



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING MARCH 17, 2026 COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 735 ANACAPA STREET

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Randy Rowse called the meeting to order at 2:03. (The Ordinance Committee met at 11:00 a.m. The Finance Committee, which ordinarily meets at 12:00 p.m., did not meet on this day.)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Rowse.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers present: Eric Friedman, Oscar Gutierrez, Meagan Harmon, Mike Jordan, Wendy Santamaria, Kristen W. Sneddon, Mayor Randy Rowse.

Councilmembers absent: None.

Staff present: City Administrator Kelly McAdoo, City Attorney John S. Doimas, City Clerk Services Manager Sarah Gorman.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR (Item Nos. 1, 2, 4, 6)

The titles of the ordinances and resolutions related to the consent calendar were read.

Motion:

Councilmembers Gutierrez/Santamaria to approve items 1, 2, 4, and 6 as recommended.

Vote:

Unanimous roll call vote.

1. **Subject: Introduction of Ordinance Authorizing a Utility Easement to Southern California Edison at 51 Crestview Lane [Ordinance Introduction]**
Recommendation: That Council introduce and subsequently adopt, by reading of title only, an Ordinance of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Approving and Authorizing the Public Works Director to Execute a Utility Easement to Southern California Edison and Related Maintenance Agreement for Property Located at 51 Crestview Lane.

Action: Approved the recommendation (March 17, 2026, report from the Public Works Director; proposed Ordinance).

2. **Subject: Budget Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2026 to Support Program Operations at Daytime Navigation and Workforce Development Center at 621 Chapala Street [Resolution]**

Recommendation: That Council adopt, by reading of title only, a Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Amending Resolution No. 25-066, Adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year 2026, to Approve an Increase in Expenditure Appropriations in the Flexible Housing and Homelessness Fund in the Amount of \$145,972 Funded by Measure I Revenue and an Increase in Revenue and Expenditure Appropriations in the City Administrator's Fiscal Year 2026 General Fund Budget in the Amount of \$25,000 Funded by Sublease Revenue to Support an Agreement with the Service Provider for Referral-Based Navigation Center Services at 621 Chapala Street.

Action: Approved the recommendation; Resolution No. 2026-018 (March 17, 2026, report from the City Administrator; proposed Resolution).

4. **Subject: Professional Design Services for Downtown Parking Structures and Facilities Conditions Assessment [Agreement]**

Recommendation: That Council:

- A. Authorize the City Administrator to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Watry Design, Inc. (Watry), in the amount of \$249,900 for professional design services to provide a Comprehensive Downtown Parking Structures and Facilities Conditions Assessment; and
- B. Determine that the Project is exempt under California Environmental Quality Act Guideline § 15306 and direct the filing of a Notice of Exemption in compliance with California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines § 15062.

Action: Approved the recommendations; Agreement No. 30006 (March 17, 2026, report from the City Administrator).

6. Subject: Amendment to City Net Agreement No. 28,759 Allocating Sufficient Funding to Complete Fiscal Year 2026 Funding Cycle [Agreement]

Recommendation: That Council authorize the City Administrator to execute a First Amendment to City Agreement No. 28,759 with Kingdom Causes, Inc. (dba City Net) to increase the HOME ARP Budget Allocation for Fiscal Year 2026, in the amount of \$133,614, and to extend the term of the Agreement to June 30, 2026.

Action: Approved the recommendation; Agreement No. 28759.01 (March 17, 2026, report from the City Administrator).

REPORT FROM THE ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

Ordinance Committee Chair Gutierrez reported on the proceeding of the meeting.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the Public: Mark Redman; Steve Price; Jacqueline Karlsen.

PULLED CONSENT ITEMS

3. Subject: Agreement with RSG, Inc. to Support the Development of a Rent Stabilization Ordinance and Program [Resolution; Agreement]

Recommendation: That Council:

- A. Authorize the City Administrator to execute an Agreement, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney, with RSG, Inc. to assist in developing a rent stabilization ordinance and program; and
- B. Adopt, by reading of title only, a Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Amending Resolution No. 25-066, Adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year 2026, to Approve an Allocation in the Fiscal Year 2026 Expenditure Appropriations in the Flexible Housing and Homelessness Fund in the Amount of \$65,105 to fund an Agreement with RSG, Inc.

Documents:

- March 17, 2026, report from the City Administrator.
- Proposed Resolution
- Proposed Agreement

Speakers:

- Staff: Senior Assistant to the City Administrator Barbara Andersen

Motion:

Councilmembers Harmon/Sneddon to approve the staff recommendation; Resolution No. 2026-019; Agreement No. 30007.

Vote:

Majority roll call vote (Noes: Councilmembers Friedman, Jordan; Mayor Rowse.

