



## Additional Documents List Regular City Council Meeting February 2, 2022

Item No.	Agenda Item Description	Distributor	Document
4	<b>COMMISSION APPOINTMENT: LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES</b>	Tameka J. Cook, Chief City Clerk	Revised memo.
12	<b>AUTHORIZING CELL TOWER REVENUE USAGE</b>	Ken Louie, Interim Director of Finance	Memo provides updates to the Staff report.
13	<b>RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA CONDEMNING THE CITY'S HISTORY AS A SUNDOWN TOWN AND PAST PRACTICES OF INSTITUTIONALIZED RACISM; TAKE ACTION TO JOIN THE GOVERNMENT ALLIANCE ON RACE &amp; EQUITY (GARE); DIRECT STAFF TO ENGAGE IN ADDITIONAL EQUITY- DEVELOPING ACTIVITIES</b>	Tamara Binns, Assistant to the City Manager	Memo provides updates to the Staff report.
14	<b>APPROVAL OF A FIVE-YEAR AGREEMENT WITH THE SOUTH PASADENA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR THE OPERATION OF THE SOUTH PASADENA FARMERS' MARKET</b>	Mary Jerejian, Management Analyst	Memo provides updates to the Staff report.
15	<b>INVESTMENT PHILOSOPHY</b>	Ken Louie, Interim Director of Finance	Memo provides updates to the Staff report.
	<b>EMAILED PUBLIC COMMENT</b>	Tameka J. Cook, Chief City Clerk	Emailed public comment.



**City of South Pasadena  
Management Services Department**

# Memo

Date: February 1, 2022  
To: The Honorable City Council  
Via: Arminé Chaparyan, City Manager  
From: Tameka J. Cook, Chief City Clerk  
Re: February 2, 2022, City Council Meeting Item No. 4 Additional Document – Commission Appointment: Library Board of Trustees

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I propose to appoint the following to a full three-year term ending **December 31, 2024**:

- Fred J. Pratt to Library Board of Trustees

I propose to appoint the following to a **one-year term (filling a vacated term) ending December 31, 2022**:

- Kenneth I. Gross to Library Board of Trustees

Note: On December 15, 2021, the City Council extended all terms expiring December 31, 2021 to March 31, 2022 in order to complete a study of commissions.



## City of South Pasadena Finance Department

# Memo

**Date:** February 2, 2022

**To:** The Honorable City Council

**Via:** Arminé Chaparyan, City Manager

**From:** Ken Louie, Interim Director of Finance

**Re:** February 2, 2022, City Council Meeting Item No. 12 Additional Document – Authorizing Cell Tower Revenue Usage

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Attached is an additional document which provides greater clarification on:

- 1) The requirement to seek prior approval of the Finance Commission and ultimately return to the City Council for final trustee approval
- 2) The frequency of payments
- 3) Re-ordering of the recommended motions



# City Council Agenda Report

ITEM NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** February 2, 2022  
**FROM:** Arminé Chaparyan, City Manager  
**PREPARED BY:** Ken Louie, Interim Director of Finance  
**SUBJECT:** Authorize Cell Tower Revenue Usage

## Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Council authorize:

1. The City Manager to execute the creation of an OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) trust after approval of the Finance Commission;
2. Appropriation of \$4,374,439 – the Cell Tower Revenues from Designated General Fund Reserves to pay down the current Unfunded Actuarial Liability (UAL);
3. Appropriation of \$1,000,000 Designated General Fund Reserves reserved to for paydown of pension and medical liabilities;
- 2.4. The placement of \$1,125,000 of General Fund Reserves into the new OPEB trust after Finance Commission and City Council approval of trustee;
3. ~~Appropriation of \$4,374,439 – the Cell Tower Revenues from General Fund Reserves to pay down the current Unfunded Actuarial Liability (UAL);~~
4. ~~Appropriation of \$1,000,000 reserved for paydown of pension and medical liabilities;~~
5. The payment of \$2,847,124 into the City’s Sworn Safety CalPERS (PERS) plan; and
6. The payment of \$1,402,315 into the City’s Miscellaneous PERS plan.

## Background

During Fiscal Year 2020-2021, the City Council approved a new cell tower lease that resulted in the City receiving a one-time payment of \$4,374,439, in lieu of receiving annual payments. When the funds were received, the City Council asked the Finance Commission to research and give direction on the most prudent use of these funds. The City Council and Finance Commission would later concur on the use of these funds to pay down pension liability with CalPERS (“PERS”) and Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB). The City then secured the services of Bartel Associates, LLC (“Bartel”) to perform a thorough analysis of both the City’s pension obligations as well as the City’s OPEB obligations. Upon completion of their analysis, Bartel provided a full report to the Finance Commission. Their summarized findings were as follows:

“The City of South Pasadena has 2 major PERS plans (Miscellaneous and Safety) and 3 PEPRAs plans (Miscellaneous, Police and Fire). The PEPRAs plans are generally self-funding as they ensure that newer employees pay their share of retirement costs. Conversely, the Miscellaneous

## Cell Tower Revenue Usage

February 2, 2022

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plan is 71% funded with an Unfunded Liability of \$15.5 million. The Safety plan is 68% funded with an Unfunded Liability of \$30.2 million.

Of the \$30.7 million of UAL, 67% is therefore from the Safety plan and 33% is attributable to the Miscellaneous plan. Additionally, the City has a liability with regards to its Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) that are underfunded by \$17.4 million.

### Commission Review and Council Final Direction

The Finance Commission reviewed the findings at the Commission's regularly scheduled meeting of September 23, 2021 and recommended a pay down of both the OPEB as well as the Safety and Miscellaneous plan. The item was then presented and discussed at length during the regularly scheduled November 10, 2020 City Council meeting as well as a special study session held on January 12, 2022. At the last session, the City Council finalized the course of action to be as follows:

In addition to the \$4,374,439 available from Cell Tower Revenues, the City Council moved to use the additional \$500,000 designated in reserves for "Retiree Medical Benefits" and another \$500,000 which is also in designated in reserves for "Retiree Pension Benefits". With \$5,374,439 now in total funding, the direction was to pay down the OPEB in a flat amount of \$1,125,000 (to the new trustee) with the balance of the funding (\$4,249,439) to be allocated proportionately among the main Safety and Miscellaneous plans based on UAL percentages. Therefore 67% and 33% went to the Safety and Miscellaneous plans respectively.

### Funding – All items currently in Designated General Fund Reserves for this purpose

\$ 4,374,439	Cell Tower Revenue
500,000	Retiree Medical Benefits <del>(currently in reserves for this purpose)</del>
500,000	Retiree Pension Benefits <del>(currently in reserves for this purpose)</del>
\$ 5,374,439	Total Available

### Usage

\$ 2,847,124	PERS Safety Plan (67%)
1,402,315	PERS Miscellaneous Plan (33%)
1,125,000	OPEB Trust (flat amount)
\$ 5,374,439	Total Distributed

### **Analysis**

The approval of the above funding would constitute two actions: 1) payment to CalPERS and 2) establishment of an OPEB trust.

### Pension UAL Pay down

There are many benefits to the City selecting to pay down the current UAL by paying directly to PERS. They are:

- Locked in long-term implicit interest rate savings of 7%

Cell Tower Revenue Usage

February 2, 2022

Page 3 of 3 Page 3 of 4

- PERS likely to earn a greater return over the long-term due to its diversity in investments
- Immediately reduces pension liability on financial statements and GASB reporting
- Reduces required payments in future years
- No ongoing administrative costs/fees

Upon approval of pay down, the Director of Finance will execute the payment to PERS to allow the City to immediately start to receive these benefits.

OPEB Trust Establishment

There are also many benefits to pre-funding the City’s \$17.4 UAL in OPEB. Among them are:

- Future benefits can be paid partly from investment earnings instead of the current City budget
- Intergenerational equity – taxpayers/residents who receive current City services should pay for the current employee comp/benefits. They should not be paid by future taxpayers
- OPEB is an employee benefit just like pensions
- Ensures costs are truly paid in era accrued

With approval of this action, staff through the City Manager will 1) begin the execution of the necessary documents to establish an OPEB trust 2) seek the approval of the selection by the Finance Commission and 3) seek final approval of trustee from the City Council. ~~the City Manager and Director of Finance will execute the necessary documents to establish an OPEB trust for the safekeeping of funds, once the Finance Commission has approved the recommended trustee for this endeavor.~~ At this time, staff has reached out to four renowned OPEB Trustee entities. Below are their attached fees in basis points (\$1,125,000 x .00xx) and what the annual fee would be:

Name	<u>Annual</u> Fee	Est. Cost
CERBT - CalPERS	10 bpm	\$1,125
PARS-Pub. Agency Ret. Svcs.	60 bpm	\$6,750
Keenan Financial Svcs.	60 bpm	\$6,750
Public Financial Mgmt. *	-	-

\* No submittal at time of report

These annual fees generally cover administrative, trustee and investment management costs. The approval of tonight’s recommendation would allow the Finance Director and City Manager to finalize trust arrangements with the selected provider.

