



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING DECEMBER 9, 2025 COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 735 ANACAPA STREET

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Randy Rowse called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. (The Finance Committee met at 12:00 p.m. The Ordinance Committee, which normally meets at 12:00 p.m., did not meet 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 Sarah J. Knecht, City Clerk Services Manager Sarah Gorman.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR (Items 1 – 3, 5 - 7)

The titles of the Ordinances and Resolutions were read.

Motion:

Councilmembers Friedman/Gutierrez to approve the consent calendar as recommended.

Vote:

Unanimous roll call vote.

1. Subject: Amendment to the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Installment Sale Agreement for the El Estero Water Resource Center Electrical Distribution Renewal Project [Ordinance Adoption; Agreement] (540.13)

Recommendation: That Council adopt, by reading of title only, an Ordinance of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Approving an Amendment to the Installment Sale Agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board for the El Estero Water Resource Center Electrical Distribution Renewal Project (Project No. 8508-110).

Action: Approved the recommendation; Ordinance No. 6191.

2. Subject: Agreement and Allocation for California Local Housing Trust Fund Grant Program Award [Ordinance Introduction; Resolution; Agreement] (660.01)

Recommendation: That Council:

- A. Introduce and subsequently adopt, by reading of title only, an Ordinance of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Approving and Authorizing the City Administrator to Execute the State of California Department of General Services Standard Agreement with the Department of Housing and Community Development for the Local Housing Trust Fund Grant Program, Commencing upon the Effective Date of the Enabling Ordinance;
- B. Introduce and subsequently adopt, by reading of title only, an Ordinance of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Approving a Loan Agreement with the Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara in the amount of \$1,945,176 for Development of Real Property Located at 15 South Hope Avenue to be Used for Permanent Affordable Housing, to be Secured by a Deed of Trust and a 90-Year Affordability Control Covenant Imposed on Real Property and Authorizing the City Administrator to Execute Such Agreements, Subject to Approval as to Form by the City Attorney; and Rescinding Ordinance No. 6174; and
- C. 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 Revenue Appropriations in the Local Housing Trust Fund in the Amount of \$1,042,476.77 and Approve an Increase in Expenditure Appropriations in the Local Housing Trust Fund in the Amount of \$1,945,176.

Action: Approved the recommendations; Resolution No. 25-131; Agreement Nos. 28,818 and 28,819 (December 9, 2025, report from the City Administrator; Proposed Ordinances; Proposed Resolution).

3. Subject: 2026-2027 Police Management Association Bargaining Unit Memorandum of Understanding [Resolution; Agreement] (440.02)

Recommendation: That Council:

- A. Adopt, by reading of title only, a Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Adopting the 2026-2027 Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Santa Barbara and the Santa Barbara Police Management Association; and
- B. Adopt, by reading of title only, a Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Amending Resolution No. 25-130, the Position and Salary Control Resolution for Fiscal Year 2026, Affecting the Salaries of Certain Classifications in the Police Management Association Effective January 10, 2026.

Action: Approved the recommendations; Resolution Nos. 25-132 and 25-133; Agreement No. 28,824 (December 9, 2025, report from the Human Resources Director; Proposed Resolutions).

5. Subject: Statement of Investment Policy and Delegation of Investment Authority for Fiscal Year 2026 [Resolution] (260.01)

Recommendation: That Council adopt, by reading of title only, a Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Adopting the Investment Policy for the City and Rescinding Resolution No. 24-076.

Action: Approved the recommendation; Resolution No. 25-135 (December 9, 2025, report from the Finance Director; Proposed Resolution).

6. Subject: Professional Services Agreement with RRM Design Group for the Chumash Cultural Project at Ambassador Park [Agreement] (570.05)

Recommendation: That Council authorize the Parks and Recreation Director to execute a Professional Services Agreement with RRM Design Group to provide landscape architecture and civil engineering design services for the Chumash Cultural Project at Ambassador Park, in an amount not to exceed \$200,230.

Action: Approved the recommendation; Agreement No. 28,823 (December 9, 2025, report from the Parks and Recreation Director).

