

City Council

Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2025

**CITY OF MURRIETA
Council Chambers
1 Town Square
Murrieta, CA 92562**



**Tuesday, March 18, 2025
4:15 PM CLOSED SESSION
6:00 PM REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

The City of Murrieta intends to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Persons with special needs should call the City Clerk Department at (951) 461-6031 or email at CityClerk@murrietaca.gov at least 72 hours in advance. Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the City Council regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the public counter at City Hall located at 1 Town Square, Murrieta, CA during normal business hours.

Any presentation requiring the use of the City of Murrieta's equipment must be submitted to the City Clerk's department 72 hours prior to the scheduled City Council meeting at City Hall located at 1 Town Square, Murrieta, CA; via email at CityClerk@MurrietaCA.gov or call (951) 461-6031. Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the City Council regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the public counter at City Hall located at 1 Town Square, Murrieta, CA during normal business hours.

**Cindy Warren
Mayor**

**Jon Levell
Mayor Pro Tem**

**Lisa DeForest
Council Member**

**Lori Stone
Council Member**

**Ron Holliday
Council Member**

**Justin Clifton, City Manager
Tiffany Israel, City Attorney
Cristal McDonald, City Clerk**

**MURRIETA CITY COUNCIL (CC)
MURRIETA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT (CSD)
MURRIETA FIRE DISTRICT (FD)
MURRIETA LIBRARY BOARD (LB)
MURRIETA REDEVELOPMENT SUCCESSOR AGENCY (RSA)
MURRIETA HOUSING AUTHORITY (HA)
MURRIETA FINANCING AUTHORITY (FA)**

**YOU MAY VIEW THE MEETING LIVESTREAMED VIA THE CITY'S WEBSITE AT
<https://murrieta.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>**

4:15 PM CLOSED SESSION

CALL TO ORDER 4:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council Member Lisa DeForest
 Council Member Ron Holliday
 Mayor Pro Tem Jon Levell
 Mayor Cindy Warren

Absent: Council Member Lori Stone (*present for all of closed session*)

PUBLIC COMMENTS - CLOSED SESSION ITEMS ONLY None

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

City Clerk Cristal McDonald announced the following Closed Session items:

CLOSED SESSION

- CS1.** Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation
 The City Council will conduct a closed session, pursuant to Government Code sections 54956.9(d)(2), because there is a significant exposure to litigation in one case.
- CS2.** Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation
 The City Council will conduct a closed session, pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1), to confer with legal counsel regarding litigation to which the City is a party. The title of such litigation is as follows: Borel vs. Southern California Gas Company, City of Murrieta, et al; Case Number RIC2002687; Riverside County Superior Court.
- CS3.** Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation
 The City Council will conduct a closed session, pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1), to confer with legal counsel regarding litigation to which the City is a party. The title of such litigation is as follows: Mickey Dean White, Jr. vs. Southern California Gas Company, City of Murrieta, et al; Case Number MCC2001692; Riverside County Superior Court.
- CS4.** Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation
 The City Council will conduct a closed session, pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1), to confer with legal counsel regarding litigation to which the City is a party. The title of such litigation is as follows: Alejandro Salazar and Nancy Salazar vs. Southern California Gas Company, City of Murrieta, et al; Case Number MCC2001689; Riverside County Superior Court.
- CS5.** Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation
 The City Council will conduct a closed session, pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1), to confer with legal counsel regarding litigation to which the City is a party. The title of such litigation is as follows: Sergio Flores and Blanca Flores vs. Southern California Gas Company, City of Murrieta, et al; Case Number MCC2001686; Riverside County Superior Court.

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The City Council will conduct a closed session, pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1), to confer with legal counsel regarding litigation to which the City is a party. The title of such litigation is as follows: Deborah Kilpatrick vs. Southern California Gas Company, City of Murrieta, et al; Case Number MCC2001690; Riverside County Superior Court.

CS7. Public Employee Performance Evaluation

The City Council will hold a closed session, pursuant to Government Code section 54957(b), to conduct an employee evaluation concerning the City Manager.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION 4:18 p.m.**6:00 PM REGULAR MEETING****CALL TO ORDER 6:02 p.m.****ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTION**

City Attorney Tiffany Israel reported the following Closed Session Action:

CS1: No reportable action.