5. Subject: Amendment to City Attorney and City Administrator Employment Agreements [Agreement]

Recommendation: That Council approve and authorize the Mayor to execute the First Amendment to the Employment Agreement with City Attorney John Doimas and the Second Amendment to the Employment Agreement with City Administrator Kelly McAdoo, which would modify the retirement contribution provisions to require the employees to pay the statutory member contribution to the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) and an additional 7.5 percent employee cost-sharing contribution toward the employer retirement contribution, resulting in a total employee retirement contribution of 15.5 percent of reportable compensation through Fiscal Year 2027, subject to compliance with applicable CalPERS laws.

Documents:

- March 17, 2026, report from the Human Resources Director.

Motion:

Councilmembers Friedman/Sneddon to approve the staff recommendation; Agreement Nos. 28484.01 and 28555.01.

Vote:

Unanimous roll call vote.

7. Subject: Letters to State and Federal Legislators Supporting Funding for Subsidence-Related Repairs to the State Water Project

Recommendation: That Council authorize the Mayor to send letters to State and Federal legislators to include funding for subsidence-related water infrastructure repairs on the State Water Project's California Aqueduct.

Documents:

- March 17, 2026, report from the Water Resources Director.

Motion:

Councilmembers Friedman/Sneddon to approve the staff recommendation.

Vote:

Unanimous roll call vote.

8. Subject: City of Santa Barbara Public Comment on U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Proposed Rule Changing Treatment of Mixed-Status Households in HUD-Assisted Housing and Rental Assistance Programs

Recommendation: That Council authorize the Mayor to send a letter to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) opposing a proposed rule changing treatment of mixed-status households in HUD-assisted housing and rental assistance programs.

Documents:

- March 17, 2026, report from the City Administrator.

Motion:

Councilmembers Friedman/Sneddon to approve the staff recommendation.

Vote:

Unanimous roll call vote.

CITY COUNCIL ADMINISTRATIVE AND ATTORNEY REPORTS

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

9. Subject: Ordinance Adjusting Tax Rates of Cannabis Businesses [Ordinance Introduction]

Recommendation: That Council introduce and subsequently adopt, by reading of title only, an Ordinance of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Adjusting Tax Rates of Cannabis Businesses Pursuant to Santa Barbara Municipal Code Section 5.42.250 and Rescinding Ordinance No. 5831.

Documents:

- March 17, 2026, report from the Finance Director.
- PowerPoint presentation prepared and made by staff.
- Proposed Ordinance.

Speakers:

- Staff: Finance Director Keith DeMartini; Assistant Finance Director Lyndsay Maas.
- Members of the Public: Jeff Goebel; Aaron Shulman.

Motion:

Councilmembers Harmon/Jordan to approve the staff recommendation.

Vote:

Majority roll call vote (Noes: Councilmembers Friedman, Santamaria).

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

10. Subject: 2025 General Plan Annual Progress Report (CITY2026-00006)

Recommendation: That Council receive the 2025 General Plan Annual Progress Report.

Documents:

- March 17, 2026, report from the Community Development Director.
- PowerPoint presentation prepared and made by staff.

Speakers:

- Staff: Project Planner Jillian Ferguson; Principal Planner Rosie Dyste
- Members of the Public: Rob Fredericks; Cassandra Ensberg.

Discussion:

- Staff gave Council a presentation covering topics, such as: housing activity overview; General Plan implementation, and master environmental assessment guidelines.
- Councilmembers' questions were answered.

COUNCIL AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

COUNCILMEMBER COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT REPORTS & ENGAGEMENTS

- Councilmember Friedman attended the following meetings or events: 1. League of cities channel counties executive committee meeting; 2. Lithuanian Independence Day Celebration; 3. Senate Pro Tem Limon's Women of the Year Award ceremony; 4. 15th Annual CADA program; 5. Radius economic forecast; 6. Channelkeeper 25th anniversary event.
- Councilmember Sneddon attended the following meetings or events: 1. Lithuanian Independence Day Celebration; 2. CCRB special meeting; 3. Radius Group Economic Forecast; 4. Senate Pro Tem Limon's Women of the Year Award ceremony 4. Santa Barbara City College Science Discovery Day.
- Mayor Rowse attended the following meetings or events: 1. Attended City Leadership meeting with City Administrator McAdoo 2. CADA event; 3. Middle Ages Festival at La Colina Junior High.

PUBLIC COMMENT (IF NECESSARY)

No one wished to speak.

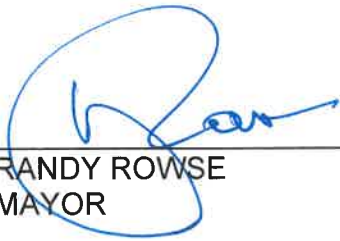
ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Rowse adjourned the meeting at 4:02 pm.

Approved and adopted by the City Council of the City of Santa Barbara on May 12, 2026.

SANTA BARBARA CITY COUNCIL

SANTA BARBARA
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE



RANDY ROWSE
MAYOR

ATTEST:



SARAH GORMAN
CITY CLERK SERVICES MANAGER