**Public Notification of Agenda Item**

The public was made aware that this item was to be considered this evening by virtue of its inclusion on the legally publicly noticed agenda, posting of the same agenda and reports on the City’s website.

**Fiscal Impact**

These pay downs of liability will not affect the current year's budget as the funds have been held in a restrictive reserve account. However, the City will immediately be able to reduce its currently stated liability on its financial statements as well as start to see a reduction in future year PERS annual required payments.

With regard to the newly-established OPEB trust, the City will be paying annual trustee fees ranging from \$1,125 to \$6,750 but will have provided for a future liability.

**Commission Review**

Commission has conferred on the concept of paying down these liabilities.

**Attachment:**

1. Bartel & Associates Actuarial Report



**City of South Pasadena  
City Manager's Office**

# Memo

**Date:** February 1, 2022

**To:** The Honorable City Council

**Via:** Arminé Chaparyan, City Manager

**From:** Tamara Binns, Assistant to the City Manager

**Re:** February 2, 2022, City Council Meeting Item No. 13 Additional Document –  
Sundown Town Resolution

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Attached is an additional document which provides greater clarification on:

Section 8. The City will continue to promote diversity in the membership of city commissions **and Ad Hoc Committees;**





## City of South Pasadena City Manager's Office

# Memo

**Date:** February 2, 2022

**To:** The Honorable City Council

**Via:** Arminé Chaparyan, City Manager

**From:** Mary Jerejian, Management Analyst

**Re:** February 2, 2022, City Council Meeting Item No. 14 Additional Document – Approval of a Five-Year Agreement with the South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce for the operation of the South Pasadena Farmers' Market

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Attached is an additional document which provides an update the following items:

1. As an alternate option to the terms in the draft agreement, the South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce is also amenable to an agreement term of 3 years with option to extend for two years. This is in consideration of the major projects in the area that can potentially affect the Farmers' Market and the Parking Management Plan.
2. A scrivener's error has been found in the original staff report: The Chamber of Commerce began management of the Farmers' Market in 2010:

### **Background**

The South Pasadena Farmers' Market was established in 1999 and has been operated by the South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce since ~~2004~~ 2010. The South Pasadena Farmers' Market has created a sustainable local economy, which promotes walkability and connectivity in the City.

3. When the Chamber was awarded their agreement to manage the Farmers' Market in 2010, they began collecting the 2% payments to be made quarterly to the Capital Improvement Account. There is currently \$31,437.60 in the account, and it is at the City's discretion of capital expenditures and improvements as noted in the agreement.

4. The Chamber is agreeable to looking at further diversifying the variety and offerings at the Farmers' Market.
5. A Parking Management Plan was established when the initial agreement was prepared. This includes arrangements with the (former) school district lot and the 899 El Centro Street property for use of those lots for parking, and use of the Gold Line is also encouraged. The Chamber of Commerce would be happy to revise the Plan for City review and amendments.
6. The Chamber of Commerce oversees the Farmers' Market operations and bears the cost of set up, break down, and traffic management. Street closure and traffic control is done by a contractor that is hired by the Chamber to set-up all electrical equipment and power cords, and to provide power to each vendor and farmer (vendors bring their own lights and power cords). The equipment belongs to the Chamber, but the City's power supply is used. The Chamber has arranged with local restaurants to utilize their dumpsters for Market trash. All staffing for the Market is paid for and managed through the Chamber. The City staff will assist if/when there are issues with any of the power receptacles, street issues, etc. The Police Department does take care of any violations of posted parking restrictions by ticketing, towing, etc.



## City of South Pasadena Finance Department

# Memo

**Date:** February 1, 2022

**To:** The Honorable City Council

**Via:** Arminé Chaparyan, City Manager

**From:** Ken Louie, Interim Director of Finance

**Re:** February 2, 2022, City Council Meeting Item No. 15 Additional Document – Investment Philosophy

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The following is an explanation as to why the amount recommended to be a “Potential Transfer from LAIF” is \$21,500,000 compared to the \$16,500,000 which was presented to the Finance Commission:

The amount of cash available for investment has grown significantly (\$5,000,000) since the original analysis was done in November 2021.