CS2: No reportable action. The City Council will be taking action on Consent Item No. 4, which is in conjunction with this settlement.

CS3: The City Council authorized a settlement in the amount of \$50,000, noting that payment would solely be made with insurance proceeds; and authorized the City Manager to execute the agreement.

CS4: The City Council authorized a settlement in the amount of \$275,000, noting that payment would solely be made with insurance proceeds; and authorized the City Manager to execute the agreement.

CS5: The City Council authorized a settlement in the amount of \$175,000, noting that payment would solely be made with insurance proceeds; and authorized the City Manager to execute the agreement.

CS6: The City Council authorized a settlement in the amount of \$2,750,000, noting that payment would solely be made with insurance proceeds; and authorized the City Manager to execute the agreement.

CS7: No reportable action.

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ROLL CALL

Present: Council Member Lisa DeForest
Council Member Lori Stone
Council Member Ron Holliday
Mayor Pro Tem Jon Levell
Mayor Cindy Warren

Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Economic Development Director Scott Agajanian

INVOCATION Lead Pastor Zac Martin, The Bridge Church

PRESENTATIONS

Proclamation: National Crime Victims' Rights Week (April 6-10, 2025)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Action: It was moved by Council Member DeForest, seconded by Council Member Holliday to approve the Agenda for March 18, 2025.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Levell, Warren, Holliday, Stone, DeForest
Noes: None

CITY MANAGER - ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

City Engineer Jeff Hitch: Citywide Traffic Congestion - Los Alamos Road Pilot Program

Community Update: Cristina Davies, Public Information Officer

GOVERNING BODY COMMISSION/COMMITTEE/BOARD REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Member DeForest: Provided Announcements to be made part of the City's record.

Council Member Stone: Provided attendance/reported the following:

- Southwest Riverside County Elected Leaders Collaborative
- Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG)

Provided Announcements to be made part of the City's record.

Council Member Holliday: Provided Announcements to be made part of the City's record.

Mayor Pro Tem Levell: Provided verbal Announcements.

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Mayor Warren:

Provided attendance/reported the following:

- Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC)

Provided Announcements to be made part of the City's record.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (NON-AGENDA)

Jan Julsing:

Provided a handout and spoke on aviation noise concerns and enforcement laws.

Paul Padilla:

Spoke on concerns over code enforcement, noting callback response times and enforcement patterns.

Frank Shelter:

Spoke on aviation noise concerns noting the constant disruption of peace.

CONSENT CALENDAR - APPROVAL OF ITEMS 1 – 10

Action: It was moved by Council Member Holliday, seconded by Council Member DeForest to approve Consent Calendar Items Nos. 1-10.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Levell, Warren, Holliday, Stone, DeForest

Noes: None

1. Waive Reading of All Ordinance Adoptions on the Agenda and Read by Title Only

Recommended Action:

Waive reading, by title only, of all Ordinances and Resolutions. Said Ordinances and Resolutions which appear on the public agenda shall be determined to have been read by title and further reading waived.

2. Minutes

Recommended Action:

Approve the minutes from the February 10, 2025, Special Workshop and March 4, 2025, Regular City Council Meeting.

3. Monthly Investment Transaction Report for January 2025

Recommended Action:

Receive and file the Monthly Investment Transaction Report for January 2025.

4. Settlement Agreement with Anthony Borel

Recommended Action:

Approval of a Settlement Agreement with Anthony Borel; and

Authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement.

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5. Approval of an Agreement with Granicus Inc. for Agenda Management Services and Public Records Act Request Management Software

Recommended Action:

Ratify the agreement with Granicus Inc. for agenda management services and the Public Records Act request module; and

Authorize the City Manager to approve future renewals for four (4) years for a not-to-exceed total of \$243,078.16.

6. Approval of an Agreement with NetFile, Inc. for Electronic Submittal Software for Disclosures Required by the Fair Political Practices Commission

Recommended Action:

Approve a three-year agreement, in a form as approved by the City Attorney, with two additional one-year extensions, with NetFile, Inc. for campaign disclosures, statements of economic interests, and ethics training software, retroactively effective to December 1, 2024, for a total not to exceed \$67,500; and

Authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement.

