

CITY OF SOUTH GATE  
REGULAR AND JOINT CITY COUNCIL; SOUTH GATE PUBLIC  
ACCESS CORPORATON; SOUTH GATE HOUSING AUTHORITY;  
SOUTH GATE UTILITY AUTHORITY; SUCCESSOR AGENCY OF  
THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION OF THE CITY  
OF SOUTH GATE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 13, 2021

4/13/2021 - Minutes

**I. Call To Order/Roll Call With Invocation & Pledge**

CALL TO ORDER Maria Davila, Mayor called a Regular City Council meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

INVOCATION Father Eduardo Bresciani, Saint Margaret's Church

PLEDGE OF

ALLEGIANCE Evelyn Garcia, Lieutenant South Gate Police Department

ROLL CALL Carmen Avalos, City Clerk

**II. City Officials**

PRESENT Mayor/Chairperson Maria Davila, Vice Mayor/Vice Chairperson Al Rios, Council Member/Chair Person Maria del Pilar Avalos, Council Member/Chair Person Denise Diaz and Council Member/Chair Person Gil Hurtado; City Treasurer Gregory Martinez; Interim City Manager Chris Jeffers, City Attorney/Special Legal Counsel Raul F. Salinas

**COVID 19 Meeting Procedures**

**Meeting Compensation Disclosure (Joint City Council, SG Public Access Corp., SG Housing Authority, Public Finance Authority, SG Utility Authority And Successor Agency)**

**III. Proclamations, Certificates, Introductions And Ceremonial Actions**

**1. Proclamation Declaring The Month Of April As Autism Awareness Month**

The City Council issued a Proclamation declaring the month of April 2021 as Autism Awareness Month.

**2. Proclamation Declaring April 11 - 17, 2021, As National Public Safety Telecommunicator's Week**

The City Council issued a Proclamation declaring the week of April 11 - 17, 2021, as National Public Safety Telecommunicator's Week.

**3. Proclamation Declaring April 22, 2021, As The City's 16th Annual Earth Day Celebration**

The City Council issued a Proclamation declaring April 22, 2021, as the 16th Annual Earth Day “Virtual” Celebration in the City of South Gate, and the 51st Anniversary of the first Earth Day held on April 22, 1970.

#### **IV. Reports, Recommendations And Requests**

##### **4. Warrants**

The City Council approved A and B by motion of Council Auditor Avalos and seconded by Mayor Davila.

a. Approved Wire Transfer No. 1512021, and No. 1592021 from City Council Meeting of March 09, 2021. Grand Total \$41,451.36

b. Approved the Warrant Register for April 13, 2021

Total of Checks:	\$2,746,642.27
Voids:	(\$ 48,969.10)
Total of Payroll Deductions	(\$ 669,538.21)
Grand Total:	\$2,028,134.96

Cancellations: 84909, 85331, 89104, 89708, 89856, 90202, 90619, 90796, 90890, and 91943

Roll Call: Mayor Davila, yes; Vice Mayor Rios, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Avalos, yes.

#### **V. Comments From The Audience**

Robert Montalvo, inquired if for future discussion on the Parks Master Plan that a digital scoreboard be included. Additionally, to look at paint options to help with the maintenance of graffiti in the City. Mr. Montalvo stated that the Park is hosting “South Gate Got\ Talent” and it has been extended to April 30th.

Alice Cueto, South Gate resident, thanked the Police Department and Dispatchers for their work. She felt that when Council Member Avalos welcomed the new police officer her main concern was whether or not he spoke Spanish without appreciating that his work might make the City a little safer. She felt that Council Member Avalos was disrespectful to one of the City Commissioners at a previous City Council meetings and that Council Member Avalos should be more professional.

Daisy Vargas, Family Health Care of Greater Los Angeles thanked Steve Costley, Adolfo Varas and Andres Gonzalez for helping with the COVID vaccines.

Art Alvarez, Aldrich Road, thanked South Gate Police Department for increasing the patrols near Legacy High School. Even with the increased patrols there are still several accidents in the area.

Sara Rosas, would like to see the City start a community service program for removing the graffiti. She thanked Council Member Diaz for your support of the youth.

