



Citizens Advisory Committee Agenda

Wednesday, November 3, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

TELECONFERENCE

DIAL-IN-NUMBER:1-669-900-6833

MEETING ID: 893 8557 6940#

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89385576940>

Call To Order

Pledge Of Allegiance

Roll Call

CHAIRPERSON

Cyndi Esquivel

VICE CHAIRPERSON

Jimmy Torres

COMMISSIONERS

Maria De Lourdes Castillo

Janet Cazares

Candice Esquivel

Brigitte Garza

Susan F. Janer

Juliano A. Jarquin

Virginia Johnson

Jovanna Laborin

Darlene Lopez

COMMISSIONERS

Denisse Martinez

Angelica Martinez

Norma Mendoza

Christina Montalvo

Benigno Nunez

Lizette Ruiz

Jacqueline Saucedo

Anthony Zepeda

COVID 19 Meeting Procedures

Pursuant to Government Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20, dated March 17, 2020, members of the Citizen Advisory Committee, staff, and the public will participate in the November 3, 2021 meeting via a teleconference. To avoid exposure to COVID-19 this meeting will be held with Citizen Advisory Committee members participating via teleconference by calling Dial-in-Number 1-669-900-6833 and

Meeting ID: 893 8557 6940# and [HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/89385576940](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89385576940).

Additionally, you may submit your comments electronically by emailing Jose Montano, Acting Administrative Services Coordinator at jmontano@sogate.org.

Procedure for Participation:

Any person wanting to participate may request to "speak" on an agenda item.

Once acknowledged and authorized by the Chairperson the person may speak.

Alternatively, any person may submit comments on an item electronically by emailing jmontano@sogate.org. Submission by email must be received 30 minutes prior to the posted start time of the meeting if emailing subject.

Subject line should read: COMMENT FOR ITEM NO. _____, MEETING OF November 3, 2021.

Please note, you will enter the meeting muted, but if you want to comment on an Agenda Item or during the public comment portion of the Agenda, raise your hand or press *9 at the appropriate time indicated by the Chairperson. When you are selected to speak, you will hear that you are un-muted, this is the time to make your public comments. Your patience with these changes is appreciated as the City adjusts to new ways of conducting business during the COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you.

Accessibility:

Reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities will be handled on a case-by-case basis and in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20. Please call the Community Development at (323) 563-9529.

Meeting Compensation Disclosure

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54952.3: Disclosure of compensation for meeting attendance by the Citizens Advisory Committee is \$25.00 per meeting.

Approve

Item No. 1

The Citizens Advisory Committee will consider approving the minutes for the regular meeting of February 3, 2021 and February 10, 2021.

Documents:

[CAC 2-3-2021 MIN.PDF](#)
[CAC 2-10-2021 MIN.PDF](#)

Item No. 2

Selection of Chair and Vice-Chair

Comments

At this time, members of the public and staff may address the Citizens Advisory Committee regarding any item within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Citizens Advisory Committee. No action may be taken on items not listed on the agenda unless authorized by law.

Audience Comments
City Staff Comments
Citizens Advisory Committee

Adjournment

Adjournment.

Materials related to an item on the Agenda submitted to the Citizen Advisory Committee after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the City Clerk's office.

8650 California Avenue, South Gate, CA 90280 (323) 563-9510 * Fax (323) 563-5411 *

www.cityofsouthgate.org

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY OF SOUTH GATE CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
February 3, 2021**

INTRODUCTORY PROCEDURES

Chairperson Cyndi Esquivel called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Committee Member Susan F. Janer.

COVID-19 Meeting Procedures were read into the record by Abel Torres.

Meeting Compensation Disclosure was read into the record by Abel Torres

ROLL CALL Chairperson Cyndi Esquivel, Vice Chairperson Jimmy Torres, Committee Members Marie De Lourdes Castillo, Janet Cazares, Candice Esquivel, Susan F. Janer, Juliano A. Jarquin, Virginia Johnson, Jovanna Laborin, Angelica Martinez, Norma Mendoza, Christina Montalvo, Benigno Nunez, Lizette Ruiz, Jacquelyn Saucedo, and Anthony Zepeda (15/19)

Present:

Chairperson Cyndi Esquivel, Vice Chairperson Jimmy Torres, Committee Members Marie De Lourdes Castillo, Janet Cazares, Candice Esquivel, Susan F. Janer, Juliano A. Jarquin, Virginia Johnson, Jovanna Laborin, Angelica Martinez, Norma Mendoza, Christina Montalvo, Benigno Nunez, Lizette Ruiz, Jacquelyn Saucedo, and Anthony Zepeda (15/19)

Excused Absence: Committee Member Darlene Lopez excused (1/19)

Unexcused Absence: Committee Members, Brigitte Garza, Denisse Martinez and Benigno Nunez (3/19)

Staff:

Paul Adams, Interim Community Development Director, Dianne Guevara, Management Analyst, Abel Torres, Housing and Grants Analyst and Erika Soriano Recording Secretary

AGENDA ITEM(S)

1. MINUTES

Approval of the meeting minutes was continued to February 10, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.

**2. PRESENTATIONS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FY 2021-22
PUBLIC SERVICES**

Management Analyst, Dianne Guevara, stated that the meeting minutes of January 27, 2021, would be brought to the Citizen Advisory Committee on February 10, 2021. Ms. Guevara then provided a brief overview of the presentations that would be made. She stated that last week, eight Public Service organizations made presentations for fiscal year 2021-22, and this week there would be three more Public Service applicants and five Non-Public Service applicants.

At this time, Ms. Guevara called the applicants as follows:

Police Department, Family Violence Prevention & Education Program:

Laura Maldonado, Program Coordinator, presented the Family Violence Prevention & Education Program. Ms. Maldonado presented a brief slide presentation that explained the services provided and emphasized on the support given to domestic violence victims; the support may be provided during urgent matters, for court purpose(s), or as motivation for personal stability and becoming self-sufficient. Grant funds will be used to pay for the empowerment sessions with a focus on resolving trauma symptoms, workshops addressing psychological symptoms, and cell phone usage of office staff. The program is requesting \$55,000, and proposes to assist at least 100 participants.

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel opened the meeting to comments from the audience and from Citizen Advisory Committee Members.

Committee Member Angelica Martinez requested information on the number of participants normally assisted during the past year.

Ms. Maldonado stated that approximately 200 to 250 is normal and even 300. However, with Covid, it was a little different.

Committee Member Virginia Johnson expressed gratitude for the program and asked if the program included services to victims of incest.

Ms. Maldonado stated that the program does include victims of incest and they try to focus on individual counseling for them and then transition them to an outside support group.

