



CITY OF WEST COVINA

CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY

**MAY 5, 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

INVOCATION

Led by Pastor Mason Okubo from Immanuel First Lutheran Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Councilwoman Diaz

ROLL CALL

Council Members

Present: Council Members, Rosario Diaz, Brian Gutierrez, Tony Wu, Mayor Pro Tem Ollie Cantos, Mayor Letty Lopez-Viado

REPORTING OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

With regard to item number one, public performance evaluation on a motion by Councilwoman Diaz and a second by Mayor Lopez-Viado on a vote of 5-0, the City Council directed the City Attorney to negotiate and draft an agreement between the City and Milan Mrakich naming him as City Manager and this agreement will be brought back on June 2, 2026 for Council action.

With regard to item number two, under existing litigation, number two, Kennedy v City of West Covina This case is a non-jurisdictional matter, the incident did not occur on the City property and this case has been dismissed.

PRESENTATIONS

- Proclamation Recognizing National Corrections Officers and Employees Week
- Proclamation Recognizing National Police Week
- Certificate Recognizing Baker2Vegas 1st Place
- Proclamation Recognizing the 57th Annual Professional Municipal Clerks Week
- Proclamation Recognizing National Small Business Week
- Taste of West Covina Presentation Recognizing El Pescador West Covina
- Taste of West Covina Presentation Recognizing Mr. Menudo West Covina
- Presentation by Vaccine Vet Clinic

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager's report on current City projects.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - Three (3) minutes per speaker

John Shewmaker
Jerri Potras
Gloria G
Gregory McQueen
Josh Murry
Steve Bennett
Justin Harvey
Jesus Gomez
Patricia Mendoza
Samuel Martinez
J.D.
Ray Vincentt Vargas Jr

CONSENT CALENDAR

ACTION: Motion by Councilman Wu and Second by Councilwoman Diaz, 5-0 to: Approve Consent Calendar Item No. 1, 2, and 4. (Item No.1 was not pulled however Councilmember Gutierrez voted ABSTAIN on Item No.1)

ACTION: Motion by Councilman Wu and Second by Councilwoman Diaz, 3-2 (No: Cantos, Gutierrez) to: Approve Consent Calendar Item No. 3. (Item No.3 was pulled by Mayor Pro Tem Cantos)

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

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

1) CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 21, 2026, CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES AND THE APRIL 21, 2026, CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY CLOSED SESSION MEETING MINUTES.

Carried 4-1 (Abstain: Gutierrez) to: approve the April 21, 2026, City Council/Successor Agency Regular Session Meeting Minutes and the April 21, 2026, City Council/Successor Agency Closed Session Meeting Minutes.

COMMISSION SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

2) CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF TRAFFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETINGS BETWEEN DECEMBER 2025 AND MARCH 2026

Carried 5-0 to: approve the Traffic Committee recommendations detailed in the staff report for traffic engineering improvements citywide from the meetings held between December 2025 and March 2026.

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

3) CONSIDERATION OF EXCLUSIVE NEGOTIATION AGREEMENT FOR THE CITY YARD PROJECT SITE IN THE CITY OF WEST COVINA

Carried 3-2 (No: Cantos and Gutierrez) to: authorize the Acting City Manager to negotiate and execute all necessary documents to effectuate an Exclusive Negotiation Agreement (ENA) with Brandywine Acquisition Group, LLC (Brandywine) for the sale of the City Yard property (811 South Sunset Avenue).

FIRE DEPARTMENT

4) CONSIDERATION OF SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA FOR EMS EDUCATOR

SERVICES FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Carried 5-0 to: authorize the Acting City Manager to execute the Second Amendment to EMS Educator Services Agreement with the Regents of the University of California on behalf of the UCLA Center for Prehospital Care.

PUBLIC WORKS

5) CONSIDERATION OF NEED TO CONTINUE EMERGENCY REPAIRS AT FIRE STATION 3

Carried 5-0 to: review the emergency action for the emergency conditions at Fire Station 3 and adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-35 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST COVINA, CALIFORNIA, DETERMINING, BY A FOUR-FIFTHS VOTE OF THE CITY COUNCIL, THAT THERE IS A NEED TO CONTINUE THE EMERGENCY ACTION AT FIRE STATION 3

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

DEPARTMENTAL REGULAR MATTERS

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

6) PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2026-27 OPERATING AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP) BUDGET

ACTION: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem and Second by Councilmember Gutierrez Diaz, 2-3(No: Wu, Diaz, Lopez-Viado) to: Strike language Page 25: “Continue to respond to the global COVID-19 pandemic” and “With due regard to General Fund fiscal impacts, respond to California Department of Public Health (CDPH) proposed regulations. Seek provisional approval from CDPH for creation of a fiscally sustainable municipal health department. Prepare a Community Health Needs Assessment, Community Health Improvement Plan and other studies as may be required by CDPH and the Public Health Accreditation Board. Negotiate and execute agreement(s) for Health Department laboratory services”. And language on Page 53: “Advanced the Establishment of the West Covina Health Department: The City Manager’s Office continues to work in close coordination with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) on the establishment of a local health department. This critical effort underscores the City’s dedication to expanding public health services and ensuring community well-being” – 2-3

ACTION: Motion by Mayor Lopez-Viado and Second by Councilman Wu, 5-0 to::

1. Receive and file the Proposed Fiscal Year 2026-27 Operating and Capital Improvement Program Budget; and
2. Schedule the budget for consideration at the June 16, 2026 City Council meeting.

7) LONG-RANGE FINANCIAL FORECAST FOR FY 2027-2031

No objection to receive and file the Long-Range Financial Forecast for fiscal years ending 2027-2031.

MAYOR/COUNCILMEMBERS REPORTS

- Councilmembers Diaz, Wu, and Mayor Pro Tem Cantos spoke on their attendance at the JPIA Conference.

CITY COUNCIL REQUESTS FOR REPORTS, STUDIES OR INVESTIGATION

- Mayor Pro Tem Cantos asked for a resolution to present to Council regarding data centers and battery storage facilities. Second by Councilman Wu, no objection.
- Mayor Pro Tem Cantos would like to convene with all stakeholders for the purpose of determining a framework for doing a public safety tax supportive of police and fire. Second by Councilmember Gutierrez 3-2 (No: Diaz, Wu)

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Councilmembers wished all a Happy Mother's Day
- Councilmember Gutierrez thanked Finance Director Ogawa for her work on the budget and also wished all a Happy Mother's Day.
- Mayor Pro Tem Cantos shared information from Los Angeles County Commissioner Matt Kuranza, there is a \$1000 grant for a kid who puts together the top video for 3 minutes about climate sustainability. If interested, please contact Mayor Pro Tem.

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ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting was made, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:14 p.m. The next regularly scheduled Regular Closed City Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, 1444 West Garvey Avenue South, West Covina, California.

Submitted By:

Lisa Sherrick, CMC
Assistant City Clerk

Letty Lopez Viado
Mayor