Adolfo Varas thanked the Family Health Care Centers of Greater Los Angeles for their work in the community. He also thanked Steve Costley and the City Council with their help. He also informed the Council that he will be receiving recognition from the President

for his work in the community.

Virginia Johnson, 5751 McKinley Avenue mentioned that at the last meeting she had signed up to speak on Item 17 and the item was never opened for public comment. This has happened a few times during past meetings and would like to see a little more reflection from Council and Staff when public comment has been omitted.

Father Eduardo Bresciani, Saint Margaret's Church, stated the he has had to pause his Mass seven times last week because of racing on Tweedy Boulevard. He fears for the lives of the community.

Candice thanked the South Gate Police Department and Chief Davis for their response of an incident that happened on Saturday night involving over 100 people.

Anna, South Gate Chamber of Commerce stated on April 15th in collaboration with other community organizations will be bringing another vaccine event. Registration and information can be found on both the City's website and the Chamber's website.

## **VI. Reports And Comments From City Officials**

Chief Davis responded to the Public Comment and stated that the Traffic Division will look into the reports of speeding.

Steve Costley, Interim Parks and Recreation Director, reported that over the last few weeks the vaccine clinics have been running continuously, a food drive on April 7th, pet vaccination clinic and a hazardous waste roundup. The Parks have just started opening up programming again.

Paul Adams, Interim Community Development Director, reported on the new food distribution program that is kicking off this week.

Chris Jeffers, Interim City Manager reported that on there is information on the City's website about FEMA helping families in need with funeral expenses for loved ones. Also according to the LA County's webpage about 33% of South Gate residents have been vaccinated. This number is up from 25% three weeks ago.

South Gate is still behind many other communities but starting this week everyone 16 years and older are now eligible to receive the vaccine. If residents have not received the vaccine Mr. Jeffers encouraged everyone to keep getting tested until the City reaches the 80-85% vaccinated number.

Council Member Diaz thanked the residents that call in with their concerns and keeping the City on track.

Council Member Diaz recapped the events of the last few years and what it was like to be an elected official during this time. She thanked the Council, staff and residents for working together to get South Gate through these hard times.

Council Member Avalos thanked the residents and responded to the comments of the public. She encourages the community and Council to continue to move the City forward.

Council Member Hurtado stated that some of the trees on Tweedy Boulevard were damaged by the tree trimmers and are scheduled to be fixed soon. He encourages

everyone to get a vaccine and as we begin to open be sure to support our local businesses. Sports programs are also starting to come back and requested people to keep supporting youth organizations.

Council Member Hurtado spoke about Jose Gomez, long-time resident and 30+ years as a Board Member of the South Gate Junior Athletic Association, and wants to adjourn the meeting in his memory.

Vice Mayor Rios thanked the residents that joined tonight's meeting, Council Member Diaz and staff for their work. He thanked all the staff at the County level that have helped the various cities move forward through this pandemic.

Vice Mayor Rios reported that at the Metro Gateway Cities Service Council will have a change in leadership.

Greg Martinez, City Treasurer thanked Council Member Denise Diaz for her work helping to feed the homeless. There will be more upcoming events to feed the homeless and he invited all the elected officials to come out to help.

Council Member Diaz commended the City Treasurer for his work with the homeless and the dedication he has for the cause.

Mr. Martinez apologized for not being able to attend the Tweedy Mile Advisory Board Meeting but looks forward to being able to work with both the Advisory Board and Tweedy Mile Association.

Carmen Avalos, City Clerk thanked the community for their patients with the City Clerk's Office as we have had an over whelming response to getting passports appointments. Currently, the City Clerk's Office is only taking appointments to minimize exposure of COVID 19 for our staff and residents. Ms. Avalos wishes all our students coming back to class a successful return. She thanked all teachers and educators for their work and support.

RECESS The City Council recessed at 8:15 p.m., and reconvened at 8:20 p.m., with 5 Members of Council present.

