

MINUTES OF THE DAVIS CITY COUNCIL
Meeting of January 21, 2025

The City Council of the City of Davis met in regular meeting session beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Chambers, 23 Russell Boulevard, Davis, California. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Bapu Vaitla.

Roll Call: Councilmembers Present: Josh Chapman, Linda Deos, Donna Neville, Gloria Partida, Bapu Vaitla

Councilmembers Absent: None

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

Approval of Agenda B. Vaitla: Defer ceremonial welcome to Mayor and Vice Mayor for 2025 until next meeting.

L. Deos moved, seconded by D. Neville, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Ceremonial Presentation Proclamation Honoring Josh Chapman for His Service to the Davis Community as Mayor During 2024 was presented by B. Vaitla.

Councilmembers expressed thanks and appreciation.

City Manager Announcements M. Webb: January 22, 23, 29, and 30—Davis Police Department Community Outreach Meetings. January 27—G Street Grand Opening.

City Council Announcements and Liaison Reports None.

Public Comments

- Rebish Gorenstein and unnamed individuals: Support public menorah lighting included in city holiday display, other jurisdictions have already set precedent. City should not prioritize Christian symbols and events. Ask Council to take action on request to light a menorah during Christmas parade and tree lighting.
- Eden and unnamed individuals, Night Market group: Consent calendar item Camping Ordinance Implementation Policy—Oppose. Ordinance will put undue burden on community and student organizations that serve homeless individuals. Request council remove policy from consent and address at another time.

- Michael Levy: Wrote to Council in December 2023 when Council was considering a ceasefire resolution at a meeting held on Hanukkah. City has not recognized Hanneke as a significant observance by the community. Request staff be trained on how to recognize antisemitism.
- Alan Miller: Davis Police Department is not addressing crime that is perpetrated by homeless individuals.
- Una Hadden, Arts Alliance Davis: During 2025, Arts Alliance awareness campaign will include artists attending Council meetings to share recent work, accomplishments, and events from creative community.
- Alan Hirsch: Attended Martin Luther King Jr. event. Disagree with choice of message and tone. Need hope, optimism and celebration instead of anger. Even when disagree, should lead with love and respect.
- Connor Gorman: Consent calendar item Camping Ordinance Implementation Policy—support provision of education. Need more community navigators to build relationships and trust. Not enough shelter space in Davis or County, many have barriers to entry.
- Unnamed individual: Need more shelter space for homeless individuals.
- Ron Glick: Previous Central Park event included display of a menorah. Should not restrict installation of public menorah.

Consent Calendar

Camping Ordinance Implementation Policy

Approve Resolution No. 25-003 - Establishing an Implementation Policy Regarding Enforcement of the City of Davis Camping Ordinance (Davis Municipal Code 26.11)

Equipment Procurement Contract for Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Sedimentation Basin No. 3, Distribution Channel and Grit Basin Concrete Resurfacing, CIP No. ET0018

Approve Resolution No. 25-004 - Awarding Contract to Connexus Industries Inc. for Equipment Procurement for the WWTP Sedimentation Basin No. 3, Distribution Channel and Grit Basin Concrete Resurfacing Project, and Authorizing City Manager to Execute Contract

Acceptance of Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District 2024 Sacramento Emergency Clean Air Transportation Program Grant Funds for Electric Vehicle Fleet Replacement

Approve Resolution No. 25-005 - Authorizing the City Manager to Accept Grant Funding from the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District and to Increase Appropriations in Unallocated Fund 531

Independent Police Auditor Contract Extension

Approve Resolution No. 25-006 - Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Amendment #1 to the 2023-24 Contract with the OIR Group to Extend the Term for Independent Police Auditor Services

Amendment to Varsity Theater Lease

Approve Resolution No. 25-007 - Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Seventh Amendment to the City's Lease with Fenske/Novakovic, Inc. for the Varsity Theater, which (1) Shortens the Length of the Remaining Option Periods to One Year Each, and (2) Provides Rent Relief for 18 Months to Keep the Theater Open While the Tenant Develops, in Collaboration with the City, a Post-Pandemic Business Plan for the Theater During This Difficult Time for the Movie Industry

Davis Youth Softball Association (DYSA) Proposal to Install Batting Cage at Community Park

Approve Resolution No. 25-008 - Authorizing the City Manager and Designated Staff to Prepare and Execute All Agreements Necessary to Allow DYSA to Construct and Utilize a Batting Cage in Community Park

Revised Fiscal Year 2024/25 Authorized Position Listing and Revised Salary Table

1. Approve Resolution No. 25-009 - Approving Citywide Salary Table – Effective January 20, 2025
2. Approve Resolution No. 25-010 - Amending the Authorized Positions Listing for FY 2024/25

UC Davis Active Sensor Evaluation Study in the City of Davis

Informational. Receive a report on the Caltrans Active Sensor Evaluation study being conducted by UC Davis.

