

MINUTES

**JOINT CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY/HOUSING AUTHORITY
OF THE CITY OF DUARTE
REGULAR MEETING – JULY 26, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER The City Council/Redevelopment Agency/Housing Authority of the City of Duarte met in a regular meeting in the Council Chambers, 1600 Huntington Drive, Duarte, California. Mayor Paras-Caracci called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m., with three members present.

RECORDATION OF ATTENDANCE The following were in attendance:
PRESENT: Fasana, Finlay (arrived during Closed Session), Gaston, Reyes (arrived after Closed Session), Paras-Caracci
ABSENT: None
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT: City Manager George, City Attorney Slater

ADOPTION OF AGENDA Gaston moved, Fasana seconded to adopt the Agenda, and carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION
Conference – Legal Counsel
Existing Litigation
There was no public input. Slater announced the Closed Session is pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a); Conference with Legal Counsel; *People of the State of California By and Through Authorized Relators George Brokate and Excalibur Holdings, LLC, Plaintiffs, v. Doug Tessitor, Sam Pedroza, Ed Reyes, Keith Hanks, John Fasana, William Bogaard, Michael Cacciotti, and Mary Ann Lutz, Defendants, and Pasadena Metro Blue Line Construction Authority, a.k.a. Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, City of Azusa, City of Claremont, City of Duarte, City of Glendora, City of Los Angeles, City of Monrovia, City of Pasadena, and City of South Pasadena, as Real Parties In Interest, and Application to California Attorney General for Leave to File Petition for Writ of Quo Warranto.* The Closed Session concluded at 7:02 p.m. City Council reconvened at 7:13 p.m.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG Elizabeth Bagwell led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MOMENT OF REFLECTION A moment of reflection was observed.

FITNESS/MENTAL WARM-UP Fasana and Finlay provided the warm-up.

PUBLIC REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION Slater stated the Closed Session item pertains to litigation by holders of property in Monrovia naming several public officials and cities (including Councilmember John Fasana and the City of Duarte) relating to the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority, alleging that members cannot sit on the Board and also be a City Councilmember. It was determined that Rutan & Tucker will represent the City of Duarte and John Fasana. (Reyes was not in attendance at the Closed Session. Fasana did not participate in the portion of the Closed Session concerning the Council discussion/decision on the City defending both itself and Fasana, but participated in the later discussion on the City's defense of the matter.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS Rainbow Yeung, AQMD, provided copies of brochures, discussed the draft air quality-related energy policy, announced upcoming AQMD programs, and stated Board Member Cacciotti would make a presentation at an upcoming meeting.
Lisa Magno announced the parade theme is “Get Your Groove on Route 66, ” and invited all to attend the parade on September 24, and committee meetings held on Wednesday evenings.

Rodney Jefferson announced “A” Game Fundamentals clinic August 1-5, and invited Council to the closing day ceremony.

Karen Herrera announced upcoming community events in the months of July, August, and September.

Donna Georgino announced “Dine Out at IHOP in Duarte” on August 12 as part of the Duarte Youth and Family Master Plan to promote family togetherness.

SPECIAL ITEMS

Proclamation – National Night Out 2011

Brian Villalobos described the events planned for the 28th annual National Night Out on August 2, 2011. Mayor Paras-Caracci presented a Proclamation for National Night Out, and encouraged all to participate.

Recognition – Promise Fellows

Karen Herrera described the Duarte’s Promise: The Alliance for Youth program, introduced the Promise Fellows, and stated all Duarte Promise Fellows will receive a President’s Volunteer Service Award (Gold Level). Mayor Paras-Caracci presented service awards to Frank Valenzuela, Luz Yesenia Serna, Idania Arellano, Philip Ledesma, Gary Smith, Alonzo Alatorre, and Anna Sieh, and also presented Anna Sieh with a Certificate of Appreciation for her two years of service as a Promise Fellow.

Recognition – Elizabeth Bagwell 2011 Woman in Business

Mayor Paras-Caracci introduced Elizabeth Bagwell, and presented her a congratulatory certificate for being named one of the 2011 Women in Business by the California State Legislature.

Presentation – Public Safety Update

Brian Villalobos provided the monthly Public Safety update, described the City’s suppression, intervention, and prevention programs, and encouraged participation in Neighborhood Watch and National Night Out.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

The following spoke on items not on the Agenda.
David Gallivan – Vulcan mining contract, schools.

ITEMS ADDED TO CONSENT

Finlay moved, Reyes seconded to add Conference Attendance at the California Contract Cities Association 37th Annual Board of Directors Meeting in Arcadia on August 17, 2011, to Consent Item 12.E, and carried unanimously.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Reyes moved, Finlay seconded to approve the Consent Calendar, as amended, as follows, and carried unanimously.
Approve Items A, B, C, D, E.

BUSINESS ITEM

Foothill Transit Zone Delegate and Alternate

George provided a brief staff report about the Delegate and Alternate to the Foothill Transit Zone. Fasana stated he is asking to step down as Delegate at this time.

Reyes moved, Finlay seconded to appoint Mayor Paras-Caracci as Delegate, and Mayor Pro Tem Gaston as Alternate, to the Foothill Transit Zone, and carried unanimously.

ITEMS FROM CITY COUNCIL/ CITY MANAGER

REYES: Thanked the City Manager for the letter sent to Edison, stated the last meeting was adjourned in memory of Tom Moore, this week it will be adjourned in memory of his son Kevin, both served the community well and will be missed, requested an item be on the agenda about the possibility of naming a park after Margaret Viramontes, requested a clarification of the status of Duarte Road and the transportation dollars for the project, in the interest of increasing bicycle ridership, he would like the City to create more bike lanes and be more bike-friendly in the community, and requested an item at the next meeting regarding UFCW resolutions and adopting a store, and provided information to Councilmembers.

FASANA: Attended Senator Hernandez' Town Hall Coffee at Joe's Place, regarding bike lanes, he would like to consider options of access through the golf course and connecting to the San Gabriel River bridge, discussed the difficulty in fighting for the environment, and stated regarding the local mining issue, we are doing the right thing.

FINLAY: Requested an agenda item or staff report about SB 469 opposed by the League, Contract Cities, and Independent Cities Association as it will take more power away from cities, requested more information on the documents Councilmember Reyes passed out, stated the Sierra Club publication rated our water quality as a 9 in the poor category, and requested staff to find out what the ranking means, and discussed an article in the Los Angeles Times about a USC poll regarding expanded local taxes.

GASTON: Stated the library opening was spectacular, Women in Business honorees have been from Duarte for three years in a row, the League and Contract Cities sent letters to the State Legislature requesting a reversal of the action taken regarding Assemblymember Portantino, she hopes we follow their lead and speak out against this and asked the City Manager to follow-up, thanked Senator Hernandez for coming to our town and thanked Joe's Place for the setting, thanked Susana Capra from the Senior Center for the use of the sewing machines, attended Margaret Viramontes' funeral, attended the National Convention of the NAACP ACT-SO competition and stated five participants were from Duarte High School, she hopes we encourage opportunities for baseball tournaments, asked that Matt Dalessandro be recognized when his Eagle Scout project is completed, stated Reyna Diaz and a dignitary from Nicaragua will be honored at an event on August 5, she would like them to have certificates and she would like Reyna Diaz to be recognized at a Council meeting, and thanked the Edison Company for granting \$25,000 to the Duarte Coordinating Council for non-profits.

GEORGE: Stated the Assistant City Manager received a letter from Standard and Poor's rating agency indicating that the City has received an AAA/A-1+ rating, read the response received from Edison Company regarding the City's letter about outages, and stated the letter will be posted on the City's website.

PARAS-CARACCI: Read a note from Mrs. Bunting thanking the City Council for adjourning in memory of George Bunting.

ADJOURNMENT

Finlay moved, Fasana seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m., in memory of Kevin Moore, Margaret Viramontes, Ralph McKnight, and Jill Norgard, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Tzeitel Paras-Caracci

ATTEST:

City Clerk