## **VII. JOINT CITY COUNCIL MEETING WITH THE PUBLIC ACCESS CORP, HOUSING AUTHORITY, PUBLIC FINANCE AUTHORITY, UTILITY AUTHORITY AND SUCCESSOR AGENCY FOR THE CITY OF SOUTH GATE**

### **5. Re-Organization And Oaths Of Office For The City Council; Public Access Corp; Housing Authority; Public Finance Authority; Public Utility Authority; And Successor Agency To The Community Development Commission**

The City Council re-organized and approved the following appointments:

a. Mayor and Vice Mayor for a one-year term; the selection was ratified by a majority vote of the City Council; the Oaths of Office were administered;

Council Member Hurtado motioned to nominate Vice Mayor Al Rios for Mayor and

seconded Mayor Davila.

Roll Call: Mayor Davila, yes; Vice Mayor Rios, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes; Council Member Avalos, yes.

Council Member Hurtado motioned to nominate Council Member Avalos for Vice Mayor and seconded by Council Member Davila.

Roll Call: Mayor Rios, yes; Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes; Council Member Avalos, yes.

b. Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, for a one-year term, to serve on the South Gate Public Access Corporation; the Oaths of Office were administered;

c. Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, for a one-year term, to serve on the South Gate Housing Authority; the Oaths of Office were administered;

d. Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, for a one-year term, to serve on the Public Finance Authority; the Oaths of Office were administered;

e. Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, for a one-year term, to serve on the South Gate Utility Authority; the Oaths of Office were administered; and

f. Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, for a one-year term, to serve on the Successor Agency to the Community Development Commission of the City of South Gate; the Oaths of Office were administered.

Council Member Davila motioned to nominate Mayor Rios for Chairperson of the South Gate Public Access Corporation; Chairperson of the South Gate Housing Authority; Chairperson of the South Gate Public Finance Authority; Chairperson of the South Gate Utility Authority; Chairperson for the Successor Agency to the Community Development Commission and seconded by Council Member Hurtado.

Council Member Davila motioned to nominate Vice Mayor Avalos for Vice Chairperson of the South Gate Public Access Corporation; Vice Chairperson of the South Gate Housing Authority; Vice Chairperson of the South Gate Public Finance Authority; Vice Chairperson of the South Gate Utility Authority; and Vice Chairperson for the Successor Agency to the Community Development Commission and seconded by Council Member Hurtado.

Roll Call: Mayor Rios, yes; Vice Mayor Avalos, yes; Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes.

## **6. City Council Appointments To Outside Boards And Agencies; And City Council Subcommittees**

The City Council approved the following appointments:

a. City Council representation to outside boards and agencies; the appointments were ratified by a majority vote of the City Council:

1. The City Council Auditor must be appointed by the Mayor;

2. The Mayor must serve as the Director to the County Sanitation Districts; may select an Alternate Director;

3. The Mayor must serve as the Representative to the Los Angeles County City Selection Committee and the Vice Mayor must serve as the Alternate Representative; and

b. City Council Subcommittees:

1. Delta Subcommittee; and approving Mission Statement;

2. Waste Management Subcommittee; and approving Mission Statement;

3. Budget Subcommittee; and approving Mission Statement; and

4. Public Access Corporation Subcommittee; and approving Mission Statement.

Mayor Rios motioned to appoint Vice Mayor Avalos as City Council Auditor and seconded by Council Member Davila.

Roll Call: Mayor Rios, yes; Vice Mayor Avalos, abstain; Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes.

Council Member Davila motioned to appoint Mayor Rios as representative to the County Sanitation Districts and seconded by Vice Mayor Avalos.

Roll Call: Mayor Rios, abstain; Vice Mayor Avalos, yes; Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes.

Mayor Rios motioned to appoint Council Member Davila as alternate to the County Sanitation Districts and seconded by Council Member Hurtado.

Roll Call: Mayor Rios, yes; Vice Mayor Avalos, yes; Council Member Davila, abstain; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes.

Council Member Diaz motioned to appoint Council Member Davila as representative to the Gateway Cities Council of Governments and seconded by Mayor Rios.

Roll Call: Mayor Rios, yes; Vice Mayor Avalos, yes; Council Member Davila, abstain; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes.

Council Member Davila motioned to appoint Vice Mayor Avalos as alternate to the Gateway Cities Council of Governments and seconded by Mayor Rios.

Roll Call: Mayor Rