

MINUTES OF THE DAVIS CITY COUNCIL  
Meeting of December 12, 2023

The City Council of the City of Davis met in regular meeting session beginning at 6:48 p.m. in the Community Chambers, 23 Russell Boulevard, Davis, California. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Will Arnold.

Roll Call: Councilmembers Present: Josh Chapman, Donna Neville, Gloria Partida, Bapu Vaitla, Will Arnold

Councilmembers Absent: None

Other Officers Present: City Manager Michael Webb, City Attorney Inder Khalsa, City Clerk Zoe Mirabile

Approval of Agenda J. Chapman moved, seconded by D. Neville, to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

City Manager Announcements None

City Council Announcements and Liaison Reports None

Public Comments

- Alan Hirsch: Concerns about climate change.
- Connor Gorman: Oppose capitalism.
- Todd Edelman: Consent calendar item yard material restricted areas—oppose yard waste in streets throughout city.

Consent Calendar Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Amendment: Tree Davis Work with the City of Davis  
Approve Resolution No. 23-168 - Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Amendment No. 1 to the Memorandum of Understanding with Tree Davis

Designation of Locations as “Restricted Areas” for the Purposes of Removing Yard Material Pile Collection Service

1. Approve Resolution No. 23-169 - Designating Locations as “Restricted Areas” for the Purposes of Removing Yard Material Pile Collection Service
2. Direct staff to notify the impacted areas via written notice of the designation as a “restricted area” and removal of yard material pile collection service

2024 City Council Legislative Platform

Approve Resolution No. 23-170 - Authorizing the Adoption of a 2024 Legislative Platform

Surveillance Technology: Replacement Body-Worn Cameras/In Car Cameras

Informational. The Police Department is submitting the informational staff report on consent calendar at least 30 days prior to asking the City Council to hold a public hearing for the purchase of replacement body-worn cameras (BWC) and in-car cameras (an integrated system) because the current cameras have reached their end-of-life.

Commission Minutes: Open Space and Habitat Commission Meeting of September 11, 2023

Informational

G. Partida moved, seconded by B. Vaitla, to approve the consent calendar. Motion passed unanimously.

Proposed Resolution Calling for Peace in Israel and Gaza

W. Arnold and G. Partida: Council Subcommittee drafted the proposed resolution with idea of focusing on where all can agree; mindset hopeful and future forward.

Public comments:

- Unnamed individual: Support basic human rights.
- Jennifer; Deema Tamimi; Dillan Horton; Nadi, UCD Graduate Student Association; Scott Steward; Annie; Mary; Mohammad Farrar; Omar Altamimi; Jim; Assia; Hector; Anna; Gordon; Shivonni; Stanford; Randy; Cameron; Anne Block; Rosinda Olintha; Sue Greenwald; Kadija, Sacramento Islamic Relations; Kate Malanibaba; Adithi; Erica; Alonna; Saleen; Rob; Larwla Estergazerday; Michael Farro; Hamicci Gazindarey; Adrienne Amins; Arra Bouzza; Meredith Wade; Abir Hanza; Lucca Raska; Hamine; Connor Gorman; Amray; Layla; Denny Hadda; Zarra; Loila Patterson; Naddi Rezah; Nidou Hidean; Hanneka; Amidy; Mindy Kahn; Whitney; Tronah; Katie Temple; Beth; Shay Kildir; Juan; Michelle; Leeza; Nethi Awahna; Medda Segal; Julianna Nothite; Ennay Piper; Omar; Jeanette Atchova; Grace Murray; Lisa Baumeister; and unnamed individuals: Support permanent ceasefire. Oppose violence; call for peace. Council should address community concerns.
- Rabbi Bess Holner, Congregation Bet Haverim: Congregation supports peace in the Middle East.
- Barb Tonkas: Should revise resolution to include other countries such as Russia, Ukraine, Weager in China, Somalia, South Sudan, African countries, etc.

- Unnamed individual, Nathan Moore, and Ron Glick: Oppose violence.
- Unnamed individual: Should revise resolution to reflect majority opinion.
- Unnamed individual, Maya Gadisman, Naomi, Jay Rosenheim, and Arria Gazman: Oppose call for ceasefire.
- Carra Levy, Leah, Sherri Polasky, Margaret, unnamed individual, and Eva Spiegel: Resolution will not impact situation in the Middle East. Should focus on local issues and antisemitic activities.
- Emir Kovan, unnamed individual, and Anir: Oppose Hamas actions.
- Alan Brownstein, unnamed individual, Dottie Hinkle, Ruth Ganyon, and Mya Gaddison: Support resolution as proposed.
- John Lundy: Personal experience and family experience with violence against Jews and Israel. Call for ceasefire.
- Unnamed individuals: Free Palestine.
- Unnamed individuals and Alex Burke: Call for ceasefire and oppose military aid to Israel.
- Michael Levy and Dan: Condemn antisemitism.
- Charlie Kassana and unnamed individuals: Personal experiences with violence and oppression.
- Joel Haas: Should revise resolution to condemn Hamas and call for removal from power.
- Torrin Tankey: Resolution references international law.
- Alan Miller: Support community forum instead of resolution.
- NJ Mvondo: Thank Council for community discussion.
- Aike: Support shared values of peace and community.
- Koulivahn Olvay: Actions define people.
- Sarah Joseph: Should acknowledge truth over consensus.

