

MINUTES OF THE DAVIS CITY COUNCIL  
Meeting of August 19, 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: Linda Deos, Donna Neville, Gloria Partida, Bapu Vaitla

Councilmembers Absent: Josh Chapman

Other Officers Present: Interim City Manager Kelly Stachowicz, City Attorney Inder Khalsa, City Clerk Zoe Mirabile

Approval of Agenda L. Deos moved, seconded by D. Neville, to approve the agenda. Motion passed by the following vote:  
AYES: Deos, Neville, Partida, Vaitla  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Chapman

Ceremonial Presentations A. Proclamation Recognizing August as Breastfeeding Month, presented by G. Partida  
B. Proclamation Recognizing September as National Recovery Month, presented by D. Neville

City Council recessed at 6:35 p.m. and reconvened at 6:42 p.m.

City Manager Announcements Interim City Manager Kelly Stachowicz: August 16—Natalie’s Corner grand opening, will be open 10am-7pm every day during the summer. August 25—first day of school for DJUSD, reminder to community about bike and pedestrian safety. September 1—City offices closed in observance of Labor Day. September 12—commission recruitment deadline. October 2—surveys due for City’s application to League of American Bicyclists for continued certification. October 5—Davis Neighbors Night Out, registration is open to host a neighborhood party. October 11—Tickets on sale for parent/child dance “Boo Bash,” costumes encouraged.

City Council Announcements and Liaison Reports D. Neville: Attended Yolo Animal Services JPA Planning Agency, discussing governance model and considering modification to a full JPA model.

Public Comments • Lois Wolk: Natalie’s Corner Splash Pad is open and enjoyed by residents of all ages. Support efforts by Council, staff, and Natalie Corona

Committee. Regular item Unmet Needs for City Trees and Sidewalks—oppose concept of privatization of trees and sidewalks.

- Dorte Jensen: City press release on Report of Grants for Hate Free Together Arts Initiative. One event was a play about a recall effort in Woodland. Tax payer dollars should not be used for political activities.
- Ning Wan: Concerned about political activities of foreign countries.
- Alan Miller: Concerned about community tensions.
- Beth Bourne: August 30 event at Davis Library will feature talk about de-transitioning.
- Unnamed individuals: Support safe parking lots for unhoused individuals. Need more permanent supportive housing and facility improvements at Respite Center.
- Alan Hirsch: Need guardrails on what can be said in a civil society.
- Shoshanna Zatz and Barbara Clutter, Heart of Davis: Consent calendar item—Response to Grand Jury Report on Homelessness and Update on Implementation of Camping Ordinance. City needs to increase services for unhoused, additional hours for Respite Center, facility improvements.
- Connor Gorman and Alanna: Consent calendar items—Grand Jury Report and Implementation of Camping Ordinance. Oppose. People should not be penalized for living and sleeping outside. Need affordable accessible housing and adequate shelter options.

Consent Calendar

Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Program of Projects and Subrecipient Agreement for Operations and Capital Assistance of Unitrans  
Approve Resolution No. 25-120 - Approving FTA Program of Projects, and 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

Public Transportation Agency Safety Plans (PTASP) Annual Certification for Unitrans and Davis Community Transit  
Approve Resolution No. 25-121 - Certifying the PTASP for Davis Community Transit and Unitrans

Caltrans Master Agreement for Receipt of State and Federal Grant Funds for Various Projects and a Program Supplement Agreement for the Cowell Boulevard Improvements Project, CIP No. ET0036  
Approve Resolution No. 25-122 - Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Master Agreement Allowing for the Receipt of State and Federal Grant Funds for Various Projects with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and a Supplemental Agreement for Cowell Boulevard Improvements Project, CIP No. ET0036

Caltrans Sustainable Communities Planning Grant Program Award and Restricted Grant Agreement for the Development of an Active Transportation Plan

Approve Resolution No. 25-123 - Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for the Development of an Active Transportation Plan

Traffic Impact Study Guidelines

Approve Resolution No. 25-124 - Adopting the 2025 Traffic Impact Study Guidelines

Acceptance of Grant Funds from California Highway Patrol, Cannabis Tax Fund Grant Program

Approve Resolution No. 25-125 - Accepting California Highway Patrol Cannabis Tax Fund Grant and Amending the Fiscal Year 25-26 Budget to Incorporate Funding Received

Professional Services Agreement for Update of the City's Laboratory Information Management Systems (LIMS)

1. Find that due to the need to comply with the new National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit requirements for the City's Wastewater Treatment Facility that became effective August 1, 2025, the City's LIMS database needs immediate updating to comply with electronic reporting requirements, extensive re-configuration due to the increase in monitoring and reporting requirements by the new NPDES Permit, and to meet full LIMS capability for the day-to-day operation of the City's Laboratory.
2. Approve Resolution No. 25-126 - Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Professional Services Agreement with LABWORKS for Updates to the City's LIMS

Sewer System Management Plan Update

Approve Resolution No. 25-127 - Adopting Updates to the Sewer System Management Plan for the City of Davis

Reimbursement Agreements for Water Main and Storm Drain Pump Station Improvements at the Bretton Woods Subdivision

Approve Resolution No. 25-128 - Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Reimbursement Agreements with Denova Homes for Water Main and Storm Drain Pump Station Improvements at the Bretton Woods Subdivision

Agreement for Specialized Legal Services Related to Labor Negotiations, Payroll, Benefits and Payroll Taxation

Approve Resolution No. 25-129 - Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Agreement with Best Best & Kreiger for Specialized Legal Services

Amendment to Professional Services Agreement for Management of the City's Investment Portfolio

Approve Resolution No. 25-130 - Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Amendment #2 to the Professional Services Agreement with US Bancorp Asset Management (Previously PFM Asset Management)

Amendment to Professional Services Agreement for Accounting Services  
Approve Resolution No. 25-131 - Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Amendment #2 with SRYAN Consulting LLC to Extend Contract for Accounting Services

Revised Fiscal Year 2025/26 Authorized Position Listing and Salary Table Effective August 19, 2025

1. Approve Resolution No. 25-132 - Approving Citywide Salary Table
2. Approve Resolution No. 25-133 - Amending the Authorized Positions Listing for Fiscal Year 2025/26

City Council Meeting Schedule for Legislative Year 2025-2026  
Approve Resolution No. 25-134 - Establishing Meeting Dates for Legislative Year 2025-2026

Second Reading: Ordinance Amending Article 39.04 "Cross-Connection Control" of Chapter 39, "Water," of the Davis Municipal Code, Related to Changes in Program Regulations, and Making a Determination of Exemption Under CEQA Pursuant to Sections 15061(B)(3) and 15308  
Adopt Ordinance No. 2676 (Introduced 07/01/2025)

City Response to 2025 Yolo Grand Jury Report on Homelessness  
Approve City response to the Yolo County Grand Jury for the report titled *Homelessness: Our Local American Tragedy*, and direct staff to transmit responses to the Grand Jury

Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2026  
Authorize Mayor to sign letter of support for the Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2026

City Manager Purchasing and Approval Authorization During Council Recess – Summary of Actions  
Informational to receive accounting of actions taken by City Manager with additional approval authority granted via Resolution 25-119 during summer 2025 Council recess.

Update on Implementation of Camping Ordinance  
Informational

Commission Minutes:

1. Recreation and Park Commission Meeting of May 21, 2025

2. Transportation Commission Meeting of May 12, 2025  
Informational

D. Neville moved, seconded by G. Partida, to approve the consent calendar. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Deos, Neville, Partida, Vaitla

NOES: None

ABSENT: Chapman

City Manager Appointment and Employment Agreement – Daryel R. Dunston Human Resources Director Christopher Bensch: Summarized contract provisions in employment agreement.

Public comments:

Beth Bourne, Ning Wan, Alan Miller, Alan Hirsch, Nora Goldman: Welcome to new City Manager.

D. Neville moved, seconded by G. Partida, to approve Resolution No. 25-135 - Approving the Appointment of and Employment Agreement with City Manager and Authorizing Mayor to Execute Said Agreement. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Deos, Neville, Partida, Vaitla

NOES: None

ABSENT: Chapman

City Council recessed at 7:36 and reconvened at 7:42 p.m.

2025 General Plan Update: Environmental Justice (EJ) Considerations  
Eric Yurkovich, Raimi + Associates: Overview of state law regarding disadvantaged communities screening. Sensitive populations + high pollution and/or health burden = disadvantaged community. Two options: stand-alone EJ element or EJ policies throughout GP.

