

CITY OF REDLANDS
MEASURE T CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
Special Meeting Minutes

Friday, April 5, 2024 at 11:00 AM

2nd Floor Conference Room, Citrus Center, 300 East State Street, Redlands, California

Present:

Committee Members

Chairwoman Momberger
Vice Chair Scott Welsh
Edward Millican
Reggie Brown

Staff

Danielle Garcia
James Garland
Valerie Abrego

Absent/Excused: Brooke Doolittle, Edward Ico, Ruth Cook

1. ATTENDANCE & CALL TO ORDER

A quorum was reached with the following committee members present at the time of roll call: Chairwoman Momberger, Vice Chair Welsh, Edward Millican, and Reggie Brown. The meeting was called to order at 11:08 AM. Staff and the Chair welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Public comments were presented in person.

There being one member of the public present during the meeting, Mr. Dennis Bell commented on the City's bond rating of AA+ and stated that this was for a bond that was issued in 2007. He also mentioned the City's need to debt finance costly repairs and renovations for the Wastewater Treatment Plant and that these major costs will have an impact on rate payers.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the March 20th Special Meeting minutes, noting various corrections, was moved by Edward Millican and seconded by Vice Chair Welsh.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and Possible Action to Adopt the FY 2023 Annual Report on Measure T Spending with Discussion on presenting the item to City Council (Management Services Director Garcia)

This discussion began with Chairwoman Momberger inviting comments from the rest of the Committee. Mr. Millican had prepared his comments in advance in writing and this was shared with the rest of the Committee. A discussion developed around the

Committee's need for a comprehensive framework through which Measure T spending should be evaluated. The rest of the Committee saw this suggestion as carrying a lot of value during the review process.

Several questions on specific expenditures were discussed, including the need for more specific descriptions of "Street Construction" activities listed in Figure 2 of the Annual Report. The Committee wants to ensure that Measure T is not funding new street construction that is related to private commercial development or funding those projects related to the Pavement Management Program.

At that point Mr. Dennis Bell provided additional public comment and asked if this money was commingled with the PARIS / Pavement Management Program (PMP). Staff explained that the line item for Street Construction was not a part of the PMP. Mr. Bell also asked who is providing the independent audit mentioned in the ballot language. Staff explained that the Committee and the City's external auditors serve these roles as it relates to Measure T.

Staff will provide additional detail on the Street Construction line item both in the next draft of the Annual Report as well as in a separate email directly to the Committee Members. Program enhancements for the Community and Senior Center were also discussed and evaluated for their appropriateness under the original intentions of Measure T. It was determined that they were. Several other expenditure categories were discussed along the same lines as the foregoing, including the animal shelter improvements, tree trimming and road maintenance.

The discussion also considered what happens when the budget changes significantly and how the Committee should be involved. The Committee would like to be informed as to when there are additions to the original budget that was adopted and the broad project categories therein. Staff will work on a process.

There was a discussion on staffing levels in public safety – the Police and Fire Departments. The Committee requested a metric to know if staffing levels are adequate and requested that staffing levels today be compared to pre-pandemic and pre-recession levels. Staff explained that this sort of comparison has the potential to omit the new needs of the community and the changes in technology. Staff mentioned that staffing has many considerations, including the need for new facilities. Staff also stated that the level of staffing in every City department is recommended by the City Manager to the City Council and is a function of that recommend/approve relationship.

At this point, Mr. Bell requested one last comment regarding the new Fire Station needed in the northeast part of the City. He commented that the current replanting of the Citrus Grove at Judson Street and Lugonia Avenue was not as high a priority as a new Fire Station and that residents in that area have experienced unsatisfactory service levels for Fire and Paramedic services.

Lastly, the conversation turned to trees. Chairwoman Momberger requested details on the progress that has been made with regard to the backlog of tree trimming requests and how much the trim cycle has been reduced for street and park trees. Staff stated that with the funding listed under tree trimming, 7,100 trees were trimmed, 330 dead trees were removed, and 150 new trees were planted.

To finish the discussion on presenting the Annual Report to Council, it was agreed that Chairwoman Momberger would present the item with Vice Chair Welsh in attendance.

B. Discuss the Next Meeting Date (Management Services Director Garcia)

The Committee discussed the timing of its planned report to City Council. The Annual Measure T Spending Report for FY 2023 is scheduled to be presented to City Council at its regular meeting of April 16th, 2024. In order to make that timeline, the committee members agreed to hold the next Measure T Oversight Committee meeting on April 9th, 2024 at 1:00 PM to finalize the report and public statement.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The Chair again thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting at 1:00 PM. The next special meeting of the Measure T Oversight Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 1:00 pm.