



Additional Documents List Regular City Council Meeting September 15, 2021

Item No.	Agenda Item Description	Distributor	Document
11	Award a Contract to Allsup Corporation in a not-to-exceed amount of \$36,501.37 for Repair of the Compressed Natural Gas Compressor and Appropriate \$36,502 from Proposition C Funds	Shahid Abbas, Director of Public Works	Memo provides revised address of the City Attorney
12	Approve Contract Extension to Eurofins Eaton Analytical, LLC, in a not-to-exceed amount of \$33,000 for Laboratory Testing and Analysis of Potable Water Samples; Direct Preparation of Request for Proposal for City-wide Water Quality Sampling	Shahid Abbas, Director of Public Works	Memo provides revision to designated Agreement Administrator.
15	Award of Contract to EVGateway for the Installation of an Electric Vehicle Charging Station at City Hall for a not-to-exceed Amount of \$90,000.00 using Proposition C Funds and a Grant under Local Government Partnership Program from South Coast Air Quality Management District and Appropriation of Fund	Shahid Abbas, Director of Public Works	Memo provides clarity to the Scope of Work.
17	2021-2029 Housing Element Update	Margaret Lin, Interim Planning and Community Development Director	Revision to PowerPoint Presentation
	Public Comment Nos. 2, 16, 17	Lucie Colombo, City Clerk	Emailed Public Comment



City of South Pasadena Public Works Department

Memo

Date: September 14, 2021

To: The Honorable City Council

Via: Arminé Chaparyan, City Manager

From: Shahid Abbas, Director of Public Works

Re: September 15, 2021 City Council Meeting Item No. 11 Additional Document – Award a Contract to Allsup Corporation in a not-to-exceed amount of \$36,501.37 for Repair of the Compressed Natural Gas Compressor and Appropriate \$36,502 from Proposition C Funds

Attached is an additional document which includes the revised address of the City Attorney.

Andrew L. Jared
South Pasadena City Attorney
Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC
~~300 South Grand Ave., Ste. 2700~~
~~Los Angeles, CA 90071-3137~~
790 E Colorado, Suite 850
Pasadena, CA 91101
Los Angeles, CA 90071-3137
Telephone: (213) 542-5700
Facsimile: (213) 542-5710



City of South Pasadena Public Works Department

Memo

Date: September 14, 2021
To: The Honorable City Council
Via: Arminé Chaparyan, City Manager
From: Shahid Abbas, Public Works Director
Re: September 15, 2021 City Council Meeting Additional Document for Item No. 12: APPROVE CONTRACT EXTENSION (SECOND AMENDMENT) TO EUROFINS EATON ANALYTICAL, LLC, IN A NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$33,000 FOR LABORATORY TESTING AND ANALYSIS OF POTABLE WATER SAMPLES; DIRECT PREPARATION OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR CITY-WIDE WATER QUALITY SAMPLING.

Attached is an additional document revising the Staff Report Attachment No. 2: Proposed Second Amendment to Eurofins Eaton Analytical, LLC Professional Services Agreement, to include the current Deputy Public Works Director as the Agreement Administrator, and the current City Attorney as the recipient of courtesy notices.

Red-lined changes shown below:

1. PAYMENT FOR SERVICES. That Section 3 of the Agreement is hereby amended to read as follows:

The Agreement Administrator for this project is H. Ted Gerber, Deputy Public Works Director.

The maximum amount payable under the terms of this Agreement, including expenses, for the period from September 15, 2021 to June 30, 2022 shall not exceed \$33,000.

2. NOTICES. That Section 14 of the Agreement is hereby amended to read as follows:

If to City

H. Ted Gerber
City of South Pasadena
Department of Public Works

If to Consultant

Colin Walters
Eurofins Eaton Analytical, Inc.
750 Royal Oaks Drive, #100

1414 Mission Street
South Pasadena, CA 91030
Telephone: (626) 403-7240
Facsimile: (626) 403-7241

Monrovia, CA 91016
Telephone: (626) 386-1100
Facsimile: (626) 386-1101

With courtesy copy to:

Andrew L. Jared
South Pasadena City Attorney
Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC
790 E. Colorado Blvd. Ste. 850
Pasadena, CA 91101
Telephone: (213) 542-5700
Facsimile: (213) 542-5710



**City of South Pasadena
Public Works Department**

Memo

Date: September 14, 2021
To: The Honorable City Council
Via: Arminé Chaparyan, City Manager
From: Shahid Abbas, Public Works Director
Re: September 15, 2021 City Council Meeting Additional Document for Item No. 15: AWARD OF CONTRACT TO EVGATEWAY FOR THE INSTALLATION OF AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION AT CITY HALL FOR A NOT-TOEXCEED AMOUNT OF \$90,000.00 USING PROPOSITION C FUNDS AND A GRANT UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM FROM SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (AQMD) AND APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS.

Attached is an additional document revising the Staff Report Attachment No. 2: EVGateway Construction Services Agreement, to clarify two items in the scope of work.

Red-lined changes shown below:

Exhibit A

Scope of Work

...

- Construct the base mount with concrete and prepare it for installation of EV charger. ~~Preparing the base mount structure with concrete.~~

...

- Provision and installation of charging station electrical grounding equipment. ~~Providing the earthing to the charging station.~~

2021-2029 Housing Element Update

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 15, 2021

Agenda

- Housing Element Requirements
- Sites Inventory
 - Range of Densities
 - Affordable Housing Overlay
 - City-Owned Sites
- Goals/Policies
- Next Steps

Housing Element Requirements

- Housing Needs Assessment
- Housing Constraints
- Housing Development Resources
- Review of 2014 Housing Element Performance
- Housing Plan

Sites Inventory

RHNA Requirement

Vacant Sites

Underutilized Sites

Density Increases

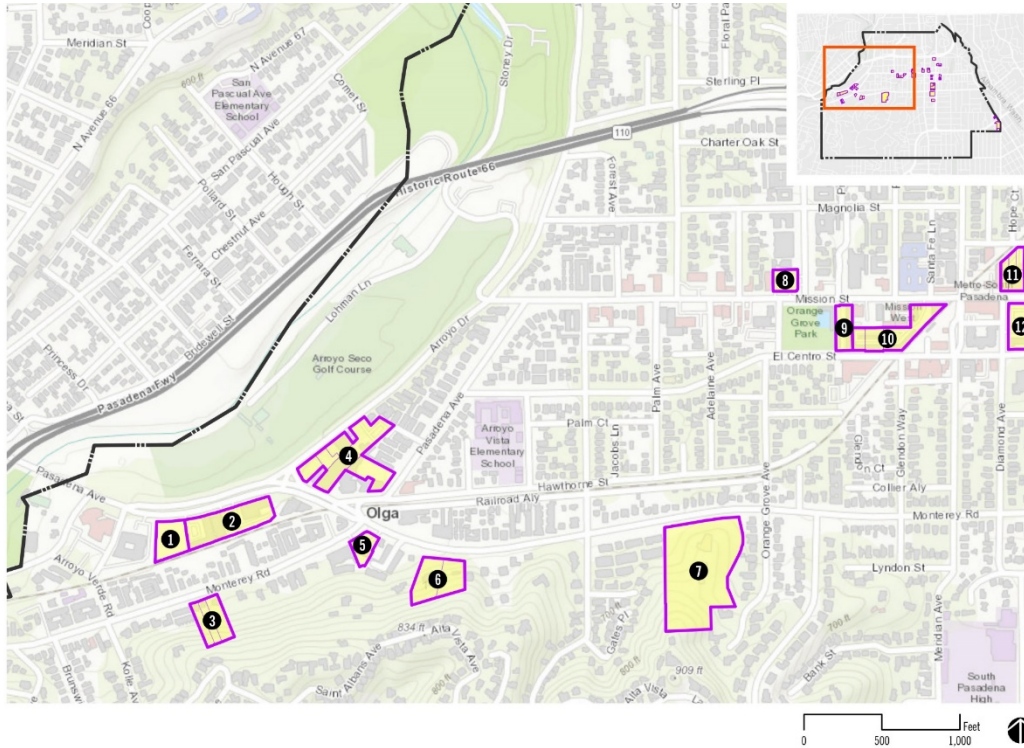
Zoning Changes

Accessory Dwelling Units

Sites Inventory

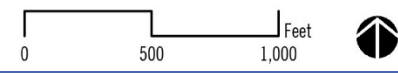
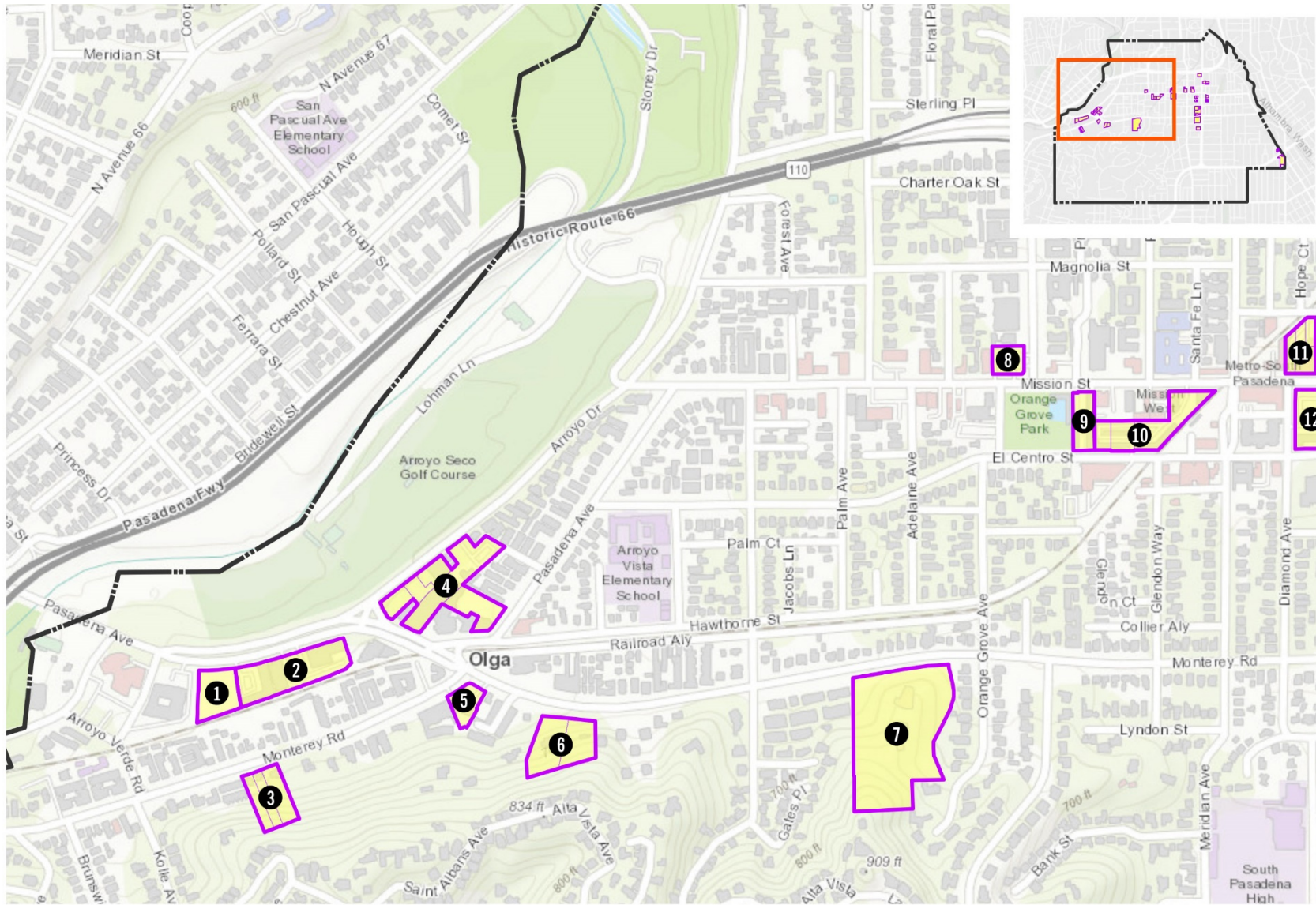
Income Group	Projected Accessory Dwelling Units	Units on Vacant and Non-Vacant Sites with Suitable Zoning	Units on Vacant Sites Needing Zoning Changes	Units on Non-Vacant Sites Needing Zoning Changes	Total RHNA Capacity	Total RHNA Required	Surplus RHNA
Extremely Low	45	0	70	884	1,157	1,155	2
Very Low	27						
Low	131						
Moderate	6	42	0	383	431	334	97
Above Moderate	88	253	0	426	767	578	189
TOTAL	297	295	70	1,693	2,355	2,067	288

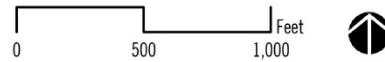
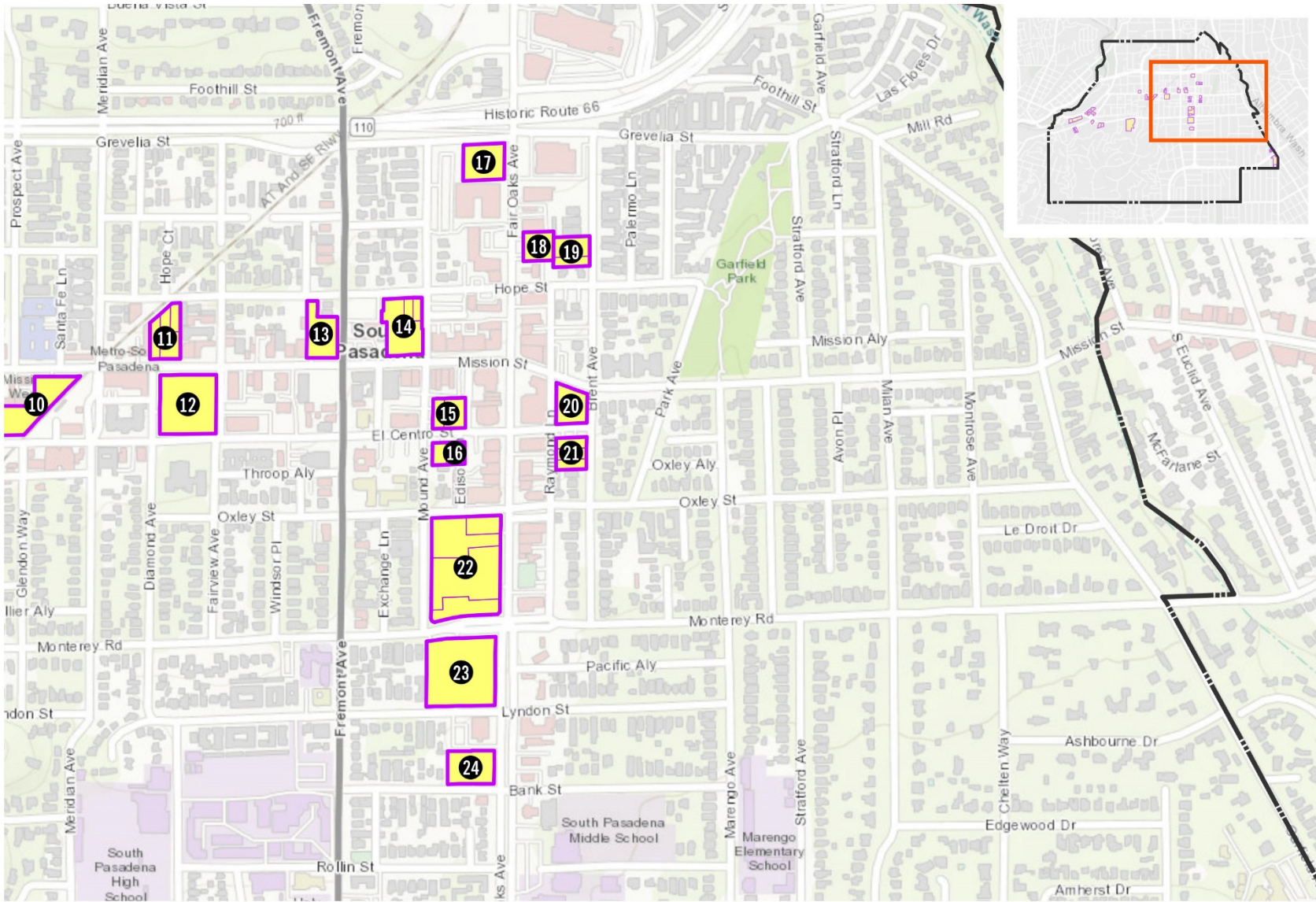
Range of Densities

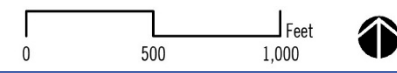
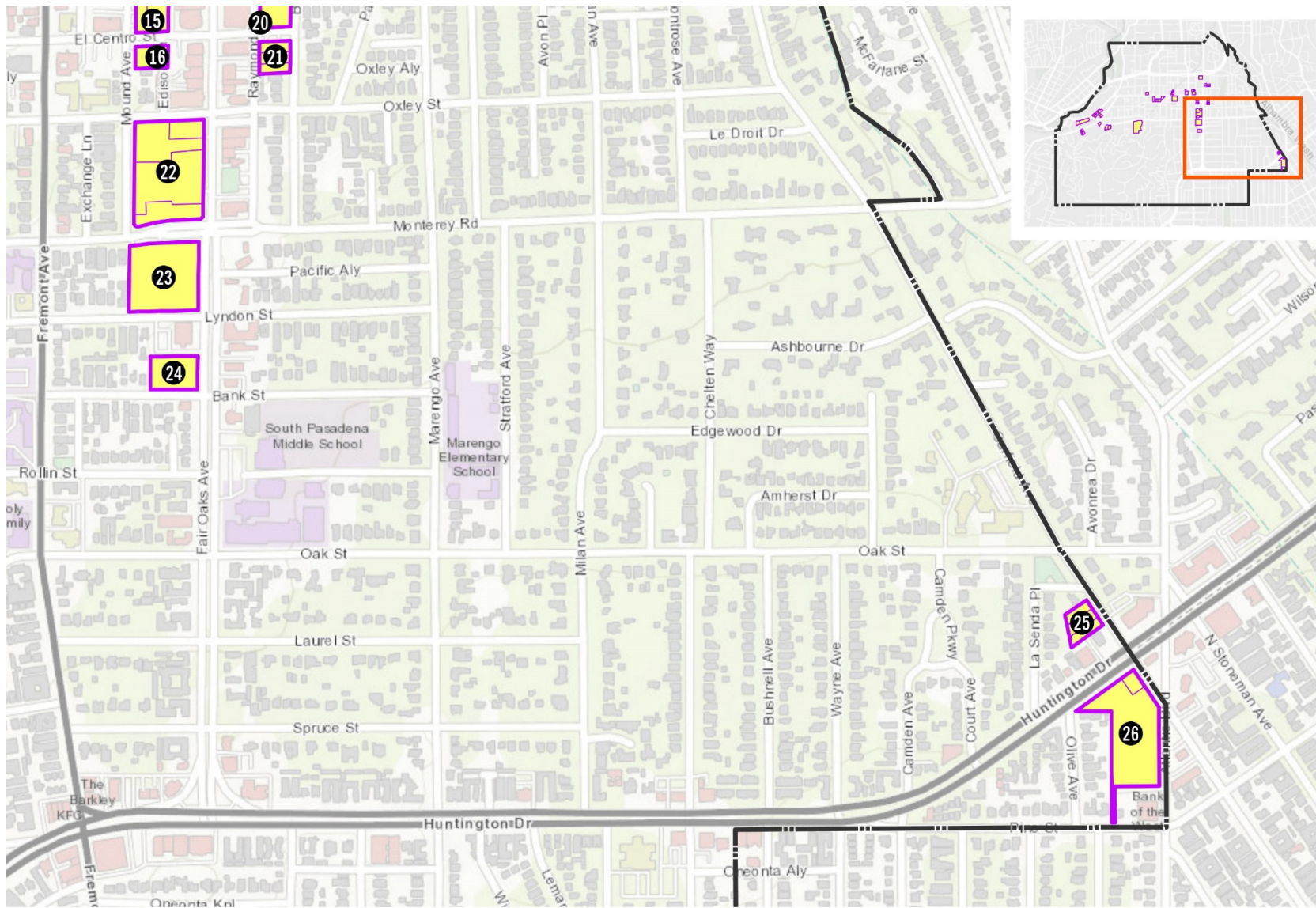


DISCUSSION POINTS

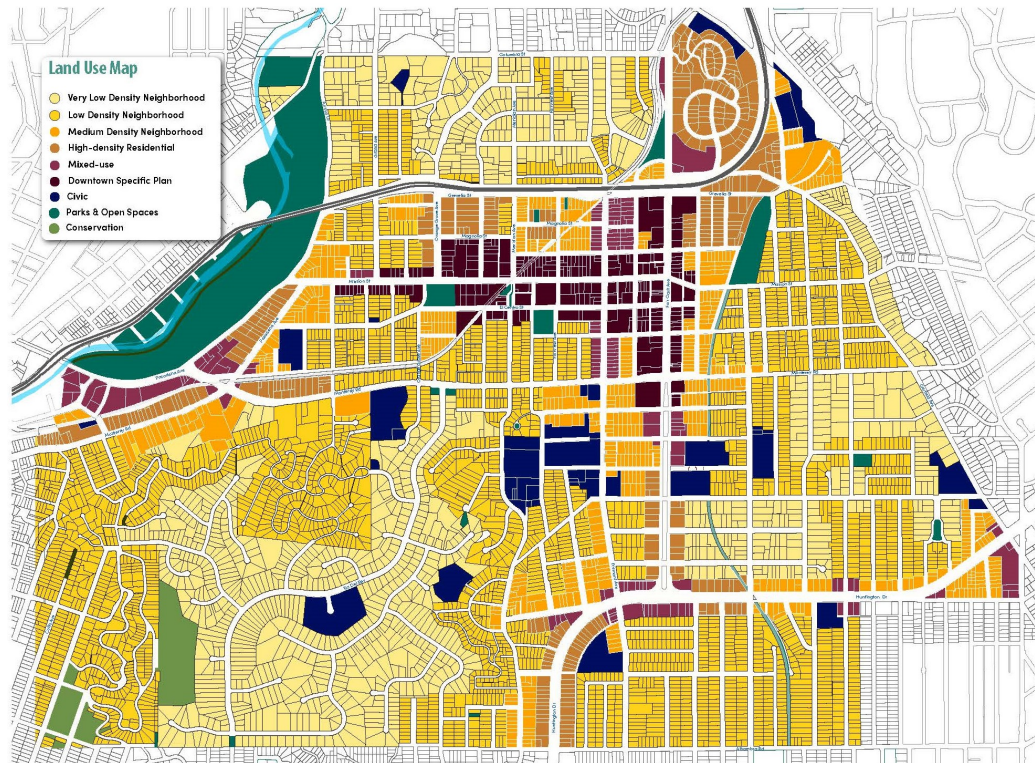
- Mission Street – 50 dwelling units/acre
- Fair Oaks Avenue – 60 dwelling units/acre
- Height Sites – 70 dwelling units/acre (12 potential sites identified)







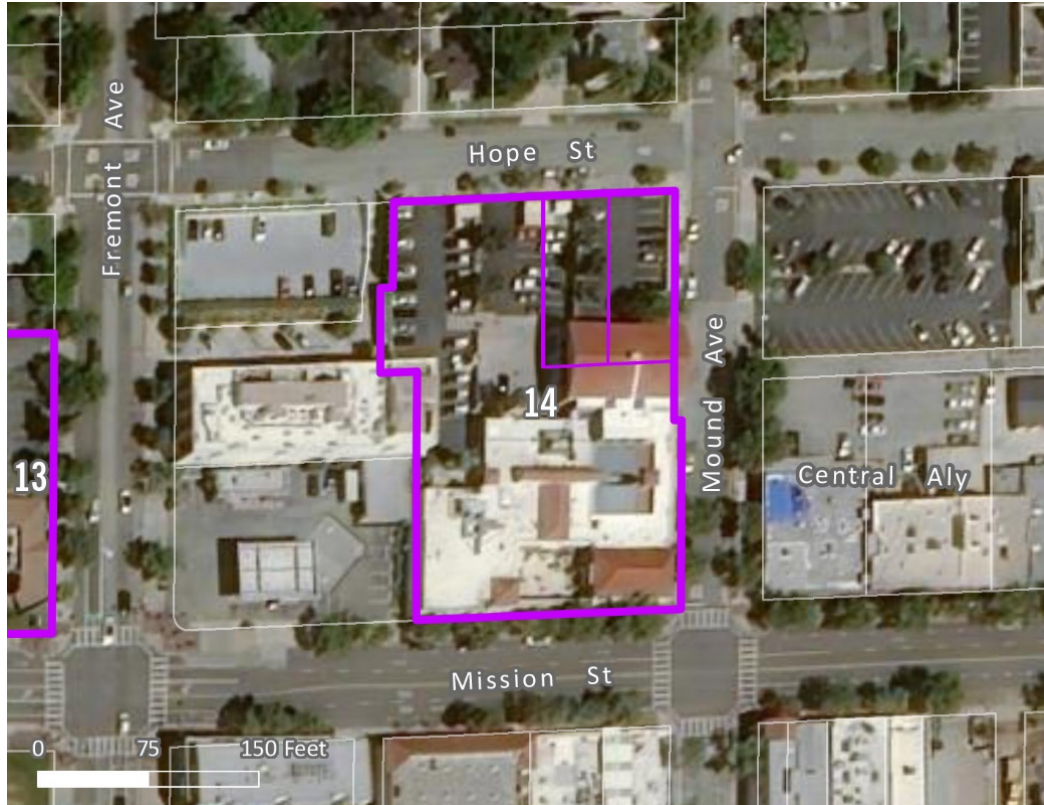
Affordable Housing Overlay



DISCUSSION POINTS

- Affordable Housing Overlay – 30 dwelling units/acre (does not provide additional units in the Housing Element for certification, however, this will help with the implementation); we have additional time to refine overlay beyond the release of the public review draft
 - Adjacent to transit
 - Access to major arterials
 - Buffer between higher densities

City-Owned Sites



DISCUSSION POINTS

- 100% Affordable Housing

Goal 1: Conserve the Existing Housing Stock and Maintain Standards of Livability

- Policy 1.1 – “...provide incentives for building owners to upgrade energy conservation in existing buildings... to reduce energy costs to residents.”
- Policy 1.2 – “Promote rehabilitation... and home improvement assistance to low- and moderate-income households.”
- Policy 1.3 – “use the City’s code enforcement program to bring substandard units into compliance with City codes and improve overall housing conditions in South Pasadena.”
- Policy 1.4 – “Prevent the encroachment of incompatible uses and/or densities into some established residential areas consistent with the goals and policies of the General Plan Land Use Element. “

Goal 2: Assist in the Provision of Affordable Housing

- Policy 2.1 – “Use local, regional, and state funding to assist in development of new multifamily housing for low- and moderate-income households.”
- Policy 2.2 – “Provide information to developers regarding the City’s inclusionary housing requirements and the availability of streamlined density bonus opportunities... and implement approval processes that reflect the priority of providing housing in the community.”
- Policy 2.3 – “Provide residents with information to receive rental assistance... and other support for tenants from the Housing Rights Center.”
- Policy 2.4 – “Encourage the development of housing types that offer options for seniors to remain within the community...”
- Policy 2.5 – “Provide adequate access to housing that supports educational and economic opportunities for all, as well as transit options...”