Committee Member Christina Montalvo asked if background checks are conducted on people that volunteer for the program.

Ms. Maldonado stated that the program doesn't accept volunteers because of confidentiality issues with victims. Interns do have to complete a full background process. Ms. Maldonado further stated that the therapist they work with, Violeta, started as an intern.

Committee Member Lizette Ruiz asked what the funding would be spent on, things such as food distribution?

Ms. Maldonado stated that they did some food distribution that they picked up from donors and distributed, with non-CDBG funding and they would not be doing food distribution with these funds.

Committee Member Juliano A. Jarquin asked if the District Attorney's office was involved in supporting victims of domestic violence with any type of allocation.

Ms. Maldonado stated that they work very closely with the District Attorney's at the Downey and Norwalk Courthouses services are coordinated together, depending on what the victim's needs are.

Chairperson Esquivel asked if there has been a dramatic increase in D.V. cases as a result of Covid.

Ms. Maldonado stated that it seems to be getting worse as to violence perpetrated on victims, but not necessarily more cases. However, victims are more hesitant on reporting these actions.

Chairperson Esquivel asked if victims are assisted with UCERTS.

Ms. Maldonado stated that there is a separate process for dealing with UCERTS and some attorney's want to charge hundreds of dollars. But, the program assists victims in filling out these forms and then it goes to the detective bureau for approval.

After a bit of technical difficulties, with Sgt. Chavez and the Police Explorer Program, the next applicant to present was the Graffiti Abatement Program.

Public Works, Graffiti Abatement:

Osie Harrell, Public Works Superintendent, presented the Graffiti Abatement program proposal. The program will continue to operate in CDBG eligible low and moderate income service areas (19 census tracts) throughout the City to remove graffiti from residences, businesses, sidewalks, sign poles, and walls, thereby reducing blight. The demand of graffiti removal has increased due to the increase in CDBG census tracts and due to an increase in gang activity. Graffiti program representatives are working closely with Code Enforcement and South Gate Police Department in creating a strategic plan and discourage the tagging in certain areas. Grant funds requested - \$140,000 - will be used to purchase equipment, material and personnel costs. This program is requesting \$140,000.

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel opened the meeting to comments from the audience and from Citizen Advisory Committee Members.

Bash Chaundhry, owner of Freddy's Market on Tweedy Blvd., expressed appreciation for the work the Graffiti Abatement Program carries out. Bash explained that graffiti mostly occurs in areas where there is a lot of trash – in the allies and behind the liquor store. Bash asked if someone (in the City) could make a note of this and get the areas cleaned up.

Mr. Harrell thanked Bash for the comments and stated he would get together with his internal team to determine who should be made aware of the problem.

Committee Member Lizette Ruiz asked how dependent the program is on receiving funding from the General Fund and how they would be impacted if more funds were awarded.

Mr. Harrell stated that the program is dependent on the General Fund for about one-third of the program's overall funding, and the City would have to adjust it's funding to account for any deficiency. Mr. Harrell further stated the program has become more efficient and constantly looks for better ways to operate.

Ms. Ruiz thanked Mr. Harrell and the team for the efforts and commented that she is one who uses the hotline a lot to report graffiti.

Committee Member Juliano A. Jarquin expressed gratitude for the efforts of the Graffiti Abatement team and asked if there has been an increase in graffiti during Covid, and if the reporting impacts the safety of the person reporting.

Mr. Harrell stated that they have not seen any tagging that reflects hate messaging. However, during the civil unrest earlier in the year, some of it spilled into the City. Mr. Harrell also stated that they are experiencing a challenge with gang graffiti and tagging. They work very closely with the P.D. and Code Enforcement and remove the graffiti as quickly as possible.

Chairperson Esquivel asked if warm weather causes an increase in graffiti.

Mr. Harrell stated that as, as we begin to have more daylight, graffiti becomes more prevalent.

Committee Member Jovanna Laborin asked what the response time is on the Graffiti Hotline.

Mr. Harrell stated that the goal is to respond within 24 hours after receiving the call. Mr. Harrell further stated that, generally, every morning, the team takes the calls off the graffiti hotline and distributes them to team members to address.

Ms. Laborin also asked if paint was available to residents that get tagged.

Mr. Harrell stated that some years ago, there was a program that provided paint to residents, but at this time, there is not.

Chairperson Esquivel made a comment that, in the past, the City had a grant program that offered rewards for reporting on taggers that were eventually prosecuted, and noted that one resident received a check for over two-thousand dollars.

Mr. Harrell stated that that was when the City had the “War on Graffiti” program, but currently, there are no programs that offer that type of incentive.

Committee Member Juliano A. Jarquin asked what type of reporting works best when graffiti is noticed.

Mr. Harrell stated that the first line of defense is the 24 hour hotline, which is reviewed every morning.

Committee Member Candice Esquivel expressed gratitude for the work accomplished by the Graffiti Abatement team.

Committee Member Marie De Lourdes Castillo thanked everyone in the department and expressed gratitude for the quick response provided by the team in area 3.

Police Department, Police Explorers:

Sgt. James Chavez presented the South Gate Police Explorers Program. The Police Explorers program continues to provide training and orientation to young persons, ages 14 to 21, interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement. Police Explorers are used as a supplement to sworn personnel in non-hazardous situations and events. They perform duties such as traffic control, community patrol and assist customers at the Police Department. Volunteers must be attending high school or college and must maintain a grade point average of 2.5. Sgt. Chavez provided information on costs of the equipment used by police explores, including radios. Grant funds will be used to pay for uniforms, safety equipment and training/competition events. The Police Explorers program is requesting \$25,000 to assist at least 20 participants.

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel opened the meeting to comments from the audience and from Citizen Advisory Committee Members.

Vice-Chairperson Jimmy Torres asked if any efforts are being made to reach out to groups that protested to defund the police, which would cut programs like the Police Explorer Program.

Sgt. Chavez stated that, as a police Department, they are open to discuss issues with all groups. However, they do not actively seek out groups to do this.

Committee Member Jovanna Laborin thanked Sgt. Chavez and stated that she is aware the Chief and other officers have met with groups to try and bring everyone together.

Committee Member Lizette Ruiz asked if there was anything being done to encourage participants to keep their grades up, and if there were statistics on the number of explorer program participants that eventually became police officers.

Sgt. Chavez stated that, although not every participant wants to become a police officer, they often go on to become student workers, jailers and record technicians. Sgt. Chavez further stated that a student will be placed on academic probation if their grades fall to an unacceptable level.

Committee Member Candice Esquivel thanked Sgt. Chavez and other officers that volunteer their time towards the program.

Chairperson Esquivel stated that she is aware of at least five officers that went through the Explorers Program and became park rangers or police officers.

**3. PRESENTATIONS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FY 2021-22
NON-PUBLIC SERVICES**

South Gate Park Roof Repair

Steve Costley, Interim Parks & Recreation Director presented on the South Gate Park Roof Repair Project. Due to the age of the current auditorium roof, the quality has begun to deteriorate and many areas need repair and replacement to prevent further damage from leaks. The auditorium is the largest event space in the City for indoor activities and is the heart of the City. The roof has been temporarily repaired with patches in the past, but now needs a full roof replacement to address these issues. Mr. Costley further stated that, if these issues are not addressed now, the cost to repair in the future will grow significantly and the buildings floors and equipment will get ruined. Although, the application request \$500,000 to repair the roof, recent discussions with contractors has revealed that the job may only require \$400,000.

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel opened the meeting to comments from the audience and from Citizen Advisory Committee Members.

Committee Member Virginia Johnson expressed concern regarding obtaining as good a job with less money.

Mr. Costley stated that cost estimates are usually made many months in advance for this type of work and that he believes the work can be completed at \$400,000.

Committee Member Christina Montalvo asked why this project has not been presented the City Council to be paid for by the General Fund.

Mr. Costley stated that the project was brought to the attention of the City Council in the 2020-21 program year budget. However, due to the pandemic, the General Fund is unable to sustain the expenditure. Mr. Costley further stated that this type of expenditure is well suited for CDBG funding.

Committee Member Angelica Martinez expressed gratitude for consideration of the renovation because the City needs it and the residents deserve it.

Mr. Costley stated that, when the Parks and Rec Master Plan was developed in 2008, the top priority of all residents was to maintain what we have – not build new, but maintain what we have.

Chairperson Esquivel commented that the Sports Center Roof project was delayed and, as a result, the City sustained a lot of damage to walls and ceilings and equipment.

Mr. Costley concurred.

South Gate Park Boy Scout Huts Improvements

Steve Costley, Interim Director of Parks & Recreation presented on the South Gate Boy Scout Huts Improvements. These 8 huts were constructed in the 1960's and 70's for the most part by volunteers and are city-owned buildings.

These buildings are no longer up to code. The roof systems, electrical and ADA requirements are in disparate need of attention. Contractors have reviewed each building and returned with a whole list of repairs required. This project will need \$600,000 in CDBG funding, which will include new roofs on all 8 buildings, changes in electrical, changes in ADA access to bring them to current code standards. Mr. Costley stated that they may have to complete the roof repairs first if there are insufficient CDBG funds, and complete the other repairs at a later time.

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel opened the meeting to comments from the audience and from Citizen Advisory Committee Members.

Chairperson Esquivel commented that she has observed firsthand the tarps on the buildings and the water leaks running down the walls.

Mr. Costley stated you can see sunlight through the roofs in some of the buildings.

Committee Member Christina Montalvo thanked Mr. Costley for letting the committee know that they may have an option to award funding for the buildings in increments if there is insufficient funding to award the entire amount.

Committee Member Jovanna Laborin thanked Mr. Costley for making sure the community has a nice park, and expressed the desire to have more funding available to address all issues.

Mr. Costley stated that the park usually has about 6,000 visitors a day, and even during Covid, has about 2,000 visitors a day.

Commercial Façade Improvement Program:

Dianne Guevara, Management Analyst, presented the Commercial Façade Improvement Program. The Commercial Façade Improvement Program proposes to assist local businesses with up to \$40,000 (\$300,000 total) for exterior improvements such as paint, windows and signage. A requirement for this project is for each participant (property owner) to contribute \$6,000 towards the project. This project serves to beautify the business area and to attract consumers to shop and dine in the area. Although, Covid-19 has delayed some of the projects in moving forward, the opportunity is available to small businesses throughout the eligible census tract, including Hollydale area. Commercial Façade is requesting \$300,000.

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel opened the meeting to comments from the audience and from Citizen Advisory Committee Members.

Committee Member Jovanna Laborin requested clarification regarding the Tweedy Mile program and how the two programs appear to duplicate the program activities and goals and if there is a process for making sure businesses don't "double-dip."

Mr. Guevara stated that the programs are now very similar, but in the past, Tweedy Mile operated a window and door improvement program. However, last year Tweedy Mile did initiate a façade improvement program. So, the City works with that program to ensure there is no duplication of projects. The City program offers up to \$40,000 for commercial façade improvements and must follow Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements. The program Tweedy Mile operates focuses on the Boulevard and provides up to \$6,000 for facade improvements.

Ms. Laborin also asked if the business owners are required to financially contribute to the program.

Ms. Guevara stated that each business must contribute at least \$6,000 of their own funds and that permits and other associated fees are reimbursed to the contractor.

Ms. Laborin shared that she has contracting experience and asked what the process is for selecting contractors.

Ms. Guevara stated that the City maintains a list of approximately 20 contractors that is provided to the businesses, but also allows the business to select their own contractor if they choose to do so.

Committee Member Virginia Johnson shared that, approximately 30 years ago, she took advantage of the CDBG home improvement program funds and was allowed to select her own contractor. Ms. Johnson also asked if there was a color code required for the Commercial Façade Program.

Ms. Guevara stated that each business must obtain department approval for colors.

South Gate Chamber of Commerce

Ana Elizarraras, Executive Director, presented for the South gate Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Elizarraras stated that a small business assistance program was recently launched utilizing an award of \$300,000, and that all 120 applications received are kept confidential. The grants may be used by businesses to pay rent, utilities and employees. Some business, such as nail salons and barber shops, have not been able to open at all, but have hope to use the grant funds when they are allowed to re-open. The grants have been offered to every small business in the City. Of the 120 applications received, 30 of them are on Tweedy Blvd. The additional funding requested (\$200,000) will assist up to 34 additional eligible business.

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel opened the meeting to comments from the audience and from Citizen Advisory Committee Members.

Chairperson Esquivel asked if the funds requested were in addition to the \$375,000 already received.

Ms. Elizarraras stated that the funds would be in addition to the previous funds awarded to be used for rental assistance, utility assistance and inventory.

Chairperson Esquivel also asked if the Chamber has applied for any other grants in addition to the CV3.

Ms. Elizarraras stated she has only applied for this grant.

Committee Member Juliano A. Jarquin asked if there was a deadline to receive applications and if there was a location requirement.

Ms. Elizarraras stated that HUD requires the business to be located within a certain eligible census tract, and that the original deadline date was January 8, which is now closed.

