

MINUTES

GARDEN GROVE CITY COUNCIL

GARDEN GROVE AGENCY FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

An adjourned regular meeting of the City Council and Agency for Community Development was called to order in the International Board Room of the Crystal Cathedral, 12141 Lewis Street, on Saturday, February 5, 2005, at 8:50 a.m.

COUNCIL

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: (5) COUNCIL MEMBER KREBS, COUNCIL MEMBER LEYES, COUNCIL MEMBER NGUYEN, MAYOR PRO TEM ROSEN, MAYOR DALTON

ABSENT: (0) NONE

AGENCY

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: (5) MEMBER DALTON, MEMBER KREBS, MEMBER LEYES, VICE CHAIR ROSEN, CHAIR NGUYEN

ABSENT: (0) NONE

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager, Matthew Fertal; Deputy City Manager, Les Jones; Administrative Services Director, Kathy Porter; Finance Director, Kingsley Okereke; Economic Development Manager, Chet Yoshizaki; and City Attorney, John Shaw.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - PUBLIC (F: 53.3)

There were no oral communications.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

The purpose of the retreat was to discuss the following items: Team building among Council, Agency, and staff; the Community Visioning Project; City Council/City Manager communication; Protocol for Council direction at meetings; financial overview of the City; setting of City Council goals and objectives for upcoming two to four years; parks and recreation activities, goals, and objectives; and hiring lobbyists. Attached is a summary of the items discussed. (F: 46.1) (XR: 45.1) (XR: 60.1) (XR: 87.1)

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:35 p.m., the meeting was declared adjourned.

KATHY PORTER
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIRECTOR
RECORDING SECRETARY

CITY OF GARDEN GROVE

CITY COUNCIL RETREAT

Saturday, February 5, 2005

**Crystal Cathedral
12141 Lewis Street
International Board Room**

Agenda Items:

Item 2.a.: Team building among Council and staff:

No specific action taken.

Item 2.b.: Discussion concerning the Community Visioning Project:

After a brief staff presentation of the results from the Community Visioning Project, Mr. Dick Ayres from the Center for Labor-Management Studies gave an overview of Leadership and Vision. The City Council then discussed the community's vision for Garden Grove as outlined in the research that had been done during 2004. After discussion and input, the following community vision was developed. Additionally, guiding principles for Council and staff decorum were discussed and are included below:

Community Vision

The vision of Garden Grove is to be a safe, attractive, and economically vibrant city with an informed and involved public. We are a diverse community that promotes our unique attributes and preserves our residential character.

Guiding Principles

We commit ourselves to the betterment of the individual, the organization, and the community, by fostering a spirit of trust, creativity, cooperation, integrity, empathy, respect, and quality service to all.

ACTION ITEM: The Community Vision and Guiding Principles will be taken to the City Council for formal adoption.

ACTION ITEM: Staff will use the information obtained through the Vision process to develop a five-year strategic plan. This also will be taken to the City Council for consideration.

Item 2.c.: Discussion concerning City Council/City Manager communication:

Requests from the City Council: City Manager Matt Fertal asked that all requests of staff be directed either through him or Les Jones for processing. If neither is available, then City Council is requested to call department directors.

Best way to inform City Council of important issues: Staff inquired as to the best way to convey unusual or urgent information to the City Council (incidents of crime, infrastructure malfunctions, newsworthy items, etc.). Each City Council Member indicated their preference (see below) and requested that the City Manager use his own judgment as to when to contact them:

Mayor Dalton	phone call
Mayor Pro Tem Rosen	phone call
Council Member Krebs	phone call
Council Member Leyes	e-mail unless urgent; then phone call
Council Member Nguyen	e-mail unless urgent; then phone call

Best way to keep Council informed of development projects: The Council indicated they prefer be informed of development projects prior to listing them on the City Council agenda. They indicated they wanted to do the following:

- Meet with developers individually or in groups of two prior to the project going to a City Council meeting;
- Make the Planning Commission packet and blueprints available in the City Council Conference Room.

