



CITY OF WEST COVINA

CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY

**MARCH 17, 2026, 7:00 PM
REGULAR MEETING**

**CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1444 W. GARVEY AVENUE SOUTH
WEST COVINA, CALIFORNIA 91790**

**Mayor Letty Lopez-Viado
Mayor Pro Tem Ollie Cantos
Councilwoman Rosario Diaz
Councilmember Brian Gutierrez
Councilman Tony Wu**

MINUTES

**CITY OF WEST COVINA
CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY**

INVOCATION

Led by Pastor Matt Chavez from One and All Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by West Covina High School Student Allison Liang

ROLL CALL

Council Members

Present: Council Members, Rosario Diaz, Gutierrez (Arrived by 7:07), Wu, Mayor Pro Tem Ollie Cantos, Mayor Letty Lopez-Viado

REPORTING OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

With regard to item No. 2, the City of West Covina v. Brian Gutierrez, on a motion by Councilwoman Diaz and a second by Mayor Pro Tem Cantos, the City voted 4-0-1 to deny Councilmember Gutierrez's request that the City pay for his legal defense and independent counsel.

PRESENTATIONS

- Certificate of Recognition Celebrating West Covina Bruins Mitey Mite Cheerleaders 1st Place at Nationals
- Certificate of Recognition Applauding Michelle Lee, Academic Decathlon Gold Medal Recipient for Art and Music
- Certificate of Recognition Applauding Allison Liang, Academic Decathlon Gold Medal Recipient for Highest Overall Team Score
- Proclamation Honoring Woman's History Month
- Taste of West Covina Presentation Recognizing Bun Street/Scoop Street
- Fire Department Presentation on Community Connect

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager's report on current City projects.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - Three (3) minutes per speaker

Steve Bennett

John Shewmaker

Jerri Potras

Brian Calderón Tabatabai

Justin Harvey

Josh Murry

Pamela Farley

Eric Leal

Sage Newman

Lorena

Sierra Rothacker

CONSENT CALENDAR

ACTION: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Cantos and Second by Councilwoman Diaz, 5-0 to: Approve Consent Calendar Items 2, 3, and 6. (Item No. 1 was pulled by Councilmember Gutierrez, Item No. 4 was pulled by Mayor Lopez-Viado, and Item No. 5 was pulled by Councilmember Gutierrez.)

ACTION: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Cantos and a second by Councilwoman Diaz, 4-1 (No: Gutierrez) to: Approve Consent Calendar Item No. 1. (Item No. 1 was pulled by Councilmember Gutierrez)

ACTION: Motion by Mayor Lopez-Viado and a Second by Councilman Wu, 5-0 to: Approve Consent Calendar Item 4. (Item No. 4 was pulled by Mayor Lopez-Viado)

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Gutierrez and a Second by Councilman Wu, 5-0 to: Approve Consent Calendar Item 5. (Item No. 5 was pulled by Councilmember Gutierrez)

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

1) CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 3, 2026, CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES.

Carried 4-1 to (No: Gutierrez): approve the March 3, 2026, City Council/Successor Agency Regular Session Meeting Minutes.

ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION - Procedural Waiver.

2) CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 22-131 OF DIVISION 4 OF ARTICLE IV OF CHAPTER 22 OF THE WEST COVINA MUNICIPAL CODE

Carried 5-0 to: adopt the following ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 2538 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST COVINA, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING SECTION 22-131 OF DIVISION 4 OF ARTICLE IV OF CHAPTER 22 OF THE WEST COVINA MUNICIPAL CODE TO REVISE SPEED LIMITS AT 69 LOCATIONS BASED UPON THE 2025 ENGINEERING AND TRAFFIC SURVEY

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

3) CONSIDERATION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH MICHAEL BAKER INTERNATIONAL FOR LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN PREPARATION SERVICES AND ASSOCIATED BUDGET AMENDMENT

Carried 5-0 to: take the following actions:

1. Award the contract for Request for Proposals No. 2026-004 for Local Hazard Mitigation Plan preparation services to Michael Baker International, Inc.;
2. Authorize the Acting City Manager to execute an agreement with Michael Baker International, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$185,000, for the preparation of a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and related services, in such final form as approved by the City Attorney;
3. Authorize the Acting City Manager to negotiate and execute any amendments; and
4. Adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-27 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST COVINA, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING A BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2025 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2026 (LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT)

4) CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE ACTING CITY MANAGER'S PROPOSED APPOINTMENT OF GREG MCKEOWN AS FIRE CHIEF

Carried 5-0 to: approve the following proposed appointment:

1. Greg McKeown to the position of Fire Chief

5) CONSIDERATION OF AGREEMENT FOR BUS SHELTER MAINTENANCE SERVICES

Carried 5-0 to: take the following actions:

1. Find that the City's bidding requirements and procedures are inefficient and not in the best interest of the City for the procurement of bus shelter maintenance services in accordance with Section 2-335(10) of the West Covina Municipal Code;
2. Authorize the Acting City Manager to negotiate and execute an agreement with Valley Light Center for Social Advancement for bus shelter maintenance services, for an initial term of three (3) years, with two (2) optional one (1) year extensions, in an amount not-to-exceed \$1,118,630.00, in a form approved by the City Attorney;
3. Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute any amendments to the agreement; and
4. Authorize the City Manager to exercise the extension options.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

6) CONSIDERATION OF CONSTRUCTION SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR FY 24-25 RESIDENTIAL STREET REHABILITATION PROJECT - PROJECT NO. 25001 AND ASSOCIATED BUDGET AMENDMENT

Carried 5-0 to: take the following actions:

1. Award the Construction Services Agreement for the FY 24-25 Residential Street Rehabilitation Project (Project No. 25001) to Onyx Paving Company, Inc. as the lowest responsible bidder;
2. Authorize the Acting City Manager to execute the Construction Services Agreement with Onyx Paving Company, Inc. for \$4,646,000.00, in such final form as approved by the City Attorney;
3. Authorize the Acting City Manager to negotiate and execute any amendments up to 10% of the awarded agreement amount;
4. Find that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15302 (Replacement or Reconstruction); and
5. Adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-26 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST COVINA, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING A BUDGET

**AMENDMENT FOR THE YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2025 AND ENDING
JUNE 30, 2026 (RESIDENTIAL STREET REHAB FY 2024-25)**

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

HEARINGS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

**7) PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE PROGRAM YEAR (PY) 2026 COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) ACTION PLAN**

SPEAKERS IN APPROVAL:

None

SPEAKERS NEUTRAL:

JD

SPEAKERS IN DENIAL:

None

***ACTION: Motion by Councilman Wu and a Second by Mayor Pro Tem Cantos, 5-0
to:***

1. Conduct a public hearing regarding the PY 2026 CDBG Action Plan; and
2. Direct staff to develop a draft PY 2026 CDBG Action Plan, based on the needs and priorities approved for the PY 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan.

**8) CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE PROGRAM YEAR (PY)
2025 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) ACTION PLAN AND
ASSOCIATED BUDGET AMENDMENT**

SPEAKERS IN APPROVAL:

None

SPEAKERS NEUTRAL:

None

SPEAKERS IN DENIAL:

None

ACTION: Motion by Councilman Wu and a Second by Councilwoman Diaz, 5-0 to:

1. Conduct a public hearing regarding the PY 2025 CDBG Action Plan;
2. Approve the proposed amendment to the PY 2025 CDBG Action Plan to increase the funding for Project 25001- FY 24-25 Residential Street Rehabilitation; and

3. Approve the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-22 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST COVINA, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING A BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2025 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2026 (CDBG FY 2025 ACTION PLAN AMENDMENT - 25001)

DEPARTMENTAL REGULAR MATTERS

9) FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM (CIP) UPDATE

It is recommended that the City Council receive and file the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) project status update.

CITY COUNCIL REQUESTS FOR REPORTS, STUDIES OR INVESTIGATION

10) CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION OF CENSURE CONCERNING COUNCILMEMBER BRIAN GUTIERREZ

ACTION: Motion by Councilwoman Diaz and a Second by Councilman Wu, 3-1-1 (No: Gutierrez, Abstain: Cantos)to:

1. Adopt a Resolution of Censure concerning Councilmember Brian Gutierrez based upon the findings contained in the Confidential Investigation Report prepared by Gemelli Employment Law dated February 26, 2026; and
2. conduct discussion and take any action deemed appropriate in open session.

MAYOR/COUNCILMEMBERS REPORTS

None

CITY COUNCIL REQUESTS FOR REPORTS, STUDIES OR INVESTIGATION

- Mayor Pro Tem Cantos requested an Environmental Impact Request (EIR) from the data center and battery storage that is in the City of Irwindale, second by Councilmember Gutierrez. No objection

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Mayor Pro Tem Cantos thanked West Covina Beautiful and the Rotary Club of West Covina
- Mayor also discussed the volunteerism that is taking place in the community.
- Councilmember Gutierrez discussed the evidence related to the censure, and the honor he has in being on the City Council.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting was made, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 a.m. The next regularly scheduled Regular Closed City Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, 1444 West Garvey Avenue South, West Covina, California.

Submitted By:

Lisa Sherrick
Assistant City Clerk

Letty Lopez Viado
Mayor