Committee Member Christina Montalvo asked how the first grant was publicized and how were businesses made aware on how to apply.

Ms. Elizarraras stated the first grant was publicized through social media platforms. The City provided a list of businesses – over 2,000. Some were called and some were sent emails. The public was also invited to come to the Chamber and pick up an application. Some applications were actually hand delivered as well.

Ms. Montalvo pointed out that a page in the application called “Schedule of Performance” was not properly filled out in that there was no information on when tasks would be completed.

Ms. Elizarraras stated that it says “TBD” because it will all be based on when the application process is launched.

Ms. Montalvo requested clarification on the first grant process and if the Chamber was still working on that.

Ms. Elizarraras stated the recipients will be receiving allocations based on need, and that some of the applications do not show financials. One particular business showed over one hundred thousand dollars in the bank, so, it's taking a little longer to evaluate each application.

Committee Member Lizette Ruiz asked if the Chamber would be using applications from previous rounds, and if the eight days to submit applications was enough time.

Ms. Elizarraras stated that she is comfortable with leaving the application period open until funds are exhausted, and further stated that the Chamber should be viewed as wanting to assist business owners and to make them feel that the Chamber is there for them. There should not be a deadline, or at least could be extended.

Ms. Ruiz also asked what percentage of chamber members vs. non-chamber members applied, and if records are kept indicating who was awarded and who was rejected.

Ms. Elizarraras stated that the Chamber keeps records and will share with the public if allowed to do so.

Committee Member Jovanna Laborin asked for clarification regarding the applications not being bilingual and if applicants that have difficulty with the language and technology were assisted in filling out the application.

Ms. Elizarraras shared a particular applicant that was allowed to fill out the application in Spanish which was later revised in English. Ms. Elizarraras has also assisted applicants with creating Zoom accounts.

Committee Member Angelica Martinez asked if there were restrictions in place for businesses to apply in both the Tweedy Mile program and the Chamber's program.

Ms. Elizarraras stated that every business can apply but was not certain if every business would be awarded any funding. Ms. Elizarraras reiterated that 6 chamber members had applied.

Committee Member Virginia Johnson commented that, as a result of Covid, not every business could continue with membership dues and hoped that that was taken into consideration by the Chamber. Ms. Johnson further commented that the schedule of performance was necessary for the City to be able to monitor the program and that she felt the application was lacking.

Ms. Elizarraras thanked Ms. Johnson for the comments.

Chairperson Esquivel inquired regarding the \$7,500 cap associated with the program.

Ms. Elizarraras stated that, along with extending the application period, a suggestion was made to remove the cap.

Ms. Esquivel stated that, at a recent council meeting, Council Member Pilar Avalos stated she did not want a cap.

Ms. Elizarraras stated that she is comfortable with no cap and suggested placing it in small writing or fine print. That way, more businesses could be assisted.

Tweedy Mile Association:

Bash Chaundhry presented the Tweedy Mile Business Upgrade Program. Mr. Chaundhry stated that all members assisting with the program are volunteers and do not get paid. He stated that when they completed the work for the

previous year, they submitted the invoices for that work but have not yet received payment. Mr. Chaundhry asked for clarification from Dianne regarding the process for payment.

Chairperson Esquivel stated that all the money for the programs is a “reimbursement” type system and the programs must first expend the money.

Mr. Chaundhry further stated that other business areas, such as Firestone Blvd. and the Hollydale business areas receive funds from the City, but the Tweedy Mile area is treated like a “stepchild”. Ms. Chaundhry further stated that Tweedy Mile businesses need help to pay rent and utilities and their employees, and that if the funds are required to be city-wide, they would not really go that far.

Ms. Guevara reminded Mr. Chaundhry that the meeting tonight was regarding the funds requested (\$90,000) for the 2021-22 program year and that the City Council recently awarded \$75,000 for the small business grant program from round 3 Covid funds.

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel opened the meeting to comments from the audience and from Citizen Advisory Committee Members.

Committee Member Jovanna Laborin made comments regarding funding left from previous years and asked how businesses outreach was marketed and how they were selected to award funds for the window and door program.

Chairperson Esquivel stated that the Tweedy Mile received \$135,000, not \$75,000.

Mr. Chaundhry stated that all businesses on Tweedy Blvd. that are covered by the program are sent a letter inviting them to apply for grants on a first come-first served basis. Letters are also sent to local contractors to bid on the projects, but because the projects are so small, no local contractors bid, leaving only Abel Glass as the sole bidder. Before and after photos are taken and the work gets done. The invoices from the contractor are then paid by the Tweedy Mile Association and then reimbursement is requested from the City.

Ms. Laborin also asked if records are kept showing which businesses were assisted in the past and if the program reaches out to local contractors to complete the work.

Mr. Chaundhry clarified that letters are sent to local –City of South Gate – businesses to bid on the work, but, because the jobs are so small, no one ever responds or respond but are not interested. So the only bidder is Abel Glass in South Gate. Mr. Chaundhry further stated that they have not run into a situation where a business has applied or received assistance more than on time; at least during the three years that he has been on the board.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

3. GENERAL BUSINESS

Audience Comments: None

Citizens Advisory Committee:

Committee Member Juliano A. Jarquin made a comment regarding a podcast for leadership in our region by professionals for the Black History Month.

Committee member Jovanna Laborin commented on a program in Compton offering free PPE items. You communicate via email and make an appointment to pick up your items. Ms. Laborin will send the information to Ms. Guevara to share with others.

Committee Member Lizette Ruiz commented that she is in the process of moving and requested guidance on who should be informed.

Chairperson Esquivel stated that Dianne or Abel should be notified.

City Staff Comments:

Mr. Adams made the committee members aware of certain guidelines they should follow when considering their recommendations for funding next week. Committee members should not be utilizing any of the cash grants, such as rent and utility assistance, and should recuse themselves or abstain from voting on any item that could present a conflict of interest.

Committee Member Virginia John stated that she had applied for and received a Homeowner Rehabilitation grant approximately 30 years ago. Mr. Adams stated that was inconsequential.

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Citizens Advisory Committee, the time being 9:10 p.m., Committee Member Marie De Lourdes Castillo moved and Committee Member Candice Esquivel seconded to continue the meeting to February 10, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. The motion carried (15-19). The Citizen Advisory Committee members were polled pursuant to COVID-19 Teleconference Meeting Procedures as follows, with Committee Members Brigitte Garza, Darlene Lopez, Denisse Martinez and Benigno Nunez absent (4/19):

<i>NAME</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>
Chairperson Cyndi Esquivel	yes		
Committee Member Jimmy Torres	yes		
Committee Member Marie De Lourdes Castillo	yes		
Committee Member Janet Cazares	yes		
Committee Member Candice Esquivel	yes		
Committee Member Brigitte Garza			Absent
Committee Member Susan F. Janer	yes		
Committee Member Juliano A. Jarquin	yes		
Committee Member Virginia Johnson	yes		
Committee Member Jovanna Laborin	yes		
Committee Member Darlene Lopez			Excused
Committee Member Denisse Martinez			Absent
Committee Member Angelica Martinez	yes		
Committee Member Norma Mendoza	yes		
Committee Member Christina Montalvo	yes		
Committee Member Benigno Nunez			No answer
Committee Member Lizette Ruiz	yes		
Committee Member Jacquelyn Saucedo	yes		
Committee Member Anthony Zepeda	yes		

Respectfully,

Paul Adams, Secretary
Citizens Advisory Committee

APPROVED:

Cyndi Esquivel, Chairperson
Citizen Advisory Committee

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY OF SOUTH GATE CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
February 10, 2021**

INTRODUCTORY PROCEDURES

Chairperson Cyndi Esquivel called the meeting to order at 6:32 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Paul Adams.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Chairperson Cyndi Esquivel, Vice Chairperson Jimmy Torres, Committee Members Marie De Lourdes Castillo, Janet Cazares, Candice Esquivel, Susan F. Janer, Juliano A. Jarquin, Virginia Johnson, Jovanna Laborin, Darlene Lopez, Angelica Martinez, Norma Mendoza, Christina Montalvo, Benigno Nunez, Lizette Ruiz, Jacquelyn Saucedo, and Anthony Zepeda (17/19)

Excused Absence:

None

Unexcused Absence:

Committee Members Brigitte Garza and Denisse Martinez absent (2/19)

Staff:

Paul Adams, Interim Community Development Director, Dianne Guevara, Management Analyst, Abel Torres, Housing and Grants Analyst and Erika Soriano Recording Secretary

AGENDA ITEM(S)

1. MINUTES

Item 1 – Committee Member Virginia Johnson moved, and Committee Member Candice Esquivel seconded, to approve the minutes for the regular meeting of January 27, 2021, and the motion carried (15/19). The Citizen Advisory Committee members were polled pursuant to COVID-19 Teleconference Meeting Procedures as follows, with Committee Members Brigitte Garza and Denisse Martinez absent (2/19):

<i>NAME</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>
Chairperson Cyndi Esquivel	yes		
Committee Member Jimmy Torres	yes		
Committee Member Marie De Lourdes Castillo	yes		
Committee Member Janet Cazares	yes		
Committee Member Candice Esquivel	yes		
Committee Member Brigitte Garza			Absent
Committee Member Susan F. Janer	yes		
Committee Member Juliano A. Jarquin	yes		
Committee Member Virginia Johnson	yes		
Committee Member Jovanna Laborin	yes		
Committee Member Darlene Lopez		abstain	
Committee Member Denisse Martinez			Absent
Committee Member Angelica Martinez	yes		
Committee Member Norma Mendoza	yes		
Committee Member Christina Montalvo	yes		
Committee Member Benigno Nunez	yes		
Committee Member Lizette Ruiz	yes		
Committee Member Jacquelyn Saucedo		no answer	
Committee Member Anthony Zepeda	yes		
TOTAL	15		

At this time (6:40 p.m.) Vice-Chairperson Jimmy Torres joined the meeting.
At this time (6:42 p.m.) Committee Member Darlene Lopez left the meeting.

COVID-19 Meeting Procedures were read into the record by Abel Torres.

2. FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FY 2021-22

Chairperson Esquivel asked the committee which group they wished to begin with – Public Service or Non-Public Service applicants.

Committee Member Virginia Johnson stated Public Service.

Committee Member Lizette Ruiz raised questions about the funds, which Chairperson Esquivel clarified that the funds could not be mixed,

Management Analyst, Dianne Guevara, provided a brief overview of the purpose of the evening’s meeting and explained the funding available. Ms. Guevara also provided a summary of the timeframe regarding the CAC’s recommendations.

Interim Community Development Director, Paul Adams, provided staff recommendations and guidance on how the CAC may move forward in selecting applicants to award funding.

Committee Member Virginia John stated that she thought this was a fairer way to proceed.

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel opened up the meeting to the public for comment.

Mr. Jeff Farber, Executive Director for Helpline Youth Counseling, thanked the committee for their support throughout the years.

Ms. Arlene Vasquez, representing LACADA, expressed gratitude for the committee’s support.

Mr. Bash Chaundhry, representing the Tweedy Mile Association, expressed the need for assistance for Tweedy Mile businesses and thanked the committee for their consideration and support.

Ms. Lisa Baca, representing the California Latino Leadership Institute, thanked the committee for their consideration and support.

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel opened up the meeting to the committee members for discussion.

Committee Member Virginia Johnson expressed concern that Southern California Rehabilitation receive some funding for the seniors and disabled. Ms. Johnson further expressed gratitude to staff for their work and responding to their questions in a timely manner. Mr. Johnson further expressed concerns regarding the capabilities of Compator in operating a rental and utility assistance program.

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel moved, and the motion was seconded by Committee Member Marie De Lourdes Castillo, to award \$140,000 to Graffiti Abatement, \$7,000 to Police Explorers, \$7,000 to Family Violence Prevention and Education and \$22,500 to the Bell Shelter – a total Of \$176,500. The motion carried (14/19). The Citizen Advisory Committee members were polled pursuant to COVID-19 Teleconference Meeting Procedures as follows, with Committee Members Brigitte Garza and Denisse Martinez absent (2/19):

<i>NAME</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>
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Chairperson Cyndi Esquivel	yes		
Committee Member Jimmy Torres	yes		
Committee Member Marie De Lourdes Castillo	yes		
Committee Member Janet Cazares	yes		
Committee Member Candice Esquivel	yes		
Committee Member Brigitte Garza			Absent
Committee Member Susan F. Janer	yes		
Committee Member Juliano A. Jarquin		no answer	
Committee Member Virginia Johnson	yes		
Committee Member Jovanna Laborin	yes		
Committee Member Darlene Lopez		excused	
Committee Member Denisse Martinez			Absent
Committee Member Angelica Martinez	yes		
Committee Member Norma Mendoza	yes		
Committee Member Christina Montalvo	yes		
Committee Member Benigno Nunez	yes		
Committee Member Lizette Ruiz	yes		
Committee Member Jacquelyn Saucedo		no answer	
Committee Member Anthony Zepeda	yes		
TOTAL	14		

Committee Member Lizette Ruiz expressed concern regarding the amount of funds requested by Graffiti Abatement.

