

MINUTES

City of Lakewood
Measure L Citizens Oversight Committee
5000 Clark Avenue, Maple Room
March 17, 2021
6:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Council Member Steve Croft at 6:07 p.m. in the Maple Room at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

PRESENT: Steve Croft, Chair, City Council Audit Committee
Vicki Stuckey, Member, City Council Audit Committee
Bradlee Crihfield, Greater Lakewood Chamber of Commerce
Crystal Jones-Duncan, City Council Appointee, Seniors
Ron Piazza, City Council Appointee, Business Community (via Zoom)
Mina Carrasco, City Council Appointee, Neighborhood Watch
Jeannie Clark, City Council Appointee, At-Large

ALSO PRESENT: Thaddeus McCormack, City Manager
Paolo Beltran, Deputy City Manager
Steve Skolnik, Office of the City Attorney (via Zoom)
Jose Gomez, Director of Finance and Administrative Services
Lisa Rapp, Director of Public Works (via Zoom)
Barbara Di Iorio, Executive Secretary

I. Approval of Minutes from March 17, 2021 Meeting

It was moved by Member Stuckey and seconded by Member Jones-Duncan, and carried without objection, to approve the March 17, 2021 minutes of the Measure L Citizens Oversight Committee (Committee).

II. Adoption of Committee Bylaws and Election of Officers

Staff reported that the bylaws of the Committee were approved by the Lakewood City Council on December 8, 2020, and that it must be adopted by the Committee. Each article of the bylaws were reviewed with the Committee.

It was moved by Chair Croft and seconded by Member Stuckey, and carried with a unanimous roll call vote, to adopt the Measure L Citizens Oversight Committee Bylaws.

Staff explained that the bylaws require the election of a chairperson and vice chairperson to serve as officers for the remainder of their terms.

Member Piazza nominated and Member Jones-Duncan seconded Bradlee Crihfield to serve as chairperson of the Committee. The nomination was carried without objection.

Member Croft nominated and Member Stuckey seconded Crystal Jones-Duncan to serve as vice chairperson of the Committee. The nomination was carried without objection.

III. Overview/Role/Perspective of Measure L Citizens Oversight Committee Members

Chairperson Crihfield introduced the items and Mr. McCormack provided a report that included:

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- The Committee's mission is to provide additional transparency through oversight of Measure L by reviewing revenues and expenditures generated by the measure.
- The Committee is scheduled to meet twice a year to coincide with the timing of the city's budget adoption process.
- The committee is charged to ensure that the city is keeping its word about how revenue from Measure L is being spent commensurate with the promise that was made to the public.
- Measure L will provide the funds to support essential services that protect residents' quality of life, including Sheriff's patrols, keeping roads and parks in good condition, and supporting youth and senior programs. With infrastructure needs, Measure L will provide the funds to begin addressing the backlog of repairs needed.

In response to Member Piazza's question, Mr. McCormack reported that approximately one-third of the budget is earmarked for quality of life services, and the remaining two-thirds for infrastructure repairs. It was further explained that \$3 million will be available to spend at the beginning the next fiscal year, July 1, 2021.

IV. Overview of Financial Information

Mr. Gomez provided a report, supported with slides displayed, that explained the how sales tax revenue works. He explained that the "Bradley Burns" tax, is basic sales tax that the city receives from brick and mortar businesses. Transaction Tax is the .75% that the city receives from Measure L. Mr. Gomez also educated the Committee on difference between the City Budget and CAFR (Comprehensive Annual Financial Report) noting that the budget is what the city planned, and CAFR is how the plans turned out.

The financial performance of FY 2019-20, the General Fund midyear budget for FY 2020-21, sales tax revenue history for FY 2007 through 2022, and Measure L sales tax revenue were all reviewed.

V. Capital Improvement Projects funded by Measure L

Slides were displayed and a report was presented by Ms. Rapp that provided detailed information regarding the city's Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The report included information on staff's review of facilities' needs; an overview of the CIP Committee Workplan; explanation of funding as of December 2020; an overview of the proposed CIP Plan and supplemental appropriations; proposed details for projects already underway, those in design stage, need projects, and building infrastructure projects. A few different scenarios and a strategic infrastructure plan were reviewed to address CIP programming into the future.

VI. Public Comment

There were no members of the public present to comment.

VII. Committee Member Comment

Committee Member Jones-Duncan commented that the reports were very informative. Committee Member Clark noted how impressed she was and that she had no idea that so much was going on.

Chairperson Crihfield inquired how the public will know that the essential services part of the Committee's mission is being carried out. Mr. McCormack responded that it will be reported in the Budget Summary by maintaining Sheriff patrols and providing non-sworn personnel to add to Public Safety services.

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In response to Committee Member Carrasco's inquiry, Mr. McCormack stated that Measure L money is protected, so the state cannot take that part of our tax revenue.

VIII. Adjournment

Chairperson Crihfield adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Di Iorio
Executive Secretary