

FEBRUARY 8, 2023 – CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Wu called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: M/Wu, MPT/Tragarz, C/Cajulis, C/Ching, C/Freedman,
ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: MPT/Tragarz

Also present: City Manager Weiner; Community Development Director Vasquez, Community Services Director Barcelo, City Attorney Leibold; Deputy Community Services Director Bumia; Superintendent Community Services Martinez; Administrative Services Manager Carlson; Planning and Code Enforcement Manager Guerra; Public Information Officer Maio; Management Analyst Markel; and City Clerk De Dios.

DISCUSSION ITEM:

- **City Special Events and Weed Abatement**

CSD/Barcelo and SCS/Martinez provided information regarding Weed Abatement.

Discussion took place amongst Council and staff regarding the weed abatement process, budget impacts, the history of weed abatement in LOSMD (lighting and open space management district) areas, and abatement options.

C/Ching recommended informing residents of the rising costs of weed abatement and LOSMD landscaping in an effort to adjust LOSMD fees as well as informing them of any changes in service should there be any next year.

CSD/Barcelo stated that staff will continue this fiscal year as is and will do a comprehensive analysis that will be brought back to Council next year.

M/Wu opened public comment.

William Harrison expressed concerns regarding increases to insurance policies of property owners in the abatement areas serviced by the City.

CA/Leibold stated that the City would always perform the mandated abatement amount as required by the inspection of Los Angeles County.

DCSD/Bumia provided information regarding citywide special events scheduled for the year.

Discussion took place amongst Council and staff regarding the different special event options, potential cost savings, adjusting special event dates and locations, and exploring co-hosting a Lunar New Year event.

C/Freedman recommended moving the Halloween event to Creekside Park.

C/Ching stated he is okay with Option A presented and asked staff to look into co-hosting certain events with nearby cities.

C/Cajulis stated that he is leaning towards Option A for the cost savings.

M/Wu stated that he is okay with Option A.

CSD/Barcelo thanked Council for their input and stated that staff will bring back different layout and event options for City Council to consider at a future meeting.

M/Wu opened public comment.

William Harrison suggested eliminated Lunar New Year event to save money or have an event that recognizes the diversity in Walnut.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

There being no input, it was unanimously moved by Council to close oral communications. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 8th day of March 2023.

Dr. Allen Wu, Mayor

ATTEST:

Teresa De Dios, City Clerk

PREPARED BY:

Ray Markel, Management Analyst