

# **City of Fresno**

*2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721  
[www.fresno.gov](http://www.fresno.gov)*



## **Meeting Minutes - Final**

**Monday, October 12, 2020**

**9:00 AM**

**Budget Hearing**

**Council Chambers**

### **City Council**

***President - Miguel Angel Arias***

***Vice President - Paul Caprioglio***

***Councilmembers:***

***Esmeralda Z. Soria, Mike Karbassi, Luis Chavez, Garry Bredefeld,***

***Nelson Esparza***

***City Manager - Wilma Quan***

***City Attorney - Douglas T. Sloan***

***City Clerk - Yvonne Spence, MMC***

City Council met in budget session, City Hall on the date and time written above.

**9:15 A.M. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 7 - President Miguel Angel Arias  
Vice President Paul Caprioglio  
Councilmember Esmeralda Z. Soria  
Councilmember Mike Karbassi  
Councilmember Luis Chavez  
Councilmember Garry Bredefeld  
Councilmember Nelson Esparza

**Monday, October 12, 2020 - 9:00 A.M.**

[ID](#) GF Overview  
[20-001270](#)

*The Mayor gave opening remarks about the Fiscal Year 2021 General Fund Revised Budgets significant changes, 1. The General Fund projected to end Fiscal Year 2021 at a positive \$2.3 million, 2. On-going revenues projected at \$354.5 million, \$1.4 million lower than the Amended Budget, 3. Total appropriations ended at \$404.9 million, \$41 million increase from the Amended Budget, and 4. Net transfers ended at a positive \$27.4 million, \$44.3 million above Amended due to budgeting remaining balance of CARES reimbursements.*

*The General Fund Overview budget was presented to Council by Budget Manager Fierro, City Manager's Office. Upon call, the following members addressed Council: Ivanka Saunders and Lisa Flores.*

*Council President Arias requested a follow-up on who approves increases in Retirement pension costs. City Manager Quan responded she would reach out to Retirement Administrator Theller.*

*Councilmember Soria requested an explanation regarding the differences in the five (5) year forecast from Fiscal Year 2020 to Fiscal Year 2021 revised.*

*Councilmember Chavez requested if the five (5) year projection forecast be reduced to two (2) or three (3) year projection. Budget Manager Fierro*

*responded.*

*Discussion was held between the Councilmembers and staff regarding savings from the hiring freeze, vacant positions for three (3) years or more in each department, CARES Act money, and why there was an increase in Workers Compensation cases. Councilmembers spoke regarding public safety and the sales tax projections from Amazon, Gap, and Ulta.*

*Councilmember Soria requested an up-to-date report of citywide vacancies, including frozen positions.*

[ID](#)            Airports  
[20-001271](#)

*The Airports budget was presented to Council by Director Meikle, Airports Department and Budget Manager Fierro, City Manager's Office. Upon call, there was no public comment.*

*Discussion was held between Councilmembers and staff regarding ride sharing at the airports, maintaining the new parking garage, CARES Act, and the flex operation in Mexico.*

[ID](#)            Department of Transportation (FAX)  
[20-001272](#)

*The Transportation budget was presented to Council by Director Barfield, Transportation Department and Budget Manager Fierro, City Manager's Office. Upon call, the following member of the public addressed Council: Yonas Paulos.*

*Discussion was held between Councilmembers and staff regarding the vacant positions in the Transportation department and when they plan to be filled. They spoke regarding Measure C and the expansion of routes and the upgrades on the buses. Councilmembers discussed Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) and if they expressed their thoughts on the public services provided to them.*

*Councilmember Soria requested the cost of the electrical vehicle charging project and to provide feedback to Council on the Measure C meetings once*

*the meetings resume. Director Barfield responded.*

*Council President Arias requested to increase the cleaning at Rural Transit Bus stop located at the 7-Eleven across from City Hall and he requested a meeting with Transportation in regards to the vacancies to discuss the necessary workaround to explore what contractual problems are at stake. Council President Arias requested the Measure C spending plan be brought before Council by the Transportation and Public Works Department. Director Barfield responded.*

[ID](#) Convention Center  
[20-001273](#)

*The Convention Center budget was presented to Council by Budget Manager Fierro, City Manager's Office. Upon call, the following member addressed Council: Sam Frank.*

*Councilmember Soria requested a status of contractual obligations at the Stadium and the expenditures that are eligible under various funding sources (FEMA, OES, CARES Act, etc.) when the County of Fresno utilized the Convention Center for a pop-up hospital for Non-COVID patients. City Manager Quan responded.*

**City Council recessed for lunch at 12:00 P.M. and returned from lunch at 2:11 P.M.**

[ID](#) Public Works Department  
[20-001380](#)

*The Public Works Department budget was presented to Council by Director Mozier, Public Works Department and Budget Manager Fierro, City Manager's Office. Upon call, the following member addressed Council: Ivanka Saunders.*

*Discussion was held between Councilmembers and staff regarding the infrastructure projects by district, the bike lane on Palm Avenue, the paving of the parkway north of the Sikh Temple, the vacancies in the department, and the bottlenecking off Shaw and Gates. Councilmembers spoke regarding the improvements off Blackstone and McKinley and when the project will be completed.*

*Council President Arias requested a list of all Public Works Department infrastructure projects by district in the Fiscal Year 2021 revised budget and a list of \$2 million in projects funded by the general fund that were paused and a list of any Senate Bill (SB1) projects that were removed or deferred. Director Mozier and Budget Manager Fierro responded.*

*Councilmember Karbassi motioned to direct the Public Works Director or his designee to prepare a report within 45 days to the City Council regarding options to enact a Citywide Community Facilities District (CFD) or other relevant funding mechanism to provide maintenance and infrastructure to all neighborhoods in the City of Fresno. Councilmember Soria seconded the motion.*

[ID](#) Department of Public Utilities  
[20-001275](#)

*The Public Utilities Department budget was presented to Council by Director Carbajal, Public Utilities Department and Budget Manager Fierro, City Manager's Office. Upon call, there was no public comment.*

*Discussion was held between Councilmembers and staff regarding recyclables and police officers spending their time on Protect Blue duties, the \$4 million funded for the Convenience Center and the vacant positions in the department.*

*Councilmember Soria requested an estimate of illegal dumping costs for Fiscal Year 2020 and what the citation fee amount is for illegal dumping.*

*Council President Arias requested an update on the past Council approval on the increase costs for recycling vendors and the amount of time Solid Waste staff police officers spend on Protect Blue duties and the costs for the of the last two (2) years.*

*Councilmember Soria motioned to assure funding is allocated in Department of Public Utilities Department for Fiscal Year 2021 budget to complete the Convenience Center. Council President Arias seconded the motion.*

*Council President Arias motioned to direct staff to provide Council with a workshop by Department of Public Utilities with options for bulk pick-up for multi-family residences.*

*Council President Arias motioned to allocate \$500,000 for the Maxie L. Parks Community Center to begin the contamination mitigation process.  
Councilmember Karbassi seconded the motion.*

**Motions and Directions**

[ID](#) Council Motions and Directions for October 12, 2020 budget hearings.  
[20-001441](#)

**ADJOURNMENT**

*City Council adjourned the October 12, 2020 budget at 4:16 P.M.*