Goal 3: Provide Opportunities to Increase Housing Production

- Policy 3.1 – “Promote mixed-use developments... and encourage on-site inclusionary housing units within the residential component of all residential and mixed-use projects and planned development permits...”
- Policy 3.2 – “Maintain an inventory of vacant and underdeveloped properties in the City with potential for development of new residential dwelling units.”
- Policy 3.3 – “Consider declaring publicly-owned sites as “Surplus” and offering development opportunities on those sites...”
- Policy 3.4 – “Rental and income-restricted affordable housing units shall be located across a geographically wide area of the City.”
- Policy 3.5 – “Allow for and encourage new residential and/or mixed-use development in or near commercial districts, with access to services, transit and schools.”

Goal 4: Remove Governmental Constraints

- Policy 4.1 – “Educate City staff, property owners, and homebuilders about ADA accessibility and universal design principles.”
- Policy 4.2 – “Require new medium- to large-scale residential and mixed-use projects to meet ADA accessibility standards and provide a sufficient number of ADA-accessible and/or ADA-ready units.”
- Policy 4.3 – “Establish transparent procedures for requesting reasonable accommodations, on a case-by-case basis to promote equal access to housing for disabled persons.”
- Policy 4.4 – “Include low-barrier navigation centers as a form of transitional and supportive housing allowed in residential zoning districts.”
- Policy 4.5 – “Review and revise the Zoning Code regulations for allowing emergency shelters to maintain compliance with State laws for such uses.”

Goal 5: Equal Housing Opportunity

- Policy 5.1 – “Provide information on fair housing practices and resources on the City’s website.”
- Policy 5.2 – “...provide referral and mediation services for tenants and property managers. Educate and assist landlords, housing managers, real estate professionals and tenants regarding fair housing issues and laws.”
- Policy 5.3 – “Comply with all applicable federal, State, and local Fair Housing and anti-discrimination laws and regulations...”
- Policy 5.4 – “Proactively encourage community members to learn more about the social impacts of housing discrimination.”
- Policy 5.5 – “Allow and encourage a variety of residential types and living arrangements.”

Schedule/Next Steps

September 2021

- Release of the Public Review Draft of the 2021 Housing Element and PEIR

October 2021:

- Submittal to HCD for 60-day review period
- 60-day Public Review Period for the PEIR
- Release of the Revised Public Draft of the GP/DTSUP Update for public review

January 2022:

- Planning Commission Meeting to Recommend to the City Council Adoption of the 2021-2029 Housing Element and Certification of the PEIR

February 2022:

- City Council Adoption of the 2021-2029 Housing Element and Certification of the PEIR
- HCD deadline to adopt the Housing Element to stay on the 8-year cycle: February 11, 2022

March 2022:

- Planning Commission to Recommend to the City Council Adoption of the Final GP/DTSP Update

April 2022:

- City Council Adoption of the Final GP/DTSP Update

Regular Session City Council Meeting

E-mail Public Comment

AGENDA ITEM # 2

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

From: [Care First South Pasadena](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]; [ARC South Pasadena](#); [REDACTED]
Subject: 09/15 City Council Meeting - Agenda Item 2, General Public Comment
Date: Wednesday, September 15, 2021 11:09:10 AM
Attachments: [2021-09-15 SPPD Audit Public Comment.pdf](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk,

Please find attached a public comment for tonight's city council meeting, Agenda Item 2, Public Comment - General. This comment is submitted on behalf of the Anti-Racism Committee of South Pasadena, Black Lives Matter South Pasadena, Care First South Pasadena, and 69 individuals.

Thanks,

Care First South Pasadena

September 15, 2021

Sent via email ccpubliccomment@southpasadenaca.gov

General Public Comment Re: Audit of South Pasadena Police Department

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

It is time to audit the South Pasadena Police Department to ensure it is operating in a way that aligns with the values of the City's electorate—free of all forms of bias, and focused on protecting the public safety of residents and visitors alike equitably and efficiently.

For over two decades, City leaders have failed to scrutinize SPPD's policies and practices. City leaders have allowed SPPD's budget to balloon in a way that demonstrably fails to align with our values. In this fiscal year, the City plans to spend over one-third of its General Funds (nearly \$10 million) on SPPD without question, at the expense of providing critical services and programs that could otherwise be supported by the City, such as environmental initiatives, affordable housing, and youth development.

SPPD's unchecked presence in our City is underscored by the events of summer and fall 2020 which brought to light disturbing evidence of racial bias among all ranks of officers. SPPD failed to undertake basic policing to protect peaceful Black Lives Matter demonstrators from assault; revealed racial bias in police reports; and accepted an invitation from a homophobic religious group to hold a "Prayer Breakfast" at City Hall.¹ At the Trump Rally in November, police openly displayed signs of support for those rallying for the former president, including honks of approval and flashing thumbs up, while refusing to come to the assistance of counter protesters reporting assaults by the Trump supporters.

As a result, members of the community filed 53 complaints with the city, and the city retained retired law enforcement officer Garon Wyatt to conduct an investigation. The city will not reveal the full content of Wyatt's investigations, or even the portions that reveal the methodology and standards he applied in arriving at his findings, citing Gov't Code Section 6254(c) and Penal Code Section 832.7 (limited to protecting certain officer personnel records). The high-level summaries of the investigator's findings identified critical deficiencies across all ranks in SPPD's compliance with procedures for identifying and investigating hate crimes, thorough and accurate report writing, and required use of body cameras. Wyatt's findings that all of the complaints about SPPD's biased policing were "not sustained" are highly questionable in light of the mountain of evidence to the contrary.

¹ See Complaint to the California Office of the Attorney General at Care First South Pasadena's website (www.carefirstsouthpasadena.com) for complete factual background.

The City would like to close the book on the community’s concerns about biased policing in South Pasadena by pointing to the confidential investigations, the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion training it authorized for city staff in February 2021, and a host of trainings on investigating hate crimes and related topics. But the City cannot fashion any meaningful solution moving forward without fully and publicly accounting for SPPD’s past failures.

A racial bias audit is timely, as many other cities are proactively working to root out extremists on their police forces in the aftermath of the January 6 insurrection.^{2,3} Membership in extremist organizations among law enforcement officers undermines their ability to police without prejudice.^{4,5}

For the reasons above, we ask the City to examine SPPD with two equally important and interrelated objectives in mind: 1) to determine the operational efficiencies and effectiveness of the department; and 2) to determine the extent that racial bias exists among individual officers and across the department, and whether SPPD has systems in place to identify and root them out on a continuing basis. The audit should be completed by a reputable auditor. There should be a stakeholder process in developing the scope of the audit. At minimum, the audit should examine and make public the information identified in Attachment A.

Thank you for your consideration of this critical objective.

Signed,⁶

Anti-Racism Committee of South Pasadena
Black Lives Matter South Pasadena
Care First South Pasadena

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Afshin Ketabi | 5. Angel Gomez | 9. Brandon Yung |
| 2. Alexandra Ramirez | 6. Anna McCurdy | 10. Byron Sleugh |
| 3. Allie Schreiner | 7. Ayaka Nakaji | 11. Carla Obert |
| 4. Andrew Terhune | 8. Barbara Eisenstein | 12.Carolynn Ghiloni |

² Kimberly Kindy, Mark Berman and Kim Bellware, *The Washington Post*, January 24, 2021, “After Capitol riot, police chiefs work to root out officers with ties to extremist groups.” Online at https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/police-capitol-riot-extremists/2021/01/24/16fdb2bc-5a7b-11eb-b8bd-ee36b1cd18bf_story.html

³ Kevin Rector and Richard Winton, *The Los Angeles Times*, February 17, 2021, “Law enforcement confronts an old threat: far-right extremism in the ranks. ‘Swift action must be taken.’” Online at <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-02-17/lapd-other-police-agencies-struggle-with-where-to-draw-the-line-with-political-extremism-in-their-ranks>

⁴ Michael German. *Hidden in Plain Sight: Racism, White Supremacy, and Far-Right Militancy in Law Enforcement*. The Brennan Center for Justice, August 27, 2020. Online at <https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/hidden-plain-sight-racism-white-supremacy-and-far-right-militancy-law>

⁵ Rashad Robinson, *The Guardian*, August 21, 2019, “We can’t trust police to protect us from racist violence. They contribute to it.” Online at <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/aug/21/police-white-nationalists-racist-violence>

⁶ Signatures with date and time stamps are on file with Care First South Pasadena: carefirstsouthpas@gmail.com.