Committee Member Christina Montalvo expressed concern regarding the request from Graffiti Abatement which is more than half of the entire amount available for Public Services projects.

Committee member Jovanna Laborin commented that if Graffiti Abatement is not fully funded, the balance would come from the General Fund – and that is what the City is trying to avoid.

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel read the list and amounts for subrecipients (highlighted in blue) that have received funding so far...

Paul Adams reiterated that the various Covid funds awarded to the subrecipients was a “one-time deal” and that we are trying to get back to normal allocations. Mr. Adams further stated that the amount of funds we have available is also back to normal.

Committee Member Christina Montalvo stated that she believed the committee should discuss the Non-Public Service applicants first.

Chairperson Esquivel clarified that there was already a motion and second on the floor.

Committee Member Lizette Ruiz asked if anyone knew what might be available in the General Fund.

Chairperson Esquivel stated that the General Fund budget was already created and accounted for.

Mr. Adams stated that this cycle the CAC was discussing was for the 2021-22 program year, and that it was a difficult thing to try and provide funding for all subrecipients when there is insufficient funding available.

Committee Member Susan F. Janer expressed concerns regarding how essential it was to fix the Boy Scout Huts.

Chairperson Esquivel clarified that the Bout Scout Huts topic would be in the next discussion.

Committee Member Virginia Johnson commented that the Graffiti Abatement request is down about \$200,000 from what it was 10 years ago, and expressed that they need the money.

Committee Member Angelica Martinez expressed gratitude to Mr. Paul Adams for his work.

Vice-Chairperson Jimmy Torres expressed his support of the Graffiti Abatement Program and the allocation of \$140,000, and his support of staff's recommendations of \$176,500.

Committee Member Jovanna Laborin requested clarification of the \$33,500 balance, which Chairperson Esquivel clarified would be discussed later.

At this time, Vive-Chairperson Jimmy Torres moved and Committee Member Jovanna Laborin seconded to close discussion on the motion. The motion carried (14/19). The Citizen Advisory Committee members were polled pursuant to COVID-19 Teleconference Meeting Procedures as follows, with Committee Members Brigitte Garza and Denisse Martinez absent (2/19):

<i>NAME</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>
Chairperson Cyndi Esquivel	yes		
Committee Member Jimmy Torres	yes		
Committee Member Marie De Lourdes Castillo	yes		
Committee Member Janet Cazares	yes		
Committee Member Candice Esquivel	yes		
Committee Member Brigitte Garza			Absent
Committee Member Susan F. Janer	yes		
Committee Member Juliano A. Jarquin		no answer	
Committee Member Virginia Johnson	yes		
Committee Member Jovanna Laborin	yes		
Committee Member Darlene Lopez		excused	
Committee Member Denisse Martinez			Absent
Committee Member Angelica Martinez	yes		
Committee Member Norma Mendoza	yes		
Committee Member Christina Montalvo	yes		
Committee Member Benigno Nunez	yes		
Committee Member Lizette Ruiz	yes		
Committee Member Jacquelyn Saucedo		no answer	
Committee Member Anthony Zepeda	yes		
TOTAL	14		

Chairperson Esquivel called for discussion on the balance of \$33,500 for the Public Services programs.

Vice-Chairperson Jimmy Torres moved and Committee Member Candice Esquivel seconded to award Helpline Youth Counseling \$10,000.

Discussion on the motion followed as follows:

Committee Member Jovanna Laborin requested that the motion be modified to \$11,000 to Helpline Youth Counseling.

Committee Member Lizette Ruiz commented that she will abstain from further discussion on the motion regarding Helpline Youth Counseling.

Committee Member Norma Mendoza commented that she will abstain from discussion or voting on the motion regarding Helpline Youth Counseling.

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel called for The Citizen Advisory Committee members to be polled pursuant to COVID-19 Teleconference Meeting Procedures as follows, with Committee Members Brigitte Garza and Denisse Martinez absent (2/19): The motion carried (13/19).

<i>NAME</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>
Chairperson Cyndi Esquivel	yes		
Committee Member Jimmy Torres	yes		
Committee Member Marie De Lourdes Castillo	yes		
Committee Member Janet Cazares	yes		
Committee Member Candice Esquivel	yes		
Committee Member Brigitte Garza			Absent
Committee Member Susan F. Janer	yes		
Committee Member Juliano A. Jarquin		excused	
Committee Member Virginia Johnson	yes		
Committee Member Jovanna Laborin	yes		
Committee Member Darlene Lopez		excused	
Committee Member Denisse Martinez			Absent
Committee Member Angelica Martinez	yes		
Committee Member Norma Mendoza		recused	
Committee Member Christina Montalvo	yes		
Committee Member Benigno Nunez	yes		
Committee Member Lizette Ruiz		recuse	
Committee Member Jacquelyn Saucedo	yes		
Committee Member Anthony Zepeda	yes		
TOTAL	13		

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel stated there was now \$23,500 available for distribution and called for discussion.

Committee Member Angelica Martinez moved and Committee Member Jovanna Laborin seconded to award \$3,500 additional funds to the Family Violence Prevention and Education Program.

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel stated there was a motion and a second and called for discussion.

Committee Member Christina Montalvo expressed her support for this motion.

Committee Member Lizette Ruiz expressed opposition to adding more funding to an applicant that has already been funded.

Committee Member Virginia Johnson agreed with Committee Member Lizette Ruiz's position.

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel called for The Citizen Advisory Committee members to be polled pursuant to COVID-19 Teleconference Meeting Procedures as follows, with Committee Members Brigitte Garza and Denisse Martinez absent (2/19): The motion carried (13/19).

<i>NAME</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>
Chairperson Cyndi Esquivel	yes		
Committee Member Jimmy Torres		abstain	
Committee Member Marie De Lourdes Castillo	yes		
Committee Member Janet Cazares	yes		
Committee Member Candice Esquivel	yes		
Committee Member Brigitte Garza			Absent
Committee Member Susan F. Janer	yes		
Committee Member Juliano A. Jarquin		excused	
Committee Member Virginia Johnson	yes		
Committee Member Jovanna Laborin	yes		
Committee Member Darlene Lopez		excused	
Committee Member Denisse Martinez			Absent
Committee Member Angelica Martinez	yes		
Committee Member Norma Mendoza	yes		
Committee Member Christina Montalvo	yes		
Committee Member Benigno Nunez	yes		
Committee Member Lizette Ruiz	no		
Committee Member Jacquelyn Saucedo	yes		
Committee Member Anthony Zepeda	yes		
TOTAL	13		

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel stated there was now \$20,000 available for distribution and called for discussion.