7. Subject: Amendments to Professional Services Agreements for Building Permit, Plan Check, and Inspection Services [Agreement] (610.01)

Recommendation: That Council:

- A. Authorize the Community Development Director to execute the second amendment to Santa Barbara City Agreement No. 22500114 to correct the business name to Jason Addison Smith Consulting Services Inc. dba JAS Pacific, and to increase the agreement amount by \$250,000, for a total contract amount of \$479,000, to provide permit, plan check, and inspection services; and
- B. Authorize the Community Development Director to execute the first amendment to Santa Barbara City Agreement No. 22500243 with Interwest Consulting Group, Inc. to increase the agreement amount by \$100,000, for a total contract amount of \$200,000, to provide permit, plan check, and inspection services; and to delete and replace section 4(a) of the Interwest Consulting Group, Inc., agreement to add a contract termination date of May 20, 2030.

Action: Approved the recommendations: Agreement Nos. 28,829 and 28,830 (December 9, 2025, report from the Sustainability & Resilience Director).

CONSENT PUBLIC HEARING

8. Subject: Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance Related to the Definition of Historic Resources (PLN2025-00050) [Ordinance Introduction] (640.09)

Recommendation: That Council:

- A. Determine that the Zoning Ordinance amendments related to historic resources are consistent with the General Plan;
- B. Determine that the Zoning Ordinance amendments related to historic resources are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15305 Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations; and
- C. Introduce and subsequently adopt, by reading of title only, an Ordinance of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Amending Sections 30.57.030, 30.157.025, 30.157.050, 37.157.110, 37.157.170, 30.220.020, and 30.300.080 of the Santa Barbara Municipal Code Pertaining to Protection of Historic Resources.

Documents:

- December 9, 2025, report from the Community Development Director.
- Proposed Ordinance

Mayor Rowse opened the Public Hearing at 2:06 p.m.

Speakers:

- Members of the Public: None.

Mayor Rowse closed the Public Hearing at 2:09 p.m.

Motion:

Councilmembers Friedman/Sneddon to approve the recommendations as made by staff.

Vote:

Unanimous roll call vote.

REPORT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chair Friedman reported that the Committee discussed the statement of investment policy and delegation of investment authority for fiscal year 2026, and recommended the proposed resolution be forwarded to Council for adoption. Chair Friedman expounded on the benefits of the City's decision to hire asset management firms to manage strategic funds, and some of the above average returns those firms have been able to provide.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the Public: David Crockett Williams; Dean Noble; Jessica Wishan de L'Arbre.

PULLED CONSENT ITEMS

4. **Subject: Selection of Provider for Referral-Based Navigation Center Services at 621 Chapala Street [Resolution; Agreement] (660.04)**

Recommendation: That Council:

- A. Authorize the City Administrator, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney, to execute an Agreement with Kingdom Causes, Inc. (dba City Net) to provide referral-based navigation center services at 621 Chapala Street in Santa Barbara;
- B. Authorize the City Administrator, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney, and approval by the property owner, to execute a Sublease Agreement with Kingdom Causes, Inc. (dba City Net) for the first floor of 621 Chapala Street; and

- C. 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 Fiscal Year 2026 Expenditure Appropriations in the Flexible Housing Fund in the Amount of \$250,000 to Fund an Agreement for Referral-Based Navigation Center Services at 621 Chapala Street.

Documents:

- December 9, 2025, report from the City Administrator.
- Proposed Resolution.

Speakers:

- Staff: Senior Assistant to the City Administrator Barbara Andersen.
- Members of the Public: Maureen Ellenberger; Rich Sander; Joyce Berg; Tara Wright; Lindsey Black, Beth Collins, Leticia Trujillo, Landon Ranck.

Motion:

Councilmembers Santamaria/Jordan to table the item and bring it back for discussion in the new year.

Vote:

Majority roll call vote (No: Mayor Rowse).

CITY COUNCIL ADMINISTRATIVE AND ATTORNEY REPORTS

SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE

9. Subject: Adaptation & Resilience Program Update, and Release of Draft Wastewater and Water Systems Climate Adaptation Plan (630.02)

Recommendation: That Council receive an update on the City's Adaptation & Resilience Program and public release of the Draft Wastewater and Water Systems Climate Adaptation Plan.

Documents:

- December 9, 2025, report from the Sustainability and Resilience Director.
- PowerPoint presentation prepared and made by staff.

Speakers:

- Staff: Energy and Climate Manager Melissa Hetrick; Water Resources Director Joshua Haggmark.
- Members of the Public: None.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

10. Subject: Report on Community Risk Assessment and Standards of Cover Study, and Request Funding for Fire Station Location and Facility Master Plan [Resolution] (520.03)

Recommendation: That Council:

- A. Receive the attached report presenting the priority recommendations from the Community Risk Assessment and Standards of Cover Study that pertain to the adequate provision of fire services in the City of Santa Barbara;
- B. Authorize the Fire Chief to negotiate and enter into a consulting contract, approved as to form by the City Attorney, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 for a Station Location and Facility Master Plan;
- C. Increase expenditure appropriations in the Fiscal Year 2026 Fire Department budget in the amount of \$100,000 from Measure C Funds; and
- D. 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 Appropriate Funds for a Fire Station Location and Facility Master Plan.

Documents:

- December 9, 2025, report from the Fire Chief.
- PowerPoint presentation prepared and made by staff.
- Proposed Resolution.

Speakers:

- Staff: Fire Chief Chris Mailes.
- Consultant: Reva Feldman.
- Members of the Public: None.

Councilmember Harmon was excused from the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Motion:

Councilmembers Sneddon/Friedman to approve the recommendations as made by staff; Resolution No. 25-136.

Vote:

Unanimous roll call vote (Absent: Councilmember Meagan Harmon).

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

11. Subject: UBGC Gold Card Recipients 2025 - Est. Start Time 5:00 p.m. (120.04)

Action: Mayor Rowse presented the award to the Boys and Girls Club gold card recipients and congratulated them on their achievement.

COUNCIL AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

COUNCILMEMBER COMMUNITY ASSIGNMENT REPORTS & ENGAGEMENTS

-Mayor Pro Tem Friedman attended the following meetings or events: 1. Sustainability Holiday Open House; 2. Independent Local Heroes Luncheon; 3. City Attorney Sarah Knecht Retirement Event; 4. Stearns Wharf Tree Lighting; 5. Alzheimer’s Walk; 6. Regional Fire Communications Center Ribbon Cutting.

-Councilmember Gutierrez attended the following meetings or events: 1. Marked Passing of Photographer Kenji Fukudome; 2. Marked Passing of Tayden Tomblin; 3. Paseo Nuevo, Harbor, and Downtown Santa Barbara Tree Lightings; 4. La Arcada Christmas Walk; 5. Sip and stroll at Mission and Presidio; 6. Trapeze Holiday Party; 7. MOVE Christmas Party; 8. Posada on Milpas; 9. Lobero Theatre Light Up a Life; 10. Our Lady of Sorrows Honoring of the Virgin of Guadalupe Procession.

-Councilmember Jordan attended the following meetings or events: 1. Sustainability Holiday Open House.

-Councilmember Sneddon attended the following meetings or events: 1. Historic Landmark Committee Meeting; 2. Toba Sister City Event; 3. City Attorney Sarah Knecht Retirement Event; 4. Sustainability Committee; 5. Cachuma Conservation Release Board; 6. Stearns’ Wharf and Downtown Santa Barbara Tree Lighting; 7. Upper East Association Annual Meeting; 8. Regional Fire Communications Center Ribbon Cutting.

PUBLIC COMMENT (IF NECESSARY)

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Rowse adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m. in honor of Kenji Fukudome and Tayden Tomblin.

Approved and adopted by the City Council of the City of Santa Barbara on January 13, 2026.

SANTA BARBARA CITY COUNCIL

SANTA BARBARA
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE



RANDY ROWSE
MAYOR

ATTEST:



SARAH GORMAN
CITY CLERK SERVICES MANAGER