13. Caitlin Lainoff
14. Cassandra Terhune
15. Che Hurley
16. Chris Patterson
17. Christine B.
18. Cole Patterson
19. Colin Burgess
20. Danny Le
21. Danyelle Atkins
22. Dennis
 McCullough
23. Drew Tager
24. Elana Mann
25. Ella Hushagen
26. Fahren James
27. Frances jobs
28. Gayle Oswald
29. Gretchen Schulz
30. Helen Tran
31. harrums81@gmail.
 com

32. Isabel Barbera
33. Ivan E Cabrera
34. Janet N McIntyre
35. Jessica Whittet
36. John Oswald
37. John Srebalus
38. Jonathan Ghiloni
39. Jonathan Lee
40. Julia Moreno Perri
41. Julie Kim
42. Katie Neuhof
43. Kimiko Elizondo
44. Laboni Hoq
45. Liana Derus
46. Matthew Barbato
47. Megan Adams
48. Morgan BeVard
49. Nancy Hurley
50. Oliver Wang
51. Pablo Marrero

52. Page Phillips
53. Paige Fillion
54. Phoenix Bekkedal
55. Phung Huynh
56. Remaya M.
 Campbell
57. Richard Elbaum
58. Riko Enomoto
59. Rose McCullough
60. Ross McLain
61. Ry Patterson
62. Sandy Shannon
63. Sean Meyer
64. Shandor Garrison
65. Valorie Battle
 Haddock
66. Victoria Patterson
67. Will Hoadley-Brill
68. William Kelly
69. Willie Wu

Attachment A

The audit should examine and make public its findings on the following topics as part of the Operational Audit:

- A breakdown of major categories for calls made to the police department, e.g., how many are related to mental illness and welfare checks, unhoused people, shoplifting, violent crimes, etc.
- An analysis of the time and resources spent by SPPD in responding to these call categories, including the cost of responding to various categories with recommendations on how costs can be reduced, such as by establishing a mobile crisis response team.
- An analysis of staffing levels in relation to work load, including use of overtime.
- An overall management analysis looking for inefficiencies and how operations can be made more efficient and streamlined.
- An analysis of SPPD expenditures, including for contracts, equipment, vehicle operation and maintenance, etc.
- An analysis of adherence to SPPD policy by officers and other department staffers, with recommendations for any needed improvements.
- An analysis of SPPD's role in traffic safety, including recommendations on options that can reduce SPPD expenditures, such as investments in engineered traffic controls and infrastructure modifications that improve traffic safety 24/7/365 year in and year out.
- An analysis of SPPD involvement and expenditures related to code enforcement, with recommendations on how enforcement could be shifted to administrative staff.
- An analysis of how services to the unhoused could be improved and how unhoused people can be successfully housed.

The audit should examine and make public its findings on the following topics as part of the Racial Bias Audit:

- Officers' compliance with the South Pasadena Police Department Policy Manual ethics provisions, among others: the Code of Ethics as a Law Enforcement Officer; Section 1033.4 (Prohibited Speech, Expression and Conduct); and Section 1033.4.1 (Unauthorized Endorsements and Advertisements).
- Officers' social media posts and electronic communications with one another, including but not limited to email, text message, direct message via social media applications, and other electronic messaging systems, for indicia of extremist and/or prejudiced viewpoints, as well as any partisan activity or views that may have been discussed using such media during work hours or using city accounts and equipment.
- Arrests and stops executed by SPPD as a whole and by individual officers, broken out by arrestee's age, race/ethnicity, gender, city where arrestee resides, type of offense (e.g., felony, misdemeanor, other), charge, and each officer involved in the arrest, including

supervisors, Watch Commanders and department leadership to the extent they were involved in any way.⁷

- Incidents or potential crimes motivated by hate or other bias reported to SPPD.
- Stops (including traffic stops and other brief stops) executed by SPPD, broken out by age, race/ethnicity, gender, city where arrestee resides, basis for reasonable suspicion, and outcome of the stop, and each officer involved in the arrest, including supervisors, Watch Commanders and department leadership to the extent they were involved in any way.⁸
- Data related to community-initiated calls, taken from computer-aided dispatch records, that resulted in a response from SPPD from January 1, 2019 to present, and further broken down by call type, activities involved, response time, and SPPD unit involved.
- All complaints against and investigations into SPPD officers at every rank related to bias, prejudice, and/or profiling, and internal communications and reports related to compliance with the South Pasadena Police Department Policy Manual’s anti-bias provisions, including section 401 *et seq.*
- All training provided to SPPD officers at all levels, including and up to the Chief of Police, regarding their obligations to identify, investigate, report on, and supervise the handling of incidents and potential crimes motivated by hate or other bias, as required by Penal Code section 13519.6 and SPPD Policy Manual section 319.5. This review should include training regarding bias-based policing as well as any “refresher course” regarding “changing racial, identity and cultural trends,” as referenced by Penal Code section 13519.4, and SPPD Policy Manual section 401.7.
- The Department’s “periodic reviews” of potential bias-based policing which Supervisors are required to undertake and “document” pursuant to SPPD Policy Manual section 401.5.
- Data and reports that SPPD compiled for and/or submitted to the California Attorney General regarding potential incidents of bias-based policing pursuant to Penal Code sections 12525.5 and 13020, and SPPD Policy Manual section 401.8.

⁷ This information has been subject to several requests pursuant to the California Public Records Act (CPRA). In response to the South Pasadena Youth for Police Reform’s request for such data, the city directed the group to the California Department of Justice’s website. It is not possible to pull reports from the DOJ’s website that provide the data sought. The city produced arrest reports in response to Care First South Pasadena’s request. But the reports are missing arrestees’ ethnicity (coding all Hispanic and non-Hispanic people as “white”) and city of residence. Ethnicity and city of residence are reported in the Department’s crime reports. There is no doubt the city possesses the information sought.

⁸ This information has been subject to at least one request pursuant to the CPRA. The city represented to members of the community that it does not maintain any data related to stops, and it will not adopt a new system to track stop data until 2023, under a recent change in state law. While it may be that stop data is not maintained in any centralized way, we ask the city to work with the auditor to identify data sources related to stops that may be available, even if it is incomplete and imperfect.

From: [S.D](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: A public comment on Item #15
Date: Wednesday, September 1, 2021 4:19:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good evening members of the City Council,

I am uphold by the legal fees that were presented to the City Council by the current legal team. Looking at an expense of practically 4 times the actual City budget is not acceptable.

I blame the previous Councils for spending unecessary legal funds. Any legal establishment that is around town knows that this city is not spending funds as though it would be their own money but it seems that the councils were incompetent by not following the laws, not seeking advise before acting that often result in big law suit against the city. These sharks know that the city will squeez monies for defendind cases. Had the city ask a legal advise before acting we would not be here today dealing with this item. I want to call your attention to the case of the girls that were hurt on Fair oaks by Hi Life where the city decided to delete a cross walk and a sharp lawyer found out that there was no public notice prior to the action. (watch 0out for any restriction On Meridian)

I am not familiar with the process of having an attorney on staff rather a cosultant but surely there will be many attorneyes that would love to earn \$250,000 per year. The big question is how did the cost have escalated from the adopted pudget to what is being billed. I would like to see a citizen committee looking independently at the various billings and figure out who is to blame for this mismanagement. Obviously, before actions were taken by various entities in the city, there was plenty of time to think ahead if there will be legal consequenses after the action were taken place. I understand that the police shoot out might not the kind of thing that one can prdict but other cases that were taken place and resulted in legal action could have been avoided by simply asking a legal advice before taking action. We live in a litemious society and probably most of the cases could have been avoided. The purpose of the city attorney is advise before actions are taken and I feel that this team simply was waiting for cases to happen in order to bill. \$250,000 is ample amount of money to get a legal advise in order to prevent failures by city entities that will result in the extra expenditure.

I would like see all the cases that are being defended by this legal team and the charges to be published and have public input for the public to know how this city manage its affairs and avoid legal defense spending.

This a last minute comment as i intended to attend in person but something came up.

Respectfully,

Shlomo Nitzani

Regular Session City Council Meeting

E-mail Public Comment

AGENDA ITEM # 16

From: [Ed Simpson](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 16 Mtg. 9/15/21 Animal Commission
Date: Tuesday, September 14, 2021 8:25:09 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

My name is Ed Simpson, [REDACTED].
Re: Animal Commission

Beverly Biber has an extensive list of the commission's work. Here are just a few.

The Commission initiated and researched the impact of tree trimming and removal on wildlife and worked with the Natural Resources Commission on an ordinance; they also stopped a proposal to charge a fee when residents reported or confined a stray animal for pick up, and worked with the City and California Department of Fish and Game for a resident who rehabilitated injured squirrels and needed proper licensing.

In the mid 90's they had a representative on the General Plan Advisory committee and were a major contributor to and drafted language for the Open Space Resource Conservation Element of the City's General Plan (Chapter 7) emphasizing habitat conservation and preservation of wildlife corridors during construction projects.

Now, my comments. Why is there an Animal Commission?

