

MINUTES OF THE DAVIS CITY COUNCIL  
Meeting of February 20, 2024

The City Council of the City of Davis met in regular meeting session beginning at 6:36 p.m. in the Community Chambers, 23 Russell Boulevard, Davis, California. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Josh Chapman.

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

Councilmembers Absent: None

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

Approval of Agenda G. Partida moved, seconded by B. Vaitla, to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Ceremonial Presentation Proclamation Recognizing February 2024 as Black History Month, presented by Mayor Chapman

City Council recessed at 6:43 p.m. and reconvened at 6:44 p.m.

City Manager Announcements M. Webb: March 18—Thong Hy Huynh Award nominations due. March 20—Environmental Recognition Award nominations due.

City Council Announcements and Liaison Reports None

Public Comments

- Brett Lee: Visited Sister City Uman, Ukraine. Brought back a letter to Davis City Council.
- Elaine Roberts Musser and Alan Miller: Oppose merging commissions. Need more public engagement.
- Alan Hirsch: Support providing copies of written public comments regarding agenda items at Council meetings.
- Connor Gorman: Council should not meet on March 5 because is an election day. Consent calendar item body camera grant—city policy should coincide with grant policies.
- Gina Daleidon, First 5 Yolo: Consent calendar item Cannabis benefit Fund—Thanked Council for funding. Programs funded have produced measurable incomes.

Consent Calendar

Civic Gym Roof Replacement Phase II, CIP No. ET8326  
Approve Resolution No. 24-017 – Awarding Contract to I & A Contractor Inc. for the Civic Gym Roof Replacement Phase II, and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Contract, Allocating 1% of the Contract to the Municipal Arts Fund, and Approving Task Order 30 Under the Professional Services Agreement with WSP for Construction Management and Inspection Services

Purchase and Sale Agreements for Temporary Construction Easements and Permanent Easements for Two Separate Properties to Obtain Right of Way for the Upcoming Richards Boulevard / I-80 Interchange Project, CIP No. ET8730

Approve Resolution No. 24-018 – Approving Purchase and Sale Agreements for Two Temporary Construction Easements and Permanent Easements for Two Separate Properties to Obtain Right of Way for the Upcoming Richards Boulevard / I-80 Interchange Project

Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Program of Projects and Grant Application Submittal to the FTA for Section 5307/5339 Formula Funding  
Approve Resolution No. 24-019 – Approving the FTA Program of Projects, Authorizing the City Manager to Submit an FTA Grant Application, and Execute a Subrecipient Agreement with the University of California-Davis for Operations and Capital Assistance of Unitrans

Grant Acceptance - US Department of Justice Body-worn Camera Implementation Project

Approve Resolution No. 24-020 – Accepting Department of Justice Body-Worn Camera Policy and Implementation Program Grant Funds and Amending Fiscal Year 2023/24 Budget

J. Chapman recused due to spouse business interest conflict.

Renewal of Cannabis Benefit Fund Memoranda of Understanding

Approve Resolution No. 24-021 – Authorizing the City Manager to Renew Memoranda of Understanding with First Five Yolo and With Davis Joint Unified School District for Use of Cannabis Community Benefit Funds

Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Arnold, Neville, Partida, Vaitla

NOES: None

ABSENT: Chapman (recuse)

Revised Fiscal Year 2023/24 Authorized Position Listing and Revised Salary Table

1. Approve Resolution No. 24-022 – Approving Citywide Salary Table
2. Approve Resolution No. 24-023 – Amending the Authorized Position Listing for Fiscal Year 2023/24

Second Reading: Ordinance Rezoning the Three Properties Comprising the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant (APNS #042-140-009, -011, AND -013) to Public/Semi-Public (PSP) Upon Annexation to the City Adopt Ordinance No. 2655 (Introduced 01/30/2024)

Treasurer's Report for the Quarter Ended June 30, 2022  
Accept the report

Commission Minutes: Open Space and Habitat Commission Meeting of December 4, 2023  
Informational

B. Vaitla moved, seconded by D. Neville, to approve consent calendar. Motion passed unanimously.

General Plan  
Update Process,  
2024

Community Development Director Sherri Metzker: Current General Plan adopted in 2001; took approximately 7 years to complete. General Plan is a visionary policy document. State mandates each city to have a general plan that addresses 8 required elements: land use, circulation, housing, conservation, open space, noise, safety, environmental justice. Environmental justice element is required for disadvantaged communities, areas identified by California Environmental Protection Agency or an area that is low income disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazard; Davis does not have any disadvantaged communities according to the legal definition. Process considerations include: breadth of update, time to adoption, budget, community engagement, and council involvement.

Public comments:

- Heidi Kasseris: Should add student specific housing to the General Plan.
- Catherine Brinkley: Suggest Council use environmental justice as guiding factor, either standalone element or incorporated throughout plan. Need to include all perspectives in community.
- Alan Hirsch: Support commissions using subcommittees.
- Alan Miller: Community input should be incorporated into final actions.
- Elaine Roberts-Musser: Consultants should advise on initial steps to take, then Council can seek feedback from commissions. No need to restructure commissions.
- Eileen Samitz and Nancy Price: Current General Plan only needs minor updates, not complete replacement. Important to have an open, democratic, and inclusive process including commissions and general public.

- Ethan Stern: Support standalone environmental justice element. Should add a housing element to allow for higher density.
- Connor Gorman: Support council involvement in development of General Plan and broad community outreach including to marginalized communities. Commissions should have at least one meeting with a General Plan item relating to their specialization.
- Robert Otel: Oppose consolidating commissions. Oppose expanding city limits.

M. Webb: summarized council feedback from preliminary discussion at Council goal retreat on February 9:

- Breadth of Update: Focus on state required elements. Utilize and reference master and specific plans that city has developed—Downtown Plan, Housing Element, Urban Forest Master Plan, Homeless Strategic Plan, CAAP, etc. Analyze current General Plan for policies that are still relevant that require minimal updating and elimination. Evaluate different methods of including environmental justice.
- Timeframe: Strive for 2 years to develop general plan, 9-12 month EIR preparation.
- Budget: Keep costs to \$1.5-2 million.
- Community engagement: Use consultant as extension of staff, help with design process, community engagement, and commission work including training necessary for success. Community engagement will be broad and robust citywide, leveraging avenues such as community based organizations to go directly into the community. Council interested in discussing options related to a steering committee.
- Council involvement: Strong and continual hands-on engagement. Utilize Council subcommittees and regular agenda item discussions.

Council comments included:

D. Neville: Interested in foundational education such as land use practices, sustainable communities, and transportation planning, and current rationales in each aspect. Suggest City website have a dedicated and comprehensive page with current plan, resources, commission activity, etc. Support public engagement with many perspectives and opinions contributing to discussions.

W. Arnold: Support staff identifying current General Plan areas that are ripe for update and referencing recently adopted plans.

G. Partida: Interested in a public engagement process similar to discussions prior to formation of Police Accountability Commission.

B. Vaitla: Support an ambitious timeframe. Interested in including environmental justice and public health as elements. Support increased opportunities for staff to provide input, prioritize staff resources, and play a leadership role the visioning process. Community engagement—should be intentional with what “inclusivity” really means. Support diverse perspectives and people participating in process. Support the idea of going directly into the community, understand constraints to participating. Commissions can assist with outreach and contributing to inclusive participation.

J. Chapman: Support defining “inclusivity” and related methodology.

D. Neville moved, seconded by B. Vaitla, to direct staff to prepare and issue an RFQ (Request for Qualifications) to solicit services of a consulting firm to help prepare a General Plan update, and associated community outreach and engagement. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Vaitla moved, seconded by W. Arnold, to create a Council subcommittee of B. Vaitla and J. Chapman to focus on community engagement efforts. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Vaitla moved, seconded by D. Neville, to create a Council subcommittee of D. Neville and W. Arnold to focus on soliciting staff input. Motion passed unanimously.

AB 1234 Reporting

W. Arnold, G. Partida, and D. Neville: Attended Chamber of Commerce dinner.

Long Range Calendar

M. Webb: Move April 16 meeting to April 23. April 16 on call, April 23 regular meeting.

Public comment:

- Alan Hirsch: Should explain what long range calendar item titled subcommittee proposal for communication regarding state transportation projects actually means.
- Alan Miller: Should ban purple gazoos.
- Connor Gorman: Consider expanding concept of community engagement to more community organizations based on their areas of expertise.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Zoe Mirabile  
City Clerk