7. Recap of City Council Priority Setting Workshop held February 10, 2025

Recommended Action:

Receive and file the revised list of City Council priorities as discussed during the City Council Workshop held on February 10, 2025.

8. Award Construction Contract for Glen Arbor Dog Park Project

Recommended Action:

Award the construction contract for the Glen Arbor Dog Park Project, Capital Improvement Project (CIP) No. 8273, to the lowest responsible bidder, Voltaire Engineering, LLC., in the amount of \$924,277, plus a 15% contingency;

Amend the Fiscal Year 2024/25 Operating and Capital Improvement Plan budgets to provide an additional budget appropriation for Capital Improvement Project No. 8273 as detailed in the fiscal impact statement; and

Authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement.

9. Notice of Completion for the City of Murrieta Police Department Exterior Painting Project, CIP 21016

Recommended Action:

Accept as complete the improvements for the City of Murrieta Police Department Exterior Painting Project, Capital Improvement Project (CIP) No. 21016;

Authorize the transfer of \$109,725 in savings to CIP No. 21036, Traffic Bureau Improvement Project; and

Direct the City Clerk to record a Notice of Completion, close CIP No. 21016, and release bonds in accordance with state law and city ordinances.

10. Engineering and Environmental Design Consulting Services for the Menifee Road Improvements Project, CIP No. 13030

Recommended Action:

Approve a Purchase Order amendment with Michael Baker International in the amount of \$111,306, increasing the original amount from \$258,594 to \$369,900, for additional engineering and environmental design consulting services for the Menifee Road Improvements Project, Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) No. 13030; and

Amend the Fiscal Year 2024/25 CIP by establishing an appropriation of \$150,000, into CIP No. 13030, from the Gas Tax Fund unassigned fund balance.

PULLED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

11. Financing for the Kensington Apartments Affordable Housing Project

Staff report and PowerPoint presentation provided by City Planner Carl Stiehl who spoke on the following topics:

- Project overview;
- Project site specifics;
- Project Funding; and
- Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act.

The public hearing opened at 6:52 p.m.

Public Testimony:

None

The public hearing closed at 6:52 p.m.

Action: After discussion, it was moved by Council Member Holliday, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Levell to conduct a Public Hearing under the requirements of the Tax Equity Fiscal Responsibility Act (TEFRA) and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, (IRS Code) as amended; and

Adopt Resolution No. 25-4815 entitled: *A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Murrieta, California, Approving the Issuance by the California Municipal Finance Authority of Exempt Facility Bonds in an Aggregate Principal Amount Not to Exceed \$40,000,000, for the purpose of Financing or Refinancing the Acquisition, Construction, Improvement, and Equipping of the Kensington Apartments Project.*

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Levell, Warren, Holliday, Stone, DeForest
Noes: None

DISCUSSION

12. Update on Efforts of the Southwest Riverside County Elected Leaders Collaborative related to Regional Traffic and Transportation and Next Steps

Staff report and PowerPoint presentation provided by Assistant City Manager Kristen Crane.

Public Comments:

None

Action: The presentation was received.

13. Emergency Declaration for Hayes Avenue Bridge at Miller Canyon Creek

Staff report and PowerPoint Presentation provided by City Engineer Jeff Hitch.

Action: After discussion, it was moved by Council Member Stone, seconded by Council Member DeForest to adopt Resolution No. 25-4816 to declare an emergency condition for the Hayes Avenue Bridge at Miller Canyon Creek;

Authorize Purchase Orders for Michael Baker International totaling \$89,580.92; and

Amend the Capital Improvement Plan budget to create a project for Hayes Avenue Bridge at Miller Canyon Creek and appropriate with \$725,000 of Area Drainage Fees.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Levell, Warren, Holliday, Stone, DeForest

Noes: None

RECONSIDERATION None

COUNCIL MEMBER REQUESTS TO ADD ITEMS TO FUTURE AGENDAS

Council Member Stone: Requested a discussion on requiring ID from voters at the 2026 Election.

Consensus was received.

Requested a discussion on South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) rule 1111 & 1121 – significant cost related to gas water heaters.

Consensus was received.

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ADJOURNMENT 7:27 pm



Cristal McDonald

Cristal McDonald, City Clerk