Item 2.d.: Discussion concerning Protocol for Council direction at meetings:

It was requested that City Council as a whole give stronger direction when an individual Council Member requests action on an item under consideration at Council meetings.

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Direction to staff from Commissioners was also discussed. It was felt that individual commissioners and/or committee members should not direct staff to create reports that require an inordinate number of hours. Providing existing reports can be accommodated.

ACTION ITEM: Staff was asked to determine how extensive of a problem this is and report back to the City Council.

ACTION ITEM: City Council asked that staff provide direction to all commissioners regarding conducting research and/or preparing reports.

Item 2.e.: Discussion concerning the financial overview of the City:

Kingsley Okereke presented a three-year overview of the City's budget, including projected revenues and expenditures.

ACTION ITEM: Staff was asked to update the white paper dated April 2004, on budget options.

Item 2.f.: Discussion concerning setting of City Council goals and objectives for the upcoming two-to four years:

Each Council Member provided information on issues/goals they want to have considered during the next two-four years. Following is a summary:

Mayor Dalton:

- Look at contract with Grove Theater Center—are they in compliance
- Look at ways residents can help the City Council to solve the budget issues facing the city. One option might be to form a Citizen Task Force to review options for addressing the City's budget imbalance.

Mayor Pro Tem Rosen:

- Put as much parkland on the P&E right-of-way as possible;
- Do a study on how we are "parked" throughout the city;
- Possibly combine "Youth" in the Parks and Recreation Commission;
- Continue developing Harbor Boulevard and pursue options for developing Garden Grove Blvd.

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Council Member Leyes:

- Commented on the City of Anaheim's efforts to encourage new business to come to their city. Feels we should do what we can to promote and help businesses in Garden Grove;
- Hopes the City can negotiate something with OCTA to use the right-of-way for purposes that will benefit our community.

- Suggested looking at public/private partnerships to enhance recreational opportunities in Garden Grove.

Council Member Krebs:

- Suggested creating a Theater and Arts Commission to oversee the theater and amphitheater;
- Asked that the theater and amphitheater be cleaned up;
- Thought the OCTA right-of-way could be used for park development;
- Felt some of the entrances to our city need sprucing up
- Asked how the issue of exploring the feasibility of bringing a casino to Garden Grove could be brought forward again.

Council Member Nguyen:

- Supports a Park and Recreation Commission;
- Wants to pursue grant opportunities more actively;
- Wants more aggressive code enforcement, especially on Garden Grove Blvd. and with owners of vacant businesses;
- Wants to know what our options are for bringing the buildings on Main Street up to safety codes;
- Provide a report on our program to keep the streets maintained;
- Increase the use of City facilities, especially the CMC, Courtyard Center, Gem, Amphitheater, parks, etc.
- Provide a status report on the contract for the Grove Theater Center.
- Explore options to expedite the permit process
- Synchronize the traffic signals on major thoroughfares

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ACTION ITEMS:

- **Do a report on what a Parks and Recreation Commission would do (also include theater, the arts, and youth)**
- **Do a compliance report on the contract with the Grove Theater Center**
- **Do a presentation on the City's street maintenance program**
- **Provide an update to the memo on enhancing revenues to the City Council**
- **Look into providing public safety services to the City of Stanton**

Item 2.g.: Discussion concerning parks and recreation activities, goals, and objectives, as requested by Council Member Rosen:

It was felt this issue had been discussed in adequate detail during item 2.f.

Item 2.h.: Discussion concerning hiring lobbyists, as requested by Council Member Rosen:

A discussion was held about possibly of hiring a lobbyist for certain functions. The role and responsibilities were discussed. Some options would include tracking possible grants, lobbying legislators on certain issues, and keeping the City Council apprised of upcoming/current legislative issues.

ACTION ITEM: Mayor Pro Tem Rosen and Council Member Nguyen will come to the City Council with a proposal, including the scope of work of a lobbyist.