After citizens **complained** to the city council in 1982 about coyotes and others voiced **support** for coyotes, then Mayor Ted Shaw, and the council appointed five residents to serve on a Coyote Committee. The Committee met with our city animal control officer, a county trapper, a county health officer, and a recognized coyote expert who was a biology professor from Pomona College. I was on that committee.

The findings after extensive research was that trapping and killing coyotes would not solve problems. Photos from the area of many complaints showed trash strewn about which means coyotes were finding food. People left food out for pets and this added to attracting coyotes.

The committee suggested a Commission to help the council and residents

with animal issues. I served on that Animal Commission, our first meeting was November, 1983.

One of the first things the Commission did was inform the public about coyotes and what attracts them. Brochures were provided, the water bills included information on coyotes and later on other issues like the 4th of July frightening pets. Critter Corner appeared in the local paper sharing animal stories and information.

The years this commission helped residents, the council AND the animals, cannot be ignored. Ending it this way insults all who ever served.

From: [Elizabeth Cavanaugh](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Animal Commission Support - Agenda Item 16 on 9/15/21
Date: Tuesday, September 14, 2021 9:54:00 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Mahmud and City Councilmembers:

My public comment, in support of the Animal Commission, addresses agenda item 16, "DIRECTION REGARDING STATUS OF ANIMAL COMMISSION," for the September 15, 2021 City Council meeting.

South Pasadena is known for its healthy, natural environment, which attracts and nurtures human and animal families, and its active, civic-minded resident involvement, the reason for and importance of the City's many commissions.

Previously, I had the privilege of serving our community as Chair of the Animal Commission and volunteering with a group of compassionate and knowledgeable animal advocates. Animal Commissioners have played an important role in promoting safety, wellbeing, and understanding among neighbors, while providing a voice for the needs of South Pasadena's wildlife and pets.

Animal Commissioners function as advisors (for instance, providing tree trimming guidance based on avian nesting habits), liaisons (reaching out to the appropriate partner agencies for additional resources), researchers (adding depth to the City's knowledge of animal behavior and policy to guide decisions and assist residents), educators (sharing that knowledge with the community and engaging with residents at events, such as the former Police and Fire Department Open Houses and Doggie Day and Cats Too, as well as the Be Kind to Animals Program, which nearly doubled in student and family participation during my term as we initiated and distributed new and engaging resources in partnership with librarian Maida Wong), and mediators (listening to neighbor grievances and helping to find solutions).

During my term, I also had the opportunity to serve with two successive and very caring and supportive staff liaisons: Police Captain Deann Wheelless and Police Captain Mike Neff (both now retired).

Having a knowledgeable resident body (the Animal Commission) that listens to the perspective of enforcement provided by staff liaisons, the perspective of neighborhood concerns voiced by residents, and the perspective of policy shared by City Council liaisons, is a very valuable collaboration that enhances community trust and the decision-making process.

For this reason, I encourage you to protect the Animal Commission from extinction and ensure that South Pasadena residents, including our animal neighbors, continue to be heard.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Cavanaugh
Former South Pasadena Animal Commissioner

From: [Erin Fleming](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Comment for City Council Meeting of September 15, 2021 :: Agenda Item 16
Date: Tuesday, September 14, 2021 10:16:44 PM
Attachments: [SPAC-final.pdf](#)
[ATT00001.htm](#)
[page1image133605504.png](#)
[ATT00002.htm](#)
[page1image133608960.png](#)
[ATT00003.htm](#)
[page1image133604544.png](#)
[ATT00004.htm](#)
[page2image51050944.png](#)
[ATT00005.htm](#)
[page2image51043264.png](#)
[ATT00006.htm](#)
[page2image51040960.png](#)
[ATT00007.htm](#)
[page3image133646400.png](#)
[ATT00008.htm](#)
[page3image133647744.png](#)
[ATT00009.htm](#)
[page4image133449984.png](#)
[ATT00010.htm](#)

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If this is not formatted correctly for your email browser, please view this PDF file attached:

Agenda Item 16

Dear Mayor Mahmud and City Council,

After reviewing the City Manager Arminé Chaparyan's Staff Report for Council's agenda on September 15, 2021 concerning the South Pasadena Animal Commission (SPAC), I have comments based on my 6 years on SPAC and 13 years residing in South Pasadena.

While I cannot speak for Betty Emirhanian, I feel disrespected to be included in Ms. Chaparyan's report. Understand that our meeting was solely a CAPSTONE event for a brief 30 minutes, sandwiched between two of Ms. Chaparyan's other meetings, with three (3) people together on a September 2, 2021 Zoom call with zero chance of having a compelling conversation. My time is valuable and that meeting was a waste. While it sounds as though my thoughts and solutions are included in this report, to be clear, they are not. My name and reputation is not some "tool" for the City Manager to use to obtain a buy-in from this Council.

The report states the purpose of the meeting with Betty and me was to "receive our input" and that is wholly a misrepresentation. If that meeting was being recorded, you would hear that Ms. Chaparyan told Betty and me twice that "the purpose of the meeting was to 'let us know that she was preparing a staff report to dissolve the Animal Commission so that we didn't hear about it from our neighbors'." Twice that was said.

Now had I actually been asked to give my input, I would have said that in my 6 years of experience with SPAC:

1. Police Dept.: Regarding the SPPD handling animal issues, I'd like to point back to 2015, it was through an *experienced* Animal Commissioner that our city re-upped on free emergency services from Red Rover. Red Rover is an organization designed to step in during a major emergency disaster situations, like an earthquake or large-scale fire, to ease the burden of the care and rescue of animals from what would be an overwhelming task for SPFD, SPPD, and even Pasadena Humane & SPCA (PHS&SPCA). Our police staff liaison did not know a thing about it and likely an "ad hoc advisory commission" wouldn't know either. With all respect to our wonderful Police Department, the rest of the country is trying to help them focus on policing issues and get them upgraded training not have them handle another non-policing issue.
2. Police Dept.: Additionally, I think that **the community** has the right to review the PHS&SPCA contract proposal, as we did a few years ago and we asked pertinent questions on behalf of the residents in the community. As you are likely aware, even the City of Pasadena is considering a change of contract due to outrageous increases and that decision should be up to the residents whose money goes to the SPCA. Government funds are taxpayer money and this community deserves to weigh in the \$200K-\$300K contract before sending it to Council for approval.

How do you intend to consider our animal control options without SPAC?

3. Community Service Dept.: While SPAC participates in Doggy Days, we never did organize it at the very least because it is within a week of Be Kind To Animal Week. Actually, PHS&SPCA's adoption RV was pulled out of the event because it is poorly attended. With

that being said, SPAC went every year, created verbal quizzes for when you spun the big wheel, and gave prizes & information when the people won. Objectively, I would say that SPAC came in third for engagement during that event following than the Frisbee Dogs and the Dog Agility course. It's tough to compete with dogs! If SPAC did organize it, I know it would be a much more engaging event. Certainly it wouldn't be the "we have live loud music, bring your dogs with acute hearing" type-of-event that it last was.

4. Public Safety Commission: I am wondering if the Public Safety Commission has extra time within their current configuration to handle 1.) a year of research with PETA and other animal organizations to follow Council's direction about expanding the ordinance banning the sale of dogs, cats, and rabbits, 2.) host the semi-annual Speaker series involving co-existing with wildlife and other issues such as mosquitos, 3.) sit with residents to understand the damage being done to property by peafowl and what can be done to create awareness, 4.) work on a spay/neuter ordinance as urged by PHS&SPCA to support reducing the number of animals in the shelter, and 5.) learn all about how to educate our community about leptospirosis. I would venture to say that there is not a lot of "free-time" with any of our Commissions and these are the meat-and-potatoes issues SPAC handles.
5. Parks & Recreation Commission: The Dog Park is really not under SPAC's purview unless a resident needs to report an animal-related issue, such as unneutered dogs acting aggressively in the park. However, SPAC does participate in the Parks & Rec Commission with respect to the stable contracts. Point-in-fact, for nearly a year, a SPAC Commissioner was sent to the Parks & Recreation Commission to review & confer regarding the Stable Leases. He was/is a lawyer licensed in the state of California employed with the City of Los Angeles. **This city received nearly a year's worth of free legal advice from SPAC Commissioner Daniel Kreinbring for the Stable Contracts.** It's worth mentioning that at present there is another lawyer on SPAC.
6. Youth Commission: Be Kind To Animals Week (BKTA) is not the sock hop in the school cafeteria. Forms, flyers, and letters all go for approval to the City and then to SPUSD. It involves knowing things like providing Liability Insurance, etc. This is a bad idea because, as if you need reminding, this is an academically driven community. The National BKTA Week happens the first week of May and the tear down is the second week of May. With the last day of school being June 2, finals begin the third week of May - not to mention South Pasadena Little League/Softball and SPHS Baseball/Softball are playing in April.

Under my leadership we reached out the Youth Commission and established connections to all students at SPHS looking for volunteer hours. For the BKTA event, we got a one SPHS Senior for two days one time to help. Why? He found out that he was not going to graduate without his volunteer hours and he was cramming. We did get several Youth Commissioners to help with the Police & Fire Open House event held in September.