General Plan (GP) Committee Formation  
Professor Jonathan London, UCD Department of Human Ecology/Community and Regional Development: Class project to develop EJ framework and policy tracker. Hilde Cabilla-Garcia, Katie Casters, and Eric: UCD students: Working to develop suggestions for policy considerations through surveys, focus groups, and research.

Community Development Director Sherri Metzker: GP Committee process—6 commissions identified for membership, purpose to resolve internal conflicts. Overview of proposed application and appointment process.

Public comments:

- Alan Hirsch: Sound and visual impacts should be considered in environmental justice policies. Need to enforce tree requirements.
- Benton Buker: Consider environmental impacts in 25 years such as increased heat index, need to provide drinking water for residents.

- Beth Bourne: Question why city would coordinate with UC Davis to perform equity work when UCD has lost federal government funding due to its equity policies.
- Alan Miller: General Plan policies need to be implemented.
- Ron Glick: The most uncomfortable speech should be the most protected speech.
- Katie Casters: Should consider presenting all options to council, instead of having General Plan committee resolve issues.
- Connor Gorman: Support General Plan committee. Consider non-commissioners on committee. Should include environmental justice policies in General Plan even if not legally required. Support remedies to environmental justice impacts such as parks, facilities, and affordable housing.

L. Deos moved, seconded by D. Neville, to approve the proposed General Plan committee process; membership to be 2 members from the 6 selected commissions and one additional member from one of the 6 commissions. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Deos, Neville, Partida, Vaitla

NOES: None

ABSENT: Chapman

Environmental Justice topics for Council feedback:

1. Critical EJ issues to address
2. Comments on draft disadvantaged communities screening methodology or maps

Councilmember feedback included:

- GP must be clear to average person, easy to use, organized logically, accessible.
- Integrate EJ into General Plan, not stand alone element.
- Consider both stand alone and integrated EJ.
- May need to reconsider priorities of EJ every few years. Issues that most affect health and well-being should be prioritized.
- Request information on proposed policies from other jurisdictions that address targeted impacts of hazards in designated areas.

City Council recessed at 9:01 p.m. and reconvened at 9:09 p.m.

Unmet  
Maintenance  
Needs for  
City Trees  
and Side-  
walks: Short-

Assistant City Manager Stan Gryczko: Overview of existing programs and services for city trees and sidewalks. Summarized short term programmatic changes: City Trees: prioritization of new inventory, reduction of service request-based City tree work, and modification of proactive City tree pruning work; Sidewalks: creation of a sidewalk inspection program. Long term options will involve significant adjustments.

Term Program Adjustments and Review of Long-Term Changes for Council Discussion

Public comments:

- Alan Hirsch: Should seek UC Davis resources to mitigate infrastructure problems. Prioritize tree work and tree replacements. Staff should collaborate with community experts and conduct more public engagement.
- Greg McPherson: San Francisco adopted a ballot measure to increase funding for tree program three-fold to allow city to maintain trees. Should consider increasing revenue.
- Ann Daniel, Don Shor, Anya McCann, Tree Davis Board: City partnership with Tree Davis is critical. Should ensure no net loss of tree canopy. Support updated tree inventory to ensure equitable distribution of trees across all neighborhoods. Need additional funding to replace trees that are aging out or unsuitable.
- Yael Franco, Tree Davis: Important to have highest professional standards for tree pruning.
- Alan Miller: Request stump at 204 J Street be removed and a replacement tree planted. Support Tree Davis activities.
- William Shoen: Support Urban Forest Management Plan. Need long term plan for planting aligned with long term vision. Support city and Tree Davis working together.
- Connor Gorman: Issues of equity and accessibility. Sidewalk maintenance is more important than road maintenance. Topics should be discussed by commissions.

Councilmember feedback included:

- Trees: Formalize program for homeowners to adopt trees, return to Council with 1) information on new developments and tree ownership/potential Community Facilities Districts, 2) revenue measure options, and 3) update to fees and penalties.
- Sidewalks—Return to Council with ordinance to be consistent with state law and authorize code enforcement, provide options for sidewalk inspection program.
- More information on budgetary impacts.

AB 1234 Reporting

None

Long Range Calendar

K. Stachowicz: Staff will work with Mayor to rearrange items between 3 September meetings, move Homelessness Ecosystem from 9/2 to 9/16.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m. in memory of Milly Bronstein.

Zoe Mirabile  
City Clerk