**Regular City Council Meeting  
February 2, 2022  
General Public Comment**

**From:** [Karen Taylor](#)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item: Black Lives Matter mural at Orange Grove Park  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 2, 2022 11:50:41 AM

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**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 Karen Taylor and I am voicing my support for the SPHS Anti-Bias Club's Black Lives Matter mural at Orange Grove Park. It is time for the city to make good on their commitment to this project.

signed,  
Karen Taylor

**From:** [Lissa Reynolds](#)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Black Lives Matter mural  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 1, 2022 9:15:51 AM

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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.

We urge the city to approve the Black Lives Mural to be painted at Orange Grove Park. Since it is a project of the South Pasadena High School students, it is necessary to start soon. If we delay some of the students involved with this project will be off to college. I urge the city to put this project on a fast track. I think this mural is beautiful, inspiring, needed, and timely.

Lissa Layng Reynolds  
Founder of SPARC South Pasadena Arts Council  
Managing Director of Fremont Centre Theatre

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Sharon Mizota](#)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** BLM Mural  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 2, 2022 9:33:48 AM

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Dear City Councilmembers,

My name is Sharon Mizota, a parent and resident of South Pasadena, and I am writing in support of the Black Lives Matter mural proposed by the SPHS Anti-Bias Club for Orange Grove Park.

African American history is an important part of South Pasadena history, especially in light of the town's "sundown laws" that prevented people of color from staying in the city overnight. As the parent of a student of color in this community, I feel it is important that she knows this history and be reminded of the contributions of Black people to American culture. I grew up as one of a few kids of color in a mostly white community, in a much less enlightened time, so I know what it's like to grow up feeling that one's culture and identity is marginalized or not important. In fact, I am still struggling with the aftermath of this marginalization as an adult. When you don't see yourself or others like you reflected in community culture, you don't think of yourself as important or worthy of attention.

South Pasadena's reasonably diverse and welcoming community was a big factor in our family's decision to move here. In addition to this "organic" diversity, it's important that our kids are intentionally exposed to the cultures and histories of people of color, and that they see these histories as worthy of civic celebration and pride. The beautiful BLM mural proposed by the Anti-Bias Club will be a strong statement of the city's support for diversity and inclusion in public, cultural life here in South Pasadena.

Thank you,  
Sharon Mizota

--

Sharon Mizota (she/her)  
[sharon@sharonmizota.com](mailto:sharon@sharonmizota.com)  
[www.sharonmizota.com](http://www.sharonmizota.com)

**From:** [Amy Betts](#)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** BLM mural  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 1, 2022 4:03:54 PM

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Hi. My name is Amy Betts and I am writing in support of the BLM mural that SPHS's Anti-Bias Club has worked diligently and persistently to create in our city. Please approve this mural! It aligns perfectly with the Council's resolution to condemn the racist history of South Pasadena and to foster inclusivity. Words on paper are insufficient; the mural would be a tangible and beautiful piece of art in support of people of color. What could possibly be wrong with that? (I'm disheartened to suspect that our city council is perhaps swayed by any possibility of racist complaints. That would be pathetic.) These students have jumped through all your hoops. It's up to the City Council to be sensible and sane and approve the mural. Actions speak louder than words.

Thank you.

Amy and Ken Betts



**From:** [Karissa Chabner](#)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment - Black Lives Matter Mural  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 1, 2022 8:51:04 PM

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Dear South Pasadena City Council Members,

Good Evening. I am Karissa Chabner Adams, a resident of South Pasadena since 2007 and currently serving as the newest South Pasadena Unified School Board member. Tonight I am making a public comment to voice my support for the SPS Anti -Bias Club's Black Lives Matter Mural at Orange Grove Park.

Since moving to SP, my husband and I have been fortunate enough to send our three children ages 16, 14, 12 through the phenomenal schools starting with Calvary Preschool, Arroyo Vista, the middle school and now the high school. We have also both had the pleasure of not only participating in great community organizations, but I am still the acting Softball Commissioner for the South Pasadena Little League. For many years, I have worked hard to give back to my community through our schools and our programs in hopes of furthering the unique and special community our small town has to offer.

