilmember Ryan Eldridge; Councilmember Scottie Gentry (phone); Councilmember Anita Norton; Councilmember Donna Winston (phone)

2. CALL TO ORDER - meeting called to order at 4:00 p.m.

3. WORK SESSION PRESENTATION

1. Parks and Recreation Master Plan Presentation & City of El Mirage 75th Anniversary Celebration Updates (Parks & Recreation)

Mayor Hermosillo stated the objectives of the Work Session: review of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, an opportunity for Council to ask questions of staff and the consultants, clarify intent, and identify areas where Council wants additional information or refinements.

Sean VonRoenn, Parks and Recreation Director, gave background on the creation of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The creation of the Master Plan was rooted in community engagement from a comprehensive year-long process involving residents, community leaders, and staff. The plan articulates goals and objectives aimed at enhancing natural spaces, improving park assets, creating a sustainable and accessible system, and expanding connectivity by creating a multimodal network to encourage active lifestyles and connect neighborhoods. He stated the Master Plan identifies four key priority areas for success: engaged community, quality services, activated spaces and places, and a culture of excellence. He introduced Jamie Sabbach, President of 110% Consulting, to further present the Master Plan.

Ms. Sabbach presented an overview of the master planning process. She detailed the community engagement process, outlined the City of El Mirage Park System, the walkability of parks and trails, the existing and future park acreage level of service, and the key takeaways from the planning process. Ms. Sabbach detailed four pillars that serve as the organization's north star, ensuring that every decision about capital investment, staffing, or programming advances the goal of making a healthier, more connected, and livable city. The four pillars include: an engaged community, quality services, activated spaces and places, and a culture of excellence. She stated that throughout the master-planning effort, a strategic plan was created that contains 44 specific, recommended, actionable steps that connect the foundational learning throughout this process. Ms. Sabbach stated that through this process, they were able to provide the following deliverables: Master Plan report, executive summary, engagement summary, parks and facilities maps and

information, bicycle facility and urban trail design guidelines, providers network and inventory report, and strategic plan worksheet.

Council discussion included intergovernmental agreements with schools, the status and timeline of community workshops, clarification on establishing scholarship funds from universities and businesses, community involvement with adopt-a-park and memorial tree planting, development of a new plan for Gentry Park, home team for Gentry Park club ball, camera and security at park locations, amenities at Sundial Park, parking at Basin Park, total numbers of surveys received, park maintenance plan, expansion cost, and holding a work session to discuss cost in detail prior to Capital Improvement Plan budget meetings.

Mayor Hermosillo recessed the meeting at 5:15 pm for ten minutes to prepare for the next presentation.

Mr. VonRoenn presented an update on the 75th Anniversary planning efforts. He detailed the marketing campaigns that will run throughout the year to inform the public and encourage participation in the City's 75th Anniversary celebration. He stated there would be a campaign to incorporate a historic retrospective, a candlelighting ceremony, business participation, large physical promotional displays, a "Greetings from El Mirage" local mural, a digital app-based scavenger hunt, Fall Fiesta, and a drone show.

Mr. VonRoenn introduced Kathy Knecht, Executive Director of the West Valley Arts Council. Ms. Knecht provided background on her organization as well as showed examples of work created by her team. She explained the benefits of the arts and culture and how they create a real and measurable economic impact on local communities. Ms. Knecht explained digital murals and hybrid murals and the process for completing these projects. She outlined the West Valley Arts Council's responsibilities.

Council discussion included grant opportunities to fund the project, involvement of local artists, the life expectancy of canvas and vinyl artwork, and the drone show for the fall festival.

4. **ADJOURNMENT - meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m.**

Alexis A. Hermosillo, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jill A. Boltz, City Clerk

I hereby certify the aforementioned minutes are a true and accurate record of the El Mirage City Council Work Session held on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, and a quorum was present.



Jill A. Boltz, City Clerk