

City Council

Meeting Agenda

March 3, 2026

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



**Tuesday, March 3, 2026
4:00 PM REGULAR MEETING
CLOSED SESSION FOLLOWING
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.

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**Jon Levell
Mayor**

**Ron Holliday
Mayor Pro Tem**

**Lisa DeForest
Council Member**

**Lori Stone
Council Member**

**Cindy Warren
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>**

4:00 PM REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER 4:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None

Meeting Agenda

City Council

March 3, 2026

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Mayor Pro Tem Holliday

INVOCATION Bishop Connors, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

PRESENTATIONS

Proclamation: Aaron Harwick, Retirement

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Action: It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Holliday, seconded by Council Member DeForest, to approve the Agenda for March 3, 2026.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Warren, DeForest, Stone, Holliday, Levell

Noes: None

Absent: None

CITY MANAGER - ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

GOVERNING BODY COMMISSION/COMMITTEE/BOARD (CCB)

REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Member Warren: Provided attendance/reported the following:

- Southwest Elected Leaders Collaborative*
- Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC)

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

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

Council Member Stone: Provided attendance/reported the following:

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

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

Mayor Pro Tem Holliday: Provided Announcements to be made part of the City's record.

Mayor Levell: Provided verbal Announcements.

**AB1234 Reporting*

Meeting Agenda

City Council

March 3, 2026

PUBLIC COMMENTS (NON-AGENDA)

- Connie McConnell: Provided updates on Murrieta Market Nights.
- Kamber Rutz: Offered to provide input and feedback on the Equestrian Center.
- Philip O'Reilly: Displayed photos and proposed a mural branding for the City along Jefferson Road.

CONSENT CALENDAR - APPROVAL OF ITEMS 1 – 3

Action: It was moved by Council Member Warren, seconded by Council Member DeForest to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 1-3.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Warren, DeForest, Stone, Holliday, Levell
Noes: None
Absent: 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 17, 2026 Regular meeting.

3. Finding that Emergency Conditions Persist in Connection with the Hayes Avenue Bridge at Miller Canyon Creek

Recommended Action:

Adopt Resolution 26-4912, entitled: *A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Murrieta, California, Declaring that Emergency Conditions Persist in Connection with the Hayes Avenue Bridge at Miller Canyon Creek.*

PULLED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS None

City Council

Meeting Agenda

March 3, 2026

DISCUSSION

4. Fiscal Year 2025/26 Second Quarter Financial Status Report and Proposed Budget Adjustments

Staff report and PowerPoint provided by Finance Director Javier Carcamo, Finance Manager Jennifer Terry, and Financial Analyst Tanner Benson.

Fire Chief Bernard Molloy was available to answer questions from the City Council.

Public Comments: None

Action: After discussion, it was moved by Council Member DeForest, seconded by Council Member Warren to receive and file the report;

Amend the Fiscal Year 2025/26 Operating Budget and approve the Second Quarter Proposed Budget Adjustments as referenced in the Fiscal Impact statement; and

Approve the Updated Schedule of Authorized Positions List.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Warren, DeForest, Stone, Holliday, Levell

Noes: None

Absent: None

5. Los Alamos Traffic Congestion Pilot Program

Staff report and PowerPoint provided by Public Works Director Bob Moehling, City Engineer Jeff Hitch, and Traffic Engineer Brian Stephenson.

Public Comments: None

Action: After discussion, the item was received and filed.

6. Approval of Ordinance No. 629-26 Regulating the Sale or Distribution of Kratom and Synthetic 7-OH

Staff report and PowerPoint provided by Council Member DeForest.

City Attorney Tiffany Israel was available to answer questions from the City Council.

Public Comments:

Dr. Michael DeSena: Spoke on Kratom and supported age restrictions and safety regulations.

City Council

Meeting Agenda

March 3, 2026

Action: After discussion, it was moved by Council Member DeForest, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Holliday to conduct the first reading and introduce Ordinance No. 629-26 entitled: *An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Murrieta, California, Amending the Murrieta Municipal Code by Adding New Chapter 9.40, Regulating the Sale, Distribution, and Possession of Kratom and Synthetic 7-OH.*

- With the amendment the Ordinance to remove the word “Possession” throughout the Ordinance.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

RECONSIDERATION None

COUNCIL MEMBER REQUESTS TO ADD OR WITHDRAW ITEMS TO FUTURE AGENDAS

Council Member Warren: Request a discussion to review design standards for Downtown Murrieta.

Consensus was received.

Council Member DeForest: Requested a discussion to add the Southwest Riverside Higher Education Committee as a City-affiliated committee.

Consensus received.

Requested a discussion on a donation to support Roger Shultz’s Mt. San Jacinto University Center project.

Consensus received.

Council Member Stone: Requested a discussion on the partnership with Tour de Murrieta.

Consensus received.

Mayor Pro Tem Holliday: Requested a discussion on an Ad Hoc subcommittee for the ballot measure mentioned at the City Council workshop on 2/26.

Consensus received.

Mayor Levell: Requested a discussion on an Equestrian Center Subcommittee.

City Council

Meeting Agenda

March 3, 2026

Consensus received.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (NON-AGENDA, AGENDIZED, CLOSED SESSION) None

CLOSED SESSION

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

City Clerk Cristal McDonald announced the following Closed Session Items:

CS1. Conference with Labor Negotiators

The City Council will conduct a closed session, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6, with the City Manager, Assistant City Manager, Deputy City Manager, City Attorney, and the City's Negotiators, regarding labor negotiations with the Murrieta Police Officers Association, Murrieta Police Management Association, Murrieta Firefighters Association, and Murrieta Fire Management Association.

CS2. Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation

The City Council will conduct a closed session, pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9 (d)(4), because the City is considering whether to initiate litigation in one (1) case.

CS3. Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation

The City Council will conduct a close session, pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2), because there is a significant exposure to litigation in one (1) case.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION 6:38 p.m.

RECONVENE FROM CLOSED SESSION

CALL TO ORDER 8:27 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None

City Council

Meeting Agenda

March 3, 2026

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTION

City Attorney Tiffany Israel reported the following Closed Session Action:

CS1.: No reportable action.

CS2.: No reportable action.

CS3.: No reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT 8:28 p.m.



Cristal McDonald, City Clerk