From my experience as a mother, a volunteer and a community member in this town, I feel it is very important to support the efforts of the Anti- Bias Club Mural. I am overly impressed yet not surprised by the dedicated, thoughtful efforts of this small group of local, south pasadena high school students who over the past two years have researched and presented a beautiful mural that promotes the values of love, diversity, beauty, inclusivity, and intersectionality within the Black community. This mural acts to offer a POSITIVE message that unites South Pasadena and establishes a hopeful vision for the future. It also offers an opportunity to educate the community on Black history and inspire further research through the QR code-linked website. The famous figures represented in this mural have been carefully researched and are being highlighted for their incredible contributions to the Black community. From singer Nina Simone to astronaut Mae C. Jemison to abolitionist Sojourner Truth to activist Marsha P. Johnson to philanthropist Biddy Mason, the mural brings together Black people who have made significant impact on our nation and the world, weaving together a beautiful story of resilience, progress, and liberation.

The mural would be a welcomed addition to our small town and shows the extent to which we as a community are always moving forward in growth and enlightenment. It has been nearly two years of effort by this group and now we need to see some action on your end. Enough is enough. This is public art with an important message. It must be approved ASAP.

Please approve this mural. South Pasadena needs this Black Lives Matter mural to remind our community to continue working towards an anti-racist future and celebrate our Black residents.

Thank you.  
Karissa Chabner Adams

**From:** [Jenny Gillett](#)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment - BLM Mural  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 1, 2022 6:31:58 PM

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Hello,

My name is Jennifer Gillett, and I am making a public comment to voice my support for the SPHS Anti-Bias Club's Black Lives Matter mural at Orange Grove Park.

The purpose of the mural is to promote love, diversity and inclusivity. Not to mention it looks beautiful and as such improves our public space. We need more positive messages by and for the Black Community. Please take this perfect opportunity to do just that.

Thank you for strengthening our community,

Jennifer Gillett

[jennygillett.com](http://jennygillett.com)

**From:** [Monika Petrillo](#)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment about the BLM mural  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 1, 2022 10:38:46 PM

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**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.

Hi,

My name is Monika Petrillo. I have been a South Pasadena resident for 23 years and have raised my two children here.

When they were little we spent lots of time at the Orange Grove playground. I remember the day somebody told me that Orange Grove used to be public swimming pool. "That must've been so much fun! I wish we still had that..." I thought then and always wondered why it was changed.

Then last year when I put together a scavenger hunt for the high school students, I found out that the reason was rooted in some early racism in our city: Rather than allow black people to use the pool, the city of South Pasadena had opted to close and demolish it! I couldn't believe my ears and felt very embarrassed for my home town.

Thankfully we've come a long way since then. And I can't think of a better way to express that than to allow the Anti-bias Club of SPSHS to paint Zach Brown's POSITIVE mural on the wall in Orange Grove Park.

Now, I am sure that there are still many details to work out about this. But I would expect the City Council to be open to the idea and to seriously discuss it with the students. They have worked hard and put a lot of thought into this issue. They already have support from many community organizations. And it is way overdue that the City Manager sits down with the artist to discuss a contract!

One day when I take my grandchildren to the playground in Orange Grove I would not only like to tell them the story of the pool that used to be there, but to end it by pointing to the BLM mural and add: "...but then, in 2022, South Pasadena proved to be on the right side of history."

Thank you ahead of time for hearing them out and considering the mural.

Sincerely,  
Monika Petrillo

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[www.monikapetrillo.com](http://www.monikapetrillo.com)

Watch [Wink](#) on Amazon  
Watch [Flyabout](#) on Amazon

**From:** [Kristen Swift](#)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for City Council meeting 2/2/22  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 1, 2022 1:41:18 PM

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**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.

Hi there, my name is Kristen Swift and I am making a public comment to voice my support for the SPS Anti-Bias Club's Black Lives Matter mural at Orange Grove Park. I am a resident of South Pasadena, parent, PTA board member and concerned citizen.

I would like to request that you please work with the SPS Anti-Bias club NOW and stop delaying, so that they can get their BLM mural painted at Orange Grove Park, as they have been working towards for 2 years. I see that on your agenda tonight, you are condemning our racial past in South Pasadena. This mural will be one more way to help move forward and applaud black people in our community and country. There is no need to delay anymore.

Let's get this done.

Thank you,  
Kristen Swift

**From:** [Alisa Diez](#)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Re: BLM Proposed mural  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 2, 2022 11:02:56 AM

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Dear City Council,

I am writing to express my full support of the South Pasadena high school group proposing a Black Lives Matter mural at Orange Park. I have seen the proposed artwork and evokes ordinary and extraordinary African Americans in history and I believe it is very much needed and welcome and would give a sense of pride for South Pasadenans. Please approve this request so they may begin fundraising efforts.

Alisa Diez

**From:** [Jennifer Kale](#)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** SPHS Anti-Bias Club's Black Lives Matter mural at Orange Grove Park  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 2, 2022 11:43:00 AM

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**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.

Hello,

My name is Jennifer Kale and I am making a public comment to voice my support for the SPHS Anti-Bias Club's Black Lives Matter mural at Orange Grove Park. I feel strongly about this mural—it's installation is an example of love, diversity and inclusivity within the Black community. It will promote positivity and hope within our South Pasadena community and shed light on our racist past. The art will serve as a reminder of our heritage while educating our youth of the accomplishments of many. The BLM mural will be a beautiful addition to our neighborhood and I look very forward to admiring it in person.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Kale

**From:** [Nicholas Taylor](#)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#); [Nicholas Taylor](#)  
**Subject:** Support for Anti Bias Club Black Lives Matter mural, City Council agenda item on 2, 2, 22  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 2, 2022 11:30:00 AM

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**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 and City Council Members,

Thank you for your time and attention. My name is Nick Taylor and this message is my public comment in full support of the SPHS Anti-Bias Club's Black Lives Matter mural at Orange Grove Park.

I have been a resident of South Pasadena for 14 years and my career has been in support of at-risk young people, 25 years working with unhoused kids in Hollywood and another 7 years, here in town, as one of the founders of the Place of South Pasadena, teen center for youth in South Pas. From this professional lens I cannot say enough about how representation matters - that young people, in particular BIPOC kids, feel seen and heard, included and welcome.

The proposed Black Lives Matter mural is wonderful and important in a number of ways. It is an educational, conversation starter! It will serve to nourish the community goal to make South Pas a welcoming, inclusive place, committed to equity and justice. The famous figures represented in this mural have been carefully researched and are being highlighted for their incredible contributions to the Black community. From singer Nina Simone to astronaut Mae C. Jemison to abolitionist Sojourner Truth to activist Marsha P. Johnson to philanthropist Biddy Mason, the mural brings together Black people who have made significant impact on our nation and the world, weaving together a beautiful story of resilience, progress, and liberation.

The mural's location is important, as a place where young people and families, alike, congregate. And it also helps reimagine the location once known as the Plunge -- which had its own history of racism and exclusion. Re-marking the spot as a place where all are welcome!

It is so important, vis á vis the City's commitment to equity and inclusion --continuing to atone for our town's racist past as a sundown town. Acknowledging and learning from our discriminatory history are first steps in creating an anti-racist future.

Thank you for your time and consideration. And thank you in advance for continuing to live into our beautiful city's promise of justice, diversity, equity and inclusion, making each of these tenets true, for all residents and visitors.

Sincerely,

*nick*

Nick Taylor  
1132 Fairview Ave  
South Pasadena

**Regular City Council Meeting  
February 2, 2022  
Item # 13**



**From:** [Sofia Lopez Singleton](#)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#)  
**Cc:** [Armine Chaparyan](#); [Andrew Jared](#)  
**Subject:** BLM mural support + Sundown Town resolution  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 1, 2022 5:35:20 PM

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**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.

Hi, my name is Sofia Lopez Singleton, and I'm a WOC who's lived in South Pasadena for the past decade. I am making a public comment to voice my support for the SPHS Anti-Bias Club's Black Lives Matter mural at Orange Grove Park.

It is my understanding that the project art and location have both been approved, and I urge you to meet with the stakeholders involved to get the project moving, especially in a month like this, where we are supposed to elevate black voices and stories.

It is my hope that South Pasadena not only condemns its history as a sundown town on 2/2, but also takes immediate action to foster inclusion and eliminate discrimination. One way to do so swiftly is to greenlight the BLM mural to promote the values of love, diversity, beauty, inclusivity, and intersectionality within the Black community. This is a positive mural that unites South Pasadena and establishes a hopeful vision for the future, which will hopefully deter people from vandalizing the town with disgusting Proud Boys stickers, like we've seen in the past few weeks.

I hope you take this note seriously and take action to support the people of color in this town.

thanks,  
sofia

**From:** [John Aboud](#)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting, Agenda Item 13  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 2, 2022 8:28:46 AM

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**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 South Pasadena City Council,

My name is John Aboud, and I am a city resident. In regard to tonight's agenda item 13, I urge the council to take all necessary steps to complete the proposed Black Lives Matter mural at Orange Grove Park. I believe this mural will be a source of pride for our community, and we should complete it as soon as possible.

Thank you for the time and energy you devote to our city.

Sincerely,

John Aboud

**From:** [Jim Dowd](#)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item #13  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 2, 2022 11:40:54 AM

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Dear Mayor Cacciotti and City Council Members,

As a resident of South Pasadena and parent of two children in SPUSD, I hope you will consider meeting with the SPHS Anti-Bias Club to approve the BLM Mural in Orange Grove Park. This mural would complement items on your agenda this evening, including the Black History Month Proclamation and the resolution to condemn the city's history regarding race.

The mural would be a beautiful addition to the park and represent a positive step forward for South Pasadena, at the very site of the de facto segregated Plunge swimming pool. Most importantly, this project was conceived (and will hopefully be implemented) by the youth of our city, who will represent us across our city government in the future.

Sincerely,  
Jim Dowd

**From:** [Care First South Pasadena](#)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#)  
**Cc:** [Tamara Binns](#); [FabiolaMontielTellez@ywcagp.org](mailto:FabiolaMontielTellez@ywcagp.org)  
**Subject:** Public Comment, Agenda Item 13, 2/2 City Council Meeting  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 2, 2022 10:59:50 AM  
**Attachments:** [2022-02-02 Sundown Town Comment.pdf](#)

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**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 our coalition's public comment on Agenda Item 13, Resolution Condemning the City's History as a Sundown Town and Past Practices of Institutionalized Racism.

Please confirm receipt.

Thank you,

Care First South Pasadena

**From:** [Ryan Bell](#)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment, Agenda Item 13, February 2, 2022  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 1, 2022 8:55:17 AM

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**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.

(Please confirm receipt of my email. Thank you!)

Dear Mayor Cacciotti and City Council Members:

My name is Ryan Bell. I am the Southern California Regional Coordinator for Tenants Together. I have been involved in organizing housing justice and other social justice campaigns in Los Angeles and the San Gabriel Valley for the past 17 years. I make these comments as an individual; I don't speak on behalf of my organization.

I urge you to pass, in its current form, the Resolution Condemning the City's History as a Sundown Town and Past Practices of Institutionalized Racism. This is long overdue, and I applaud you for making it part of your agenda.

Given South Pasadena's exclusionary past was a matter of official policy, I am particularly pleased that this ordinance includes provisions to evaluate the City's policies, procedures and ordinances so that a person's race, ancestry, national origin, color, religion, sex or sexual orientation will bring neither discrimination nor disproportionate economic harm. Also praiseworthy is your commitment to reviewing state and county legislation through the same lens.

It is an important first step to renounce South Pasadena's racist past and apologize to the impacted communities of color. I commend you for going one step further to excise remnants of South Pasadena's exclusionary past and ensure that racially disparate harm has no future place in a city with stated principles of racial justice. I hope other cities in the San Gabriel Valley and elsewhere follow your lead.

Thank you in advance for acting swiftly and unanimously to pass this landmark resolution.

Sincerely,

Ryan Bell

**From:** [Stefani Williams](#)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Public Commet - Sundown Town Resolution -BLM Mural  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 1, 2022 10:06:13 PM

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**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.

I am a 15 year resident of South Pasadena, a parent of two former students of South Pasadena High School, and member of the BIPOC community in South Pasadena. I am also a member of the Anti-Racism Committee and an educator. I am making a public comment to voice support for the resolution of the City Council of South Pasadena condemning the city's history as a sundown town and past practices of institutionalized racism (Agenda Item 13). And I believe that the Council can immediately demonstrate their commitment by supporting the SPS Anti-Bias Club's Black Lives Matter mural at Orange Grove Park.

Your support of this mural at Orange Grove Park will signify that our City is walking away from our racist past and taking a visible, tangible, positive step forward into an anti-racist future. This mural will provide windows into Black history, culture, struggle and achievement, and provide mirrors for those Black residents who live in South Pasadena today and in the future.