City Council recessed at 9:54 p.m. and reconvened at 10:04 p.m.

- Mia Gadaseddi: One sided resolution will not bring peace
- Greg Ruker: Oppose resolution.
- Todd Edelman: Call for peace in Israel and Palestine, not just Gaza.
- Mary Kuready: Support resolution. Support peace and medical aid.

B. Vaitla moved, seconded by D. Neville, to approve Resolution No. 23-171 - Calling for Peace in Israel and Gaza, as amended:

1. Add Whereas clause: "WHEREAS, over 1,200 citizens in Israel and over 18,000 in Palestine killed, with over 7,000 of those being children, violence has already claimed the lives of too many Israelis and Palestinians, and wounded too many more; and"
2. Amend Whereas clause: "WHEREAS, international organizations like...prevent the further loss of life of civilians and to be in accordance with international humanitarian law; and"

3. Amend Whereas clause: “WHEREAS, in response to the conflict, the City of Davis condemns the rise of ...
4. Add Whereas clause: WHEREAS, rising tides of hatred have caused community members to feel silenced, unwelcome and unsafe in the spaces they live and work; and
5. Amend resolve: NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Davis does hereby support:
  - (1) An immediate ceasefire by all parties, an end to all hostilities, and to begin through diplomacy a reinvigorated effort that seeks a permanent, just solution to the conflict and lasting peace in the region.
  - (2) an immediate end to all acts of terrorism and violence against civilians,
  - (3) unconditional release of all hostages,
  - (4) unrestricted delivery of humanitarian assistance, and restoration of food, water, electricity and medical supplies,
  - (5) mutual respect for and adherence to international law and respect for all members of our community.

Motion passed unanimously.

City council recessed at 11:45 pm. and reconvened 11:51 p.m.

Village Farms  
Davis Project  
EIR Alternatives  
Review

B. Vaitla moved, seconded by W. Arnold, to discuss the next regular item. Motion passed unanimously.

Principal Planner Dara Dungworth: Brief project description and scope of CEQA analysis. Overview of revised conceptual alternatives.

Public comments:

- Rochelle Swanson, representing Village Farms: Notice of Preparation Scoping Meeting was well attended and public submitted thoughtful comments. Looking at holding future meetings in each Council district in the spring. Website live [villagefarmsdavis.com](http://villagefarmsdavis.com).
- Alan Miller: Developers should uphold promises.
- Jim Flannagan: Need more diversity in alternatives. Consider project on southernmost 250 acres with 1,000 houses.
- NJ Mvondo, Yolo County Climate Action Commission and Connor Gorman: Support high density housing and affordable housing. Concerns about traffic, vernal pools, and water quality.
- Eileen Samitz, Carol, Nancy Price, John Gajives, Mike Winger, Rik Keller, Tim Hoban, Susan Gelber, John Cooper, Edith Robrick, Alan Dwyer, Elizabeth Rey, Cynthia Markiotis, Ron Cowel, Reina Dyer, Pam Tessily, unnamed individual, and Katherine Keller: Alternatives should result in lesser impacts. Need smaller footprint and smaller scaled alternatives, environmentally superior. Concerns about traffic impacts, impact to vernal pools, water quality from old landfill site.
- Margaret Koesh and Delores Lake: Oppose project. Traffic impacts. Project should be scaled down.

- Alan Hirsch and unnamed individual: Address climate and traffic impacts.
- Unnamed individual: Concerned about development on flood plain.

S. Metzker: Suggest alternatives be left somewhat conceptual. After analysis, will return with alternatives that meet requirements of CEQA.

G. Partida moved, seconded by D. Neville, as follows:

1. Direct staff to work with EIR consultant to identify which alternatives should receive greater analysis.
2. Select Alternative 4 for additional analysis (Biological Resource Preservation (Same Number of Units-Smaller Footprint)).

Motion passed unanimously.

Designation of Mayor and Vice Mayor for Calendar Year 2024

D. Neville moved, seconded by B. Vaitla, to discuss the next regular item. Motion passed unanimously.

City Manager Mike Webb: Summarized process and timeline.

Public comments:

- NJ Mvondo: Thank Council for work during a very challenging year. Support Mayor Arnold continuing for another term, but also support Josh Chapman as Mayor.
- Alan Miller: Oppose Arnold staying on as Mayor for a second term.
- Connor Gorman: Support Josh Chapman as Mayor and Bapu Vaitla as Vice Mayor.

B. Vaitla moved, seconded by D. Neville, to appoint J. Chapman as Mayor for 2024. Motion passed unanimously.

G. Partida moved, seconded by D. Neville, to appoint B. Vaitla as Vice Mayor for 2024. Motion passed unanimously.

AB 1234 Reporting

None

Long Range Calendar

M. Webb: Next meetings are January 4 and 9.

Public comments:

- Alan Miller: Oppose district elections; support at-large elections.
- Connor Gorman: Public comment should not be limited even if there are many people participating. Should prioritize public comment by postponing other items.

G. Partida: Interested in ballot measure for Mayor and Vice Mayor at-large positions.

Adjournment Meeting was adjourned at 1:34 a.m.

Zoe Mirabile  
City Clerk