There is an incredible amount of work that goes into planning BKTA / any city event and I estimate volunteer hours for only the four (4) weeks ahead of the event to be roughly 100 volunteer hours by SPAC + our friends. Planning starts in September and ends in April for the first Monday in May event. I am including a list from the notebook I made to organize

the event of all of things that need to occur.

BKTA has approximately 200 submissions and close to as many people attending the event because kids go everywhere with other people. Now considering the average age of the Youth Commissioners is 14-years old, you can see that this commission “taking the lead” is expecting a lot! Think about it. That’s similar to having your 14-year old plan a wedding for 200 guests. It’s not impossible but honestly, it’s not likely nor sustainable.

So please let’s get into what is really going here:

What problem does this report solve? There is no “why” explained in this report. Why is this even being considered if there is no fiscal impact? Why is this even the “first project” given to Ms. Chaparyan by her own admission? Given SPAC’s history of being “one of our most productive commissions”, as stated by Councilmember Cacciotti during one of my annual presentations to Council, in my view dissolving SPAC will cost the city more money for the community to receive less in my view.

Additionally as a community, we backed Council’s sales tax increase to keep and improve our community life in South Pasadena. Every Councilmember came to each SPAC Commissioner to ask our support at the voting booth, to attend local events, and display yard signs if we could. I feel duped that SPAC is even at issue given the increased funding to the City. Mayor Mahmud is recently quoted in Pasadena Now saying, “The City Council has an ambitious agenda for making South Pasadena even more special than it already is. We look forward to working with Armine to advance infrastructure projects and services that improve the quality of life of every South Pasadenan...”. How does taking away SPAC and this report work congruently with this ambitious agenda to advance services?

This entire situation comes off as smoke & mirrors for something else going on to which I am clearly not privy. When we had two openings in 2020 for SPAC, I can attest that we had applications to review. While we did not have any approved minutes from our last meeting, you would likely see that our Staff Liaison, Tom Jacobs was going to bring the applications at the City Clerk’s Office for Commissioners to the next meeting. I guess it important to add that we typed our own agendas and minutes. Our Liaison posted them.

Had we had a series of real, working meeting with Ms. Chaparyan, there may have been potential that we could have figured out how to consolidate efforts for the City. That did not happen. I think my experience speaks to how the plan proposed for the September 15, 2021 meeting just does not make sense. If the City wants to pursue the idea of moving focus and duties around with all of the Commissions across a schedule, it would be a more effective use of time than this cut-and-run. Thank you for your time.

With respect,
Erin Fleming



Dated: September 14, 2021

2101 Huntington Drive, South Pasadena, CA 91030

Attachment: Partial list of BKTA duties and planning

Attachment :: Be Kind To Animal Planning List (partial)

1. Select Chairperson for the event
2. Prior year's Chairperson becomes the Event Director to assist
3. Meet with Children's Librarian to review reading list
4. Book Community Room in Library
5. Debrief from prior BKTA event to see what to change/keep
6. Create basic timeline with milestones
7. Establish the work day for mounting the artwork
8. Come up with theme ideas / vote on it
9. Create flyer to students
10. Create digital flyer for SPUSD backpack mail
11. Create poster for business windows
12. Create correspondence to local area businesses for participation
13. Create correspondence to other commissions (New Art / Youth)
14. Create letter to SPUSD, Principals, teachers, school librarians, churches, pre-schools, private schools, art schools, music schools, after-school programs
15. Create letter sent to kids participating
16. Submit all flyers, posters, correspondence to City for approval
17. Submit flyers and letter to educators to SPUSD for approval
18. Order art supplies needed for display
19. Order swag items for goodie bag
20. Make personal contact with SPUSD librarians and teachers via email
21. Arrange food truck (?)
22. Create drop off boxes (every SPUSD school, SP Library, SP City Hall)
23. Distribute flyers to SPUSD, SPPL, Schools, churches and local businesses that cater to kids & animals
24. Deliver boxes to the locations
25. Create our own SPAC booth for out front of the library
26. Arrange for proclamation
27. Arrange for addition to City Council Agenda / Attend Council Meeting
28. Arrange to have Mayor and Council at event if possible
29. Arrange for Pasadena Humane & SPCA booth / adoption?
30. Arrange for PETA booth with their Kids' Program
31. Arrange for pet adoption booth
32. Arrange for South Pasadena D.U.D.E.S.
33. Arrange for other booths that would be of interest (City Clerk was invited to have information about being a commissioner etc.)
34. Arrange for newspaper coverage
35. Retrieve artwork from pick-up locations
36. Create spreadsheet to mail-merge for artwork labeling, envelope labeling
37. Mount artwork on boards with artwork label
38. Send letter to kids with envelope label
39. Create personalized and printer certificates from the City Mayor
40. Print lists so that we can find the artwork when needed
41. Host the event !!!
42. Dismantle the boards
43. Return the artwork to the schools

From: [Beverly Biber](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Comment for Sept 15 Council meeting
Date: Monday, September 13, 2021 9:22:59 AM
Attachments: [FINAL Statement for Council re SPAC.docx](#)
[ATT00001.htm](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To Honorable Council members
From Beverly Biber
Re: Item # 16 - public Hearing on abolishing the City's animal commission
(Statement below and as attached Word document)

Throughout it's many years of service to the City and to the animals, the SPAC has responded to a wide range of wildlife and domestic animal matters.

Some issues referred to the commission have included mosquito abatement and the use of malathion, contaminated feed at the stables, San Pasqual Stables lease issues, use of live animals at community events, barking dogs, dogs deemed vicious; feral cat population, dog defecation off of owners' property, preservation of open space and wildlife habitat, and disaster planning for domestic animals in the city. Many of these issues resulted in SPAC researching and helping to draft ordinances that have been adopted.

In 2017, the community, local businesses, animal rescue groups and animal rights groups all came together in the SPAC meetings to develop an ordinance that banned the sale of dogs and cats. The adoption of this ordinance put us on the forefront of a state-wide movement to do the same.

SPAC worked with other commission and city departments on a number of issues. A highlight of SPAC was working with the Parks Department to establish the Dog Park (A SPAC Commissioner came up with the winning name: SP Paws-a-dena dog Park).

The SPAC Initiated and researched the impact of tree removal and trimming on wildlife and worked with the Natural Resources Commission on an ordinance; They also quashed an idea/proposal by some city officials to charge a fee when residents reported or confined a stray animal for pick up. They also worked with the City and CA Department of Fish and Game for a resident who rehabilitated injured squirrel and needed proper licensing.

In the mid 90's they had a representative on the GPAC (General Plan Advisory committee) and we're major contributor to and drafted language for the Open Space Resource Conservation Element of the City's General Plan (Chapter 7):emphasizing habitat conservation and preservation of wildlife corridors during consruction projects.

Education outreach has been a driving force of the commission. Continuing education of residents on how to coexist with the urban coyote -- so many of whom make SP home --- has been a priority of SPAC. In 2018, it initiated a speaker series which included seminars about living with wildlife and how to tackle mosquitoes in our community. SPAC also created and produced print educational materials. These public information and outreach leaflets were included in the water bills several times a year (when handled locally) as well as via articles and letters to the local newspaper.

SPAC staffed information booths at community events (Doggy Days and Cats Too and the Police and Fire Open House) using a spinning wheel and prizes to engage children in learning about the humane treatment of animals. Materials from the Humane Society and other animal groups were shared as well.

SPAC established the popular Be Kind to Animals Art contest in the early 90's in conjunction with distribution of humane education materials for SPUSD classroom curriculum (K-5). The Be Kind To Animals event was expanded in recent years to include booths from animal organizations to promote education about animals. For many years, they also worked with [the 4th of July](#) Committee to post a "Protect your Pets" from firework noise banner on student artworks posted around town and at Garfield park.

Issues that were being worked on prior to the SPAC going on hiatus in early 2020 were Spay and Neuter, Peacock control and working with the city to develop signage about not feeding wild animals..

FINALLY, Animals need a voice of caring concerned citizens. Too often, animals (pets) are used as scapegoats for neighbor disputes. Someone doesn't like the loud music of a kid practicing on drums, or don't like the color of the house, or dislike the type of landscaping-garden by a neighbor. So they use the pet (barking,, etc) as a way to get back at neighbors.

Over the years, the SPAC has performed a "peacekeeping" role in several situations involving barking dogs and animal defecation in yards and also quelling fear mongering about coyote --- that in one area, went from a "single coyote" hanging around the neighborhood to a "large pack" of coyote threatening residents. It takes dedicated, informed individuals (i.e., Animal commissioners) to undertake these roles.

From: [Tracy Reiman](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Comment on Agenda Item #16 DIRECTION REGARDING STATUS OF ANIMAL COMMISSION
Date: Monday, September 13, 2021 10:00:33 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Mahmud and Council Members,

I write as a South Pasadena resident as well as on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and our more than 600 members in the city to urge the Council not to disband the South Pasadena Animal Commission.

In the wake of the pandemic, many are reflecting on their impact on the world including all the deeply disturbing ways in which animals are violated. PETA has seen its support rapidly grow, for instance, during the past year perhaps because animals have played an important role in our collective sanity, or maybe the pandemic and lock-downs have helped them relate to the fear, loneliness, and confinement animals suffer as a result of human neglect and cruelty.

