

MINUTES

City of Lakewood
Measure L Citizens Oversight Committee
Mayfair Park Activity Room – 5720 Clark Ave., Lakewood, CA
March 16, 2022
6:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bradlee Crihfield at 6:01 p.m. in the Activity Room at the Mayfair Park, 5720 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

PRESENT: Bradlee Crihfield, Chair, Greater Lakewood Chamber of Commerce
Crystal Jones-Duncan, Vice Chair, City Council Appointee, Seniors
Steve Croft, Chair, City Council Audit Committee
Vicki Stuckey, Member, City Council Audit Committee
Mina Carrasco, City Council Appointee, Neighborhood Watch
Cassandra Chase, Lakewood Jaycees
Jeannie Clark, City Council Appointee, At-Large
Cindy Jarvis, City Council Appointee, Youth
Ron Piazza, City Council Appointee, Business Community

ALSO PRESENT: Paolo Beltran, Deputy City Manager
Jose Gomez, Director of Finance and Administrative Services
Kelli Tunnicliff, Deputy Director of Public Works
Sam Chambers, Asst. Project Manager, Public Works
Barbara Di Iorio, Executive Secretary

I. Approval of Minutes from September 8, 2021 Meeting

It was moved by Member Croft and seconded by Member Stuckey, and carried without objection, to approve the September, 2021 minutes of the Measure L Citizens Oversight Committee (Committee).

II. Review of Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for Year Ending on June 30, 2021

Director Gomez provided a report, supported with slides displayed, that provided a snapshot of the city's fiscal condition as included in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). This is the city's formal report with audited figures of the year's fiscal activity as of June 30, 2021. The report requires an audit and opinion provided by an independent CPA firm with a presentation to the City Council, among other things, completed in December 2021. Director Gomez explained that the ACFR compared and contrasted the city's projected General Fund balance. He noted that a \$2.6 million General Fund surplus was originally projected with the ACFR now reflecting an actual General Fund surplus of \$8 million, bringing available fund balance reserves to \$32.4 million. Turning to the current year, a midyear budget review of the FY 2021-22 General Fund reflects a projected surplus of \$3.1 million, or \$2.4 million more than expected. Director Gomez also presented the city's sales tax revenue history for fiscal years 2007 to 2022, which highlight the impact of Measure L on the city's finances. Committee Member Croft stated that it is important to point out that the figures shown indicate that without Measure L, city services would have necessitated reductions and infrastructure needs would have required further deferment. Deputy City Manager Beltran stated that the ACFR is available on the city's website.

III. Status of Capital Improvement Projects funded by Measure L

Mr. Beltran introduced Public Works Department staff Kelli Tunnicliff and Sam Chambers. Member Croft explained that long-time Public Works Director Lisa Rapp is retiring, and he welcomed Ms. Tunnicliff as the Deputy Director of Public Works.

Ms. Tunnicliff displayed slides that showed the 5 Year Measure L Funding Program, and projects in their various stages. The 5 Year Funding Program slide showed how much money is remaining each year after appropriations are made to planned projects. It was clarified for Chairperson Carihfield that \$3M of Measure L funds is allocated for Capital Improvement Projects. Member Croft explained that the city needs to build up some reserve to be able to afford entire projects and for true cost of projects and unforeseen needs.

Projects currently under construction were reviewed. These include the replacement of restroom roof structures and new picnic shelters at Rynerson Park, and improvements to ADA parking, picnic shelters and the tot lot playground at San Martin Park. Member Croft noted that the picnic shelters at Rynerson Park were in such poor condition, that they had to be demolished until now. Mr. Beltran stated that a Measure L banner has been posted at San Martin Park to let residents know that the improvements have been made possible, due to Measure L.

Projects under study or design were explained. The City Hall Public Works and Community Development departments counter replacement and shared space renovation is in the design stage and will make the area ADA compliant. Also under study is the replacement of the construction trailer behind City Hall with a new modular building, including restrooms, that will house some Public Works and Community Development staff – Measure L and ARPA funds will be used for this project. Electrical, roofing and HVAC improvements at various parks and city buildings are being studied. And the possibility of generator replacements at The Centre and City Hall using ARPA funds is also being studied.

Weingart Senior Center improvements and renovation of the Palms Park Community Center are also projects in the planning stage. The current estimated budget for improvements to the Weingart Senior Center is \$2.2 million and include a new HVAC system, flooring throughout the facility, additional hearing loops in the multi-use, assembly and card rooms, as well as various ADA improvements. The city has \$1.3 million from Measure L funds for this project and have requested \$2 million in appropriations from elected officials, who can “ earmark ” funds for projects in their district. The city must wait to hear if funds get appropriated to Lakewood.

Renovation of the Palms Park Community Center estimated at \$5 million, and complete demolition and rebuilding of the facility is estimated at \$8 million. City staff recommends proceeding with renovation of the facility given the fact that \$3 million in Measure L funds are secured, as well as an additional \$2 million that has been appropriated from State Assembly Member Anthony Rendon. Potential scope of work for the renovation project include a new HVAC system, electrical infrastructure improvements, various ADA improvements, new flooring throughout the facility, roof replacement, mitigation of bee infestation, and replacement of various other damaged or antiquated components of the building.

In response to committee members’ questions, it was explained that input from the public was solicited approximately four years ago with regard to services and uses that are desired at the facility. Residents will be surveyed again and community involvement will be requested

at certain stages of the planning process, both in person and via the new FlashVote survey system.

To let residents know how Measure L has been helping the city, a Measure L Report Card will be sent to all residents.

IV. Public Comment

There were no members of the public present to comment.

V. Committee Member Comments

Vice Chairperson Jones-Duncan commended staff on a job well done. Member Croft referred to the spreadsheet provided by staff listing all of the projects planned. He noted that although we are posting signs for the public to see when projects get underway, the enhancements made that can not be seen will be noticed and appreciated by facility patrons upon completion.

VI. Adjournment

Chairperson Crihfield adjourned the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Di Iorio
Executive Secretary