Committee Member Jovanna Laborin moved and Committee Member Candice Esquivel seconded to award \$10,000 to Southern California Rehabilitation Services and \$10,000 to Compator. Ms. Laborin continued to recount how great both organizations have helped the community with their respective services.

Committee Member Christina Montalvo commented that Compator has already received sufficient funding and that the remaining funds should be awarded to a different organization, such as LACADA.

Committee Member Norma Mendoza requested clarification on whether or not a committee member should recuse themselves if they have any relationship with an applicant.

Paul Adams stated that a person's strong feelings about a particular organization does not warrant a committee member having to recuse themselves.

Committee Member Lizette Ruiz indicated that she would have to recuse herself in regards to the motion unless the motion could be divided into two motions.

Paul Adams stated that the Chairperson could split the motion into two motions.

Committee Member Christina Montalvo responded to Committee Member Norma Mendoza's comment that she did not say anything negative about Compator, but that she was simply stating that Compator has already received a sufficient amount of funding.

Committee Member Jovanna Laborin requested clarification on the amount of funding Compator received.

Ms. Guevara stated that the correct amount was \$701,173.00, broken down as follows:

- \$81,173 Mental Health
- \$325,000 Mental Health
- \$120,000 Mental Health
- \$175,000 Rental Assistance

Mr. Laborin asked if her motion could be directed to the rental assistance component of Compator. Ms. Laborin further stated that the advertising on social media made it all the way to channel 34 and Helpline Youth Counseling did not advertise their services.

Ms. Guevara stated that the application submitted by Compator was for both mental health and rental assistance and that the City could ask Compator to revise their application based on the discussion today.

Chairperson Esquivel stated that she believed the City Council’s push was for rental assistance, utility assistance and mental health. And if the committee does not make these recommendations it’s likely the City Council will.

Vice-Chairperson Jimmy Torres moved and Committee Member Candice Esquivel seconded to close the discussion portion.

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel called for The Citizen Advisory Committee members to be polled pursuant to COVID-19 Teleconference Meeting Procedures as follows, with Committee Members Brigitte Garza and Denisse Martinez absent (2/19): The motion carried (13/19).

<i>NAME</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>
Chairperson Cyndi Esquivel	yes		
Committee Member Jimmy Torres	yes		
Committee Member Marie De Lourdes Castillo	yes		
Committee Member Janet Cazares	yes		
Committee Member Candice Esquivel	yes		
Committee Member Brigitte Garza			Absent
Committee Member Susan F. Janer	yes		
Committee Member Juliano A. Jarquin		excused	
Committee Member Virginia Johnson	yes		
Committee Member Jovanna Laborin	yes		
Committee Member Darlene Lopez		excused	
Committee Member Denisse Martinez			Absent
Committee Member Angelica Martinez	yes		
Committee Member Norma Mendoza	yes		
Committee Member Christina Montalvo	no		
Committee Member Benigno Nunez	yes		
Committee Member Lizette Ruiz	yes		
Committee Member Jacquelyn Saucedo	yes		
Committee Member Anthony Zepeda	yes		
TOTAL	13		

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel requested a roll call on the motion by Committee Member Jovanna Laborin and seconded by Committee Member Candice Esquivel to award \$10,000 to Southern California Rehabilitation Services and \$10,000 to Compator. The Citizen Advisory Committee members were polled pursuant to COVID-19 Teleconference Meeting Procedures as follows, with Committee Members Brigitte Garza and Denisse Martinez absent (2/19): The motion carried (13/19).

<i>NAME</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>
Chairperson Cyndi Esquivel	yes		
Committee Member Jimmy Torres	yes		
Committee Member Marie De Lourdes Castillo	yes		
Committee Member Janet Cazares	yes		
Committee Member Candice Esquivel	yes		
Committee Member Brigitte Garza			Absent
Committee Member Susan F. Janer	yes		
Committee Member Juliano A. Jarquin		excused	
Committee Member Virginia Johnson	yes		
Committee Member Jovanna Laborin	yes		
Committee Member Darlene Lopez		excused	
Committee Member Denisse Martinez			Absent
Committee Member Angelica Martinez	yes		
Committee Member Norma Mendoza	yes		
Committee Member Christina Montalvo	no		
Committee Member Benigno Nunez	yes		
Committee Member Lizette Ruiz	no/yes		
Committee Member Jacquelyn Saucedo			
Committee Member Anthony Zepeda	no/yes		
TOTAL	13		

At this time, Ms. Guevara commented that it was up to the CAC to allocate the funding of \$10,000 just recommended to Compator, to either rental assistance or mental health or both.

Paul Adams and Committee Member Jovanna Laborin stated that it was their understanding that that was how the motion passed – equally to each component of rental assistance and mental health.

Committee Member Virginia Johnson expressed concern that since Compator has never done rental assistance, she was afraid that Compator could direct more funds to the mental health component of their operation. Paul Adams clarified that staff will work with subrecipients to revise and/or adjust their scope of work to reflect what is ultimately awarded.

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel opened up the floor for discussion on the Non-Public portion of the meeting. Ms. Esquivel stated that there was approximately \$810,000 available for allocation with approximately \$1,690,000.

Committee Member Susan F. Janer asked if it was necessary to work on the Boy Scout Huts this year.

Chairperson Esquivel stated that it was very necessary because the roofs are destroyed and leaks could further damage items inside the huts.

Committee Member Jovanna Laborin commented that she has been to the site and agrees that the huts desperately need attention and upgrades.

Vice-Chairperson Jimmy Torres moved and Committee Member Marie De Lourdes Castillo seconded to approve staff's recommendations of \$650,000 - \$250,000 for Boy Scout Huts and \$400,000 for auditorium roof.

Committee Member Christina Montalvo reminded the committee that the discussion during last week's meeting was that the \$250,000 was only enough to repair the hut roofs and not the actual huts. And the \$400,000 to repair the auditorium roof. Ms. Montalvo also stated that she completely supports the motion.

Committee Member Angelica Martinez expressed her support for the motion.

Committee Member Virginia Johnson expressed her concern that the huts could not be repaired with only \$250,000 and suggested that Vice-Chairperson Jimmy Torres consider modifying his motion to \$300,000 or \$350,000.

Chairperson Esquivel stated that, if the motion passes, there is still \$160,000 available to allocate.

Committee Member Jovanna Laborin also expressed her concern that the \$250,000 was not sufficient to repair the Boy Scout Huts.

Vice-Chairperson Jimmy Torres amended his motion to award \$300,000 to the Boy Scout Huts and \$400,000 to the auditorium roof repair.

