



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 23, 2025  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 735 ANACAPA STREET**

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## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Randy Rowse called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. (The Finance Committee and Ordinance Committee, which normally meet at 12:00 p.m., did not meet this day).

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Rowse.

## **ROLL CALL**

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

Councilmembers absent: Councilmember Oscar Gutierrez.

Staff present: City Administrator Kelly McAdoo, City Attorney Sarah J. Knecht, Deputy City Clerk Austin Taylor.

## **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

There were no changes to the agenda.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR (Item Nos. 1-3)**

The titles of the Ordinances and Resolutions were read.

### **Motion:**

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

### **Vote:**

Unanimous roll call vote (Absent: Councilmember Gutierrez).

**1. Subject: Minutes (000.00)**

Recommendation: That Council waive reading and approve the minutes for the special and regular meetings of September 9, 2025.

Action: Approved the recommendation.

**2. Subject: 2025-2027 Fire Management Association Bargaining Unit Memorandum of Understanding and Amendment of Resolution No. 25-071, the Position and Salary Control Resolution for Fiscal Year 2026 [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 2025-2027 Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Santa Barbara and the Santa Barbara Fire Management Association; and
- B. Adopt, by reading of title only, a Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Amending Resolution No. 25-071, the Position and Salary Control Resolution for Fiscal Year 2026, Affecting the Salaries of Certain Classifications in the Fire Management Association Effective September 23, 2025.

Action: Approved the recommendation; Resolution Nos. 25-104, 25-105; Agreement No. 28,788 (September 23, 2025, report from the Human Resources Director).

**3. Subject: Contract Amendment for Design Support Extra Services for the Cater Water Treatment Plant Reservoir Resiliency Project [Agreement] (540.1)**

Recommendation: That Council authorize the Public Works Director to execute the Second Contract Amendment with Carollo Engineers Inc., for design services for the Cater Water Treatment Plant Reservoir Resiliency Project, Contract No. 26,976, in the amount of \$208,468, for a total expenditure authority of \$1,546,974.

Action: Approved the recommendation; Agreement No. 28,789 (September 23, 2025, report from the Water Resources Director).

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

Members of the Public: Jeff Shaffer, Joy Sturges, Byranie Thomas.

## PULLED CONSENT ITEMS

None.

## CITY COUNCIL ADMINISTRATIVE AND ATTORNEY REPORTS

### QUASI-JUDICIAL HEARING RULES APPLY TO THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEM

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

#### PUBLIC HEARING

**4. Subject: Appeal of Planning Commission's Approval of the 633 East Cabrillo Boulevard Hotel Expansion Project [Resolution] (640.07)**

Recommendation: That Council:

- A. Consider and deny the appeal filed by the Law Office of Jordan R. Sisson, on behalf of UNITE HERE Local 11, of Planning Commission's Approval of the 633 E. Cabrillo Blvd. Hotel Expansion Project; and
- B. Adopt, by reading of title only, a Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Denying the Appeal of the Law Office of Jordan R. Sisson, on Behalf of UNITE HERE Local 11, and Upholding the Decision of the Planning Commission to Approve the Project at 633 E. Cabrillo Blvd.

Mayor Rowse opened the public hearing at 2:12 p.m.

Ex parte disclosures:

- Councilmember Sneddon disclosed that she had a meeting with the appellants regarding what is already in the documents.
- Councilmember Harmon spoke to Unite Here Local 11 on the phone to say she does not take ex parte communications regarding City Council appeal matters.
- Councilmember Santamaria spoke to Unite Here Local 11 regarding what is already in the documents.
- Mayor Pro Tem Friedman received an email from Appellant requesting to meet, to whom he stated he doesn't take ex parte communications regarding City Council appeal matters.
- Councilmember Jordan declined to speak to either side.
- Mayor Rowse disclosed that he is familiar with the Parker family and was part of the Council in 2016 when this was last heard.

No other ex parte communications were disclosed.

**Documents:**

- September 23, 2025, report from the Interim Community Development Director.
- PowerPoint presentation prepared and presented by staff.
- Proposed Resolution.

**Speakers:**

- Staff: Project Planner Kathleen Kennedy, Assistant City Attorney Tava Ostrenger.
- Appellant: Jordan R. Sisson.
- Applicant: Clay Aurell, Cameron Goodman, Eli Parker
- Planning Commission: Commissioner Lucille Boss.
- Historic Landmark Commission: Commissioner Anthony Grumbine.
- Members of the public: Andrew Seymour, Matt Richards, Frank Bautista, Brenda Romero, Bridget Day.

Councilmembers' questions were answered.

**Motion:**

Councilmembers Jordan/ Harmon to approve the recommendations as made by staff, with the removal of the site visit from the Proposed Resolution recitals, as requested by the City Attorney.

**Vote:**

Unanimous roll call vote (Absent: Councilmember Gutierrez).

Mayor Rowse closed the public hearing at 4:09 p.m.

## **COUNCIL AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

### **COUNCILMEMBER COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT REPORTS & ENGAGEMENTS**

-Councilmember Friedman attended the following meetings or events: 1. BEACON; 2. Sustainability Committee; 3. Tails of Hope; 4. National Rehabilitation Week; 5. Children's Library 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; 6. Planned Parenthood 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Book Sale.

-Councilmember Sneddon attended the following meetings or events: 1. Sustainability Committee; 2. Creek Week Kickoff; 3. Coastal Cities League of Cities Legislative Update; 4. Cachuma Release Board Meeting; 5. Children's Library 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; 6. Sun Day Celebration; 7. Local UN Peace Prize Proclamation; 8. Cachuma Operation and Management Meeting.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT (IF NECESSARY)**

No one wished to speak.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Rowse adjourned the meeting at 4:14 p.m.

Approved and adopted by the City Council of the City of Santa Barbara on October 7, 2025.

SANTA BARBARA CITY COUNCIL

SANTA BARBARA  
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RANDY ROWSE  
MAYOR

ATTEST:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
SARAH GORMAN  
CITY CLERK SERVICES MANAGER