What an incredibly rich educational tool to have at Orange Grove Park--a public place--and it is especially significant as it will offset the false narrative and historically inaccurate art displayed on at the park's El Centro entry, which depicts "The Plunge" as a racially inclusive South Pasadena public pool. Let's not continue to support this lie. In contradiction to that white-washing, the famous figures represented in this BLM mural were well-researched and are highlighted for their incredible contributions to the Black community. From singer Nina Simone to astronaut Mae C. Jemison to abolitionist Sojourner Truth to activist Marsha P. Johnson to philanthropist Biddy Mason. Additionally, this mural will capture and preserve the spirit of the BLM protests of Summer 2020, especially through the inclusion of local activists London Lang and Fahren James who were instrumental in sparking important conversations, reflections, and action in South Pasadena.

This is a passion project of our city's youth. How can we ignore their plea? The Anti-Bias Club has received approval for the design, however our City Council has yet to approve its location. What is holding up the progress? What is standing in the way of justice and a clearer perspective? As leaders of this city, please move forward. Demonstrate your support.

We know you will do the right thing and approve the resolution. Act now. Please approve this mural's location aat Orange Grove Park,and direct the City Manager to

negotiate a contract with artist Zach Brown.

Stefani Williams, South Pasadena Resident, 915 Palm Avenue

**From:** [carole\\_southpasadenafarmersmarket.org](mailto:carole_southpasadenafarmersmarket.org)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 14, February 2, 2022 Council Meeting  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 1, 2022 3:27:36 PM  
**Attachments:** [Letter to the SP CITY.docx](#)  
[ATT00001.htm](#)

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Agenda item 14, February 2, 2022 Council Meeting

My name is Carole Gallegos and I am proud to be the manager of the South Pasadena Farmers' Market for close to 10 years.

The South Pasadena Farmers Market has been in business for over 23 years. We pride ourselves on being an open and diverse market with a wide variety of vendors and customers attending.

It is a vibrant part of the community and has become a regional draw to farmers market shoppers who come here from Glendale to Arcadia and Altadena to Highland Park. We are very pleased to be consistently recognized by Southern California media as the best Farmers Market in the region.

I would like to thank the city staff and Council of South Pasadena for their continued support of the market even through the various issues we have had to work around in this pandemic era.

It has been my personal pleasure to work with the staff of the South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce office who are a good liaison between the market, city agencies, and the restaurants and businesses operating nearest to the market.

I look forward to carrying on these relationships with everyone involved in making this market one of the best in Los Angeles county



**Regular City Council Meeting  
February 2, 2022  
Item # 14**

**From:** [Norma Medrano](#)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#); [laurie@southpasadena.net](mailto:laurie@southpasadena.net)  
**Subject:** South Pasadena Farmer's Market  
**Date:** Monday, January 31, 2022 8:27:00 PM

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**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 husband and I have lived in South Pasadena for more than 21 years. South Pasadena really helped us launch our new business. We had run a brick-and-mortar restaurant, that had to close down. We are doing Farmers Market and also catering for special events. The management of the South Pasadena's Farmers Market and The Chamber of Commerce in South Pasadena helped us with the paperwork for all the permits and licenses.

The Market is very well-run, Carol, the market manager is very kind and really cares about the farmers and vendors, as well as the customers. She understands all the health and Farmers Market regulations and works with us to make sure we are always in compliance. The market offers good stuff, quality products by reputable producers and vendors. There is balance between producers (farmers) and prepared food vendors.

We like working at the Farmers Market and we really appreciate for having many loyal customers, as well as new customers each week, due to the reputation of the market and its products as well as a very active social media presence of facebook.

We work for other Farmer Markets, but we love to be part of the South Pasadena Farmers Market more, because it is very popular and the sales have increased thanks to the number of customers that keeps growing.

Thank you very much,

Norma & Ulises Medrano  
(Norma's Salsas)

**From:** [Benjamin Smith](#)  
**To:** [laurie@southpasadena.net](mailto:laurie@southpasadena.net)  
**Cc:** [City Council Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** South Pas Market  
**Date:** Monday, January 31, 2022 11:11:32 PM

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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.

Hello,

I work for Underwood Farms and we attend South Pasadena Farmers Market every week. The market is very well run by Carole Gallegos and she is extremely attentive and friendly with all customers and farmers. The amount of loyal customers that come to the market weekly for the 8 years that we have been has been amazing. The South Pas market has a great reputation from other customers at all markets we attend.

Sent from my iPhone