At this time, Chairperson Esquivel requested a roll call on the motion by Vice-Chairperson Jimmy Torres and seconded by Committee Member De Lourdes Castillo to award \$400,000 to the auditorium roof repair and \$300,000 to the Boy Scout Huts. The Citizen Advisory Committee members were polled pursuant to COVID-19 Teleconference Meeting Procedures as follows, with Committee Members Brigitte Garza and Denisse Martinez absent (2/19): The motion carried (14/19).

<i>NAME</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>
Chairperson Cyndi Esquivel	yes		
Committee Member Jimmy Torres	yes		
Committee Member Marie De Lourdes Castillo	yes		
Committee Member Janet Cazares	yes		
Committee Member Candice Esquivel	yes		
Committee Member Brigitte Garza			Absent
Committee Member Susan F. Janer	yes		
Committee Member Juliano A. Jarquin		excused	
Committee Member Virginia Johnson	yes		
Committee Member Jovanna Laborin	yes		
Committee Member Darlene Lopez		excused	
Committee Member Denisse Martinez			Absent
Committee Member Angelica Martinez	yes		
Committee Member Norma Mendoza	yes		
Committee Member Christina Montalvo	yes		
Committee Member Benigno Nunez	yes		
Committee Member Lizette Ruiz	yes		
Committee Member Jacquelyn Saucedo			
Committee Member Anthony Zepeda	yes		

TOTAL	14		
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After some discussion, Committee Member Angelica Martinez moved and Committee Member Benigno Nunez seconded to award the remaining balance of \$110,000 as follows:

- \$55,000 to the auditorium roof repair
- \$55,000 to the Boy Scout Huts

Committee Member Lizette Ruiz expressed concern in placing the balance of \$110,000 into projects that have already received funding when there are many applicants that have not received funding.

Vice-Chairperson Jimmy Torres expressed that he would like to see some funding go the Commercial Façade program.

Committee Member Virginia Johnson also expressed that Commercial Façade should receive some funding.

The Citizen Advisory Committee members were polled pursuant to COVID-19 Teleconference Meeting Procedures as follows, with Committee Members Brigitte Garza and Denisse Martinez absent (2/19): The motion carried (9/19).

<i>NAME</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>
Chairperson Cyndi Esquivel	no		
Committee Member Jimmy Torres		abstain	
Committee Member Marie De Lourdes Castillo	yes		
Committee Member Janet Cazares	yes		
Committee Member Candice Esquivel	yes		
Committee Member Brigitte Garza			Absent
Committee Member Susan F. Janer	yes		
Committee Member Juliano A. Jarquin		excused	
Committee Member Virginia Johnson		abstain	
Committee Member Jovanna Laborin	yes		
Committee Member Darlene Lopez		excused	
Committee Member Denisse Martinez			Absent
Committee Member Angelica Martinez	yes		
Committee Member Norma Mendoza	yes		
Committee Member Christina Montalvo	yes		
Committee Member Benigno Nunez	yes		
Committee Member Lizette Ruiz		abstain	
Committee Member Jacquelyn Saucedo			
Committee Member Anthony Zepeda	no		
TOTAL	9		

Committee Member Anthony Zepeda requested clarification on what it means to “abstain” from voting as opposed to saying yes or no.

Chairperson Esquivel stated that to abstain was if you were not present at the meeting or you were undecided or in some way connected to an applicant.

Committee Member Angelica Martinez stated that there wouldn't have been enough funding for the Commercial Façade program and that the auditorium roof and Boy Scout Huts were in much more need.

Ms. Guevara clarified that the motion awarded \$455,000 to the auditorium roof repair project and \$355,000 to the Boy Scout Huts.

3. GENERAL BUSINESS At this time, Chairperson Esquivel opened the floor to comments and/or announcements.

Audience Comments: None

Citizens Advisory Committee: Committee Member Virginia Johnson commented that she felt the new members were "asking all the right questions" and that there was great participation from everyone.

Committee Ruiz expressed her gratitude to everyone who expressed their comments.

Committee Member Angelica Martinez reminded the committee that the recommendations must still go before the City Council for approval.

Chairperson Esquivel commented that the City Council meeting will take place the last meeting in March or the first meeting in April, but staff will let the committee know.

Abel Torres reminded all committee members to submit their W-9 form for payment.

Ms. Guevara also made comments on when the CAC recommendations will be presented to the City Council for consideration and approval. Ms. Guevara also mentioned that Compator is accepting applications for rental assistance and Helpline Youth Counseling also has a rental assistance program. Ms. Guevara further stated that the South Gate Chamber is still accepting applications for small business assistance. Lastly, Ms. Guevara stated that the Fair Housing Foundation will be presenting landlord/tenant workshops in the next week. A small business workshop will also be hosted by Bet Tzedek on February 18, regarding small business taxes.

Committee member Lizette Ruiz asked if committee members were able to comment at the City Council meeting, to which Chairperson Esquivel stated they could.

Paul Adams clarified that any person could make comments at a City Council meeting.

Ms. Guevara stated that the meeting will be a "noticed" public meeting that the public could attend.

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Citizen Advisory Committee, the time being 8:41 p.m., Committee Member Lizette Ruiz moved, and Committee Member Jovanna Laborin seconded and the motion carried (14-19) to adjourn. The Citizen Advisory Committee members were polled pursuant to COVID-19 Teleconference Meeting Procedures as follows, with Committee Members Brigitte Garza and Denisse Martinez absent (2/19):

<i>NAME</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>
Chairperson Cyndi Esquivel	yes		
Committee Member Jimmy Torres	yes		
Committee Member Marie De Lourdes Castillo	yes		
Committee Member Janet Cazares	yes		
Committee Member Candice Esquivel	yes		

Committee Member Brigitte Garza			Absent
Committee Member Susan F. Janer	yes		
Committee Member Juliano A. Jarquin		no answer	
Committee Member Virginia Johnson	yes		
Committee Member Jovanna Laborin	yes		
Committee Member Darlene Lopez		no answer	
Committee Member Denisse Martinez			Absent
Committee Member Angelica Martinez	yes		
Committee Member Norma Mendoza	yes		
Committee Member Christina Montalvo	yes		
Committee Member Benigno Nunez	yes		
Committee Member Lizette Ruiz	yes		
Committee Member Jacquelyn Saucedo		no answer	
Committee Member Anthony Zepeda	yes		
TOTAL	14		

Respectfully,

Paul Adams, Secretary
Citizens Advisory Committee

APPROVED:

Cyndi Esquivel, Chairperson
Citizen Advisory Committee