One of the great things about our city is the willingness of its leaders to do bold things, to be leaders, and we saw that when South Pasadena passed the life-saving ordinance banning the sale of commercially-bred dogs, cats, and rabbits a few years ago. The council, at the time, expressed interest in amending it further to ban the sale of *all* animals. Just as the Commission's work on this bill was being finalized, Covid hit and the work came to a halt, understandably. There had also been important discussion about a bill to require spay and neuter for dogs and cats in the city, something Pasadena and Los Angeles have already done, and something South Pasadena should do. There are many other important issues too, such as peacefully co-existing with coyotes and peacocks, beloved in our city by most, but not all.

There is much to be done still and the Animal Commission has played a vital role in evaluating and crafting these important initiatives for our city. Now is the time to *double* our efforts to protect animals, not cut back on them. We urge you to keep the Animal Commission in place so that it may continue to do the excellent work it has done for decades.

Sincerely,

Tracy Reiman
Executive Vice President
People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals





From: [Ed Simpson](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Mtg. 9/15/21 Agenda Item 16 South Pasadena Animal Commission
Date: Tuesday, September 14, 2021 4:26:23 PM

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To South Pasadena City Council

The way the proposed dissolution of the commission has been handled is wrong. For this to be the one and only commission targeted brings questions. After covid closed meetings early 2020, the Animal Commission was not re-started in the spring.

While there was not a full commission, I have found instances of many commissions having two new commissioners being approved by council at one mtg. The Animal Commission at that time had only 2 members but had the council reached out to enlist applicants, there would have been more. It has been around since 1983.

Since early 2020, there has not been anything publicly, **to my knowledge**, about the animal commission. Then in January **2021** there is an agenda item that reads: see **Item 4 #3** Agenda Regular Council Mtg. 1/20//21

- **Direct staff to prepare, for City Council consideration at a subsequent meeting, an ordinance to repeal Chapter 2. (Administration), Article IVE. (Animal Commission) of the South Pasadena Municipal Code.**
<https://www.southpasadenaca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/25026/637462452526030000>

Who placed this on that agenda? Was it Mayor Mahmud? It was not discussed at that meeting, **but the dictate was followed. How is this legal or honorable?**

8 months later, it is on this agenda. All these months, the Animal Commission has been silenced, and the public has not been informed properly that city staff was being “Directed to prepare for repeal of the commission.”

How is city staff qualified to repeal a commission? They do not attend meetings, they do not know of the complaints, questions, actions brought by city residents **or the commission.**

We have 13 commissions; counting the Animal Commission.

I did a check of other cities.

Arcadia has 7 commissions; Sierra Madre 10 commissions. Alhambra 8 commissions

**Pasadena has 20 commissions; 7 councilmembers and a mayor elected at large.

I checked with Pasadena regarding councilmembers attending commission meetings, the

mayor responded

“In general members of the City Council do not attend commission meetings, however, on rare occasions they might. Hope that helps clarify. “

On South Pasadena website codepublishing.com.....it does state there should be liaisons for each commission, but 2nd sentence is of interest.....

<https://www.codepublishing.com/CA/SouthPasadena/#!/html/SouthPasadena02.html>

“ Liaisons are free to attend meetings as their schedules allow.”

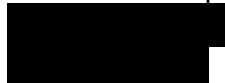
I have tried to find dates commissions were established in South Pas. That information has not been found. I believe some are relatively new.

I suggest you give this more time to hear from others who may just be learning of this repeal, and to consider whether a liaison is required for all the meetings of all the commissions or other citizen groups.

Absolutely you must explain your vote. If there are too many commissions, committees, etc. and you are required to attend many meetings, **I understand that;** however, dumping only one commission is not a valid choice. That brings another question, Why the Animal Commission?

Thank you.

Beatrice J. Simpson



From: [Betty Emirhanian](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Public remarks for city council meeting 9/15/21 Agenda item # 16
Date: Monday, September 13, 2021 11:43:13 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council Members,

I am very saddened that the city wants to eliminate the Animal Commission and am very concerned that the welfare of animals in our city will no longer be represented. The staff report states that some of the functions that were performed by the commission can be taken over by other commissions and city departments. But who will make sure that those functions actually happen? Who will provide the expertise that is needed? The Animal Commissioners spent countless hours researching and educating themselves to make sure that decisions were not made based on common misperceptions about animals, particularly wild animals. Animal issues are simply not on the radar of other commissions.

- The Public Safety commission does not have the expertise and knowledge to handle animal issues. Even though the animal commission was supposed to meet with the Public Safety Commission two times a year, that did not happen in the two years I was on the commission.
- The police department never provided public education. It was the animal commission who set up the speaker series, arranged for speakers, and did the promotion along with the library. At one point, we had a police chief whom I believe was hostile to animal issues. How can we guarantee that the police department will see this as an important function in the future without some oversight?
- The Pasadena Humane has been a wonderful resource for our city. However, they do not provide education and in-city services without someone proactively asking them to do so. Will the police department be proactive in this regard?
- The Community Services department cancelled doggie days before covid. I don't see that coming back. They have their hands full with Senior Services, Recreation and Youth Services, etc.
- The Be Kind To Animals event was very successful for many, many years and had great public participation. This was a huge undertaking by the animal commission. For years, Beverly Biber, a former commissioner, made it happen. Erin Fleming later took over and she and the commission spent many hours on it. It is wonderful idea to get the youth commission involved. In fact, we tried to get them to work with the animal commission and were rebuffed. We also tried to get the Public Arts Commission involved since it did involve art after all, but they did not have the interest or time. This event requires a dedicated team to logistically pull it together. I notice that this was not mentioned in the report as something the Community Services department would oversee. Would

the youth commission have the time & ability to do this on their own given that they were not even in a position to help before? It really should be overseen by the animal commission with help from the other commissions.

It is interesting that the staff report does not give reasons as to why we need to eliminate the commission other than not having received any new applications by the City Clerk's Office and that providing support to City boards and commissions requires a significant amount of staff time and resources to prepare agendas, reports, minutes and to attend meetings. Yet the report also says that there is no fiscal impact in eliminating the commission.

- When I was on the animal commission, we put together the agenda and wrote the minutes. We did much of the research.
- It does not address the time and money the commission has given the city over the years. Past commissioners have spent many hours on the Be Kind to Animals event, providing legal services to help negotiate a new stable contract, educating the public at several city events, collecting, organizing, and distributing information pamphlets, acquiring & at times paying for prizes and supplies, etc. Attached are 3 pictures of all the materials the commission has amassed over the years (all of which are in my garage). We have tons of educational materials, games for city events, prizes for children, etc.
- Obviously, if no one wants to be on the animal commission, that is a major problem. But did the city actively look for commissioners? I do not think so. I cannot help but think that the city was trying to quietly let the commission die.

If the city council chooses to eliminate the commission, I hope that the city would at least consider putting together an Animal Advisory Committee who could work with various departments and commissions to make sure that animal concerns and issues are not an afterthought and that decisions will be made with appropriate background and knowledge.

But to be clear, without an animal commission, the focus will be on people and their problems with the animals. Issues such as spay and neuter, poisoning of birds, effect of pesticides on animals etc. will not be addressed. There will be no voice for the animal residents of our city. Six meetings a year (or even just 4) is not too much to ask for them.

Respectfully,
Betty Emirhanian

Regular Session City Council Meeting

E-mail Public Comment

AGENDA ITEM # 17

From: [Josh Albrektson](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Item 17, Public Comment
Date: Monday, September 13, 2021 2:12:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

These are some questions that Placeworks should answer about the Housing Element they are presenting to you. Of note, most of these questions are based on their meeting with HCD on May 20th and my personal conversations with HCD:

1. We went from 1,000 ADUs to 297 ADUs today. South Pasadena has a Safe Harbor of 81 ADUs which HCD says is allowable. Can Placeworks point to any city anywhere that HCD has allowed to claim 130% of their safe harbor, let alone 340% as presented here??
2. What are the requirements for a site to be included as a low income site in a Housing Element?? Does the fact Vons is getting a new tenant or Pavillions is undergoing a large renovation make those sites illegal??
3. What does it mean that "Substantial evidence" to show that a current use will be discontinued is required??
4. There are a ton of sites that are in the hills in the South West corner of South Pasadena with no streets. Are these allowed???
5. If we don't produce a compliant Housing Element will we have to pay Placeworks more than the \$250k that we paid to produce a Housing Element?
6. Only 2 of the 19 communities of San Diego County have compliant Housing Elements, and theirs was due April 15th. What have you guys learned from those 2 cities that we are doing in South Pasadena so we are sure that we have a compliant housing element??
7. What did HCD tell you is required for the analysis of the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance which is the highest in the state??? Is this considered a governmental constraint?
8. What is the calculation for the realistic development capacity??
9. Does the fact the sites are all in primarily commercial districts affect the number of units that are allowed to be claimed??

--

Josh Albrektson MD
Neuroradiologist by night
Crime fighter by day