

**MINUTES
VERNON BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2024
COUNCIL CHAMBER, 4305 SANTA FE AVENUE**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sachdeva called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

FLAG SALUTE

Chair Sachdeva led the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Duncan Sachdeva, Chair
Hector Morfin, Vice Chair
Jack Cline, Commissioner
Thomas Condon, Commissioner

ABSENT:

Cathy Browne, Commissioner
Crystal Larios, Commissioner
Douglas Williams, Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT:

Angela Kimmey, Deputy City Administrator
Zaynah Moussa, City Attorney
Yonnie Parker, Deputy City Clerk
Jessica Alcaraz, Financial Services Administrator
Dan Wall, Public Works Director
Robert Sousa, Police Chief

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION

Commissioner Cline moved and Commissioner Condon seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The question was called and the motion carried 4-3, Commissioners Browne, Larios, and Williams absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Fiscal Year 2024-25 Proposed Budget Overview

Financial Services Administrator Alcaraz presented the report.

In response to Commission questions, Financial Services Administrator Alcaraz, Deputy City Administrator Kimmey, and Assistant General Manager Otto provided information on revenue, budget reserves, and fiber optics.

2. Metro Link Union Station (Link US) Project

LA Metro staff, Carlos Montez, Deputy Executive Officer, Countywide Planning and Development, and Danielle Valentino, Manager, Community Relations provided information and an accompanying PowerPoint presentation.

In response to Commission questions, LA Metro provided information on the Metro Link Union Station Link US Project, 49th Street closure, options and outreach efforts and feedback from property owners.

Chair Sachdeva thanked LA Metro and invited public comment.

Michael Melideo, the owner of Consolidated Fabricators, addressed the traffic impacts and safety concerns of the project along Santa Fe and 49th Street. He also mentioned the potential impacts on his ability to conduct business at 4600 and 4848 Santa Fe.

Randy Greenberg of Crystal Art Gallery, requested more follow-up from LA Metro.

Stephanie Sagaub, property manager of 4811 Hampton requested more information from LA Metro on the project and traffic impacts related to the 200 trucks coming into the business weekly.

Marissa Olguin, Vernon Chamber of Commerce, spoke encouraging LA Metro and the City to re-evaluate traffic impacts on local businesses and requested more collaboration.

In response to Commission and public questions, LA Metro representatives expressed willingness to follow up on the input received and provided information related to the timeline of the EIR, the public review and comment period, and willingness to meet with stakeholders to address concerns and mitigate impacts to the city.

The Commission reached a consensus to invite LA Metro to bring the item back for further discussion at a Special Meeting with a date to be determined.

RECESS

At 10:30 a.m., Chair Sachdeva recessed the meeting for a short break.

RECONVENE

At 10:38, Chair Sachdeva reconvened the meeting.

3. LA River Path Project

LA Metro staff, Khristian Decastro, Principal Transportation Planner, Countywide Planning and Development, and Matthew Marquez, Manager, Community Relations provided an update on the project and an accompanying PowerPoint presentation.

In response to Commission questions, LA Metro representatives answered questions related to bike path connectivity, as well as the chance to voice concerns and comments during the current environmental review process. Police Chief Sousa answered questions related to safety concerns along the proposed bike path.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION

Commissioner Condon moved and Commissioner Cline seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. The question was called and the motion carried 4-3, Commissioners Browne, Larios, and Williams absent.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following item:

4. Meeting Minutes

Recommendation: Approve the March 14, 2024, Special Business and Industry Commission Meeting Minutes.

ORAL REPORTS

5. Brief Reports, Announcements, or Directives to Staff

Deputy City Administrator Kimmey announced the City is accepting applications from members of the community interested in serving on the City's Business and Industry Commission (BIC) and the Green Vernon Commission (GVC). The deadline to submit applications is May 9, 2024. Vernon's Job Fair is scheduled for Thursday, May 23, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Chair Cline requested staff to bring a discussion item back to the Commission regarding public safety security cameras.

Commissioner Condon praised Commissioner Cline for his contributions to the Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chair Sachdeva adjourned the meeting at 11:18 a.m.

DUNCAN SACHDEVA, Chair

ATTEST:

YONNIE PARKER, Secretary
(seal)