Surveillance Technology – Automated License Plate Readers/Public Safety Cameras

Informational. The Police Department is submitting this informational staff report on the consent calendar at least 30 days prior to asking the City Council to hold a public hearing for the Police Department's purchase/use of additional Fixed Public Safety Cameras and Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR).

Commission Minutes: Fiscal Commission Meeting of November 6, 2024
Informational.

J. Chapman moved, seconded by G. Partida, to approve the consent calendar as listed above. Motion passed unanimously.

Yolo Community Foundation Presentation on Arts and Culture Grant Funding

Yolo Community Foundation (YCF) Executive Director Jessica Hubbard: City provided funding to Davis arts and culture nonprofits adversely affected by the pandemic. Many organizations have only begun to recover in the last 1-2 years.

Program Manager Carolina Valverde: YCF disbursed \$500,000 to 20 local organizations. Majority of organizations used funds to pay staff salaries. YCF helps address ongoing needs by publicizing programming, workshops in marketing and grant writing, nonprofit board recruitment and organization, needs and strengths assessment. Nonprofit feedback included desire to increase diversity in programming and board membership.

Down Payment Assistance Framework

Assistant City Manager Kelly Stachowicz: Proposed ordinance provides framework should a down payment assistance program be created, would also require program-specific guidelines and funding. Summarized benefits and potential disadvantages.

Public comments:

- Georgina Valencia; Ellen Kalorik and Vera Sandronsky, Interfaith Housing Justice Davis; and Gayna Lamb-bang: Support. Council should use new sales tax to fund down payment assistance program with \$1 million annual allocation or \$2 million to Housing Trust Fund.
- Alan Miller: Oppose. Government money put into housing market will inflate housing market.
- Alan Hirsch: Support. Homeowners are invested in the community.
- Elaine Roberts-Musser, David Thompson, and Dan Carson: Oppose. Ongoing funding has not been identified. Should assist homeowners to access state and federal funding instead of creating something new. Send to Fiscal Commission to look at fiscal issues and Social Services Commission to prioritize what housing proposals they favor for Council prioritization. Administration could be costly.
- Ron Glick, Connor Gorman and Barbara Clutter: Support program. Should leverage all other funding available in this sphere, public and private.

B. Vaitla moved, seconded by L. Deos, as follows:

1. Introduce Ordinance Amending Section 18.05.020 (Definitions) and Adding a New Section 18.05.080 (Down Payment Assistance Program Framework) to Chapter 18 (Housing) to Establish a Framework for a Down Payment Assistance Program for Income-Eligible Households, amended as follows.

A. Add to (e) Assistance Amount: Clear affirmative duty that any assistance received under the Program shall be used only toward the purchase of a home in Davis.

2. Direct the Fiscal Subcommittee (Neville, Vaitla) to work with staff to include review of a down payment assistance program in discussions regarding budget priorities as the City prepares the upcoming biennial budget with recommendations to return to the City Council for consideration.
 - A. Subcommittee to work with staff in looking at potential funding sources and budget priorities. Subcommittee may consult with Fiscal Commission and Social Services Commission before or after amount of funding for affordable housing has been determined as they see fit.

J. Chapman proposed a Friendly Amendment: "Subcommittee will consult...". Accepted by mover and second.

Motion passed unanimously.

D. Neville moved, seconded by L. Deos, as follows:

1. Refer to the Fiscal Commission to assist in developing program guidelines for DPA, related to the following issues:
 - A. Best strategies for minimizing financial risk to City of Davis
 - B. Return with specific recommendations regarding program guidelines in section 5 of ordinance that will ensure program provides greatest benefit possible to the applicants
2. Refer to the Social Services Commission to return with recommendations regarding program guidelines specifically pertinent to affordable housing.

Motion passed unanimously.

City Council recessed at 8:55 p.m. and reconvened at 9:00 p.m.

2025-26 City Council Liaison Assignments

Assistant City Manager Kelly Stachowicz: Overview of liaison assignment process and Mayor recommendations for appointments

Public comment:

- Alan Hirsch: Should have an alternate member for Yolo County Transportation District (YCTD). Same councilmember should be assigned to both Transportation Commission and YCTD, consider transportation systems comprehensively. Council has subcommittees in existence for a long time—not ad hoc.

B. Vaitla suggest: Add L. Deos as YCTD Alternate. Council consensus. Ask J. Chapman to replace B. Vaitla on Shriners Subcommittee. J. Chapman agree.

D. Neville: Willing to continue serving on Yolo Animal Services JPA. Council consensus.

L. Deos moved, seconded by G. Partida, to approve the mayor's recommendations for Council liaison appointments for 2025-26 Council Liaison assignments with the modifications above. Motion passed unanimously.

AB 1234 Reporting

None

Long Range Calendar

M. Webb: Next meeting February 4.

B. Vaitla: Measure J/R/D Exemption discussion, would like that to come to Council soon.

Public comments:

- Alan Miller: Should increase free speech opportunities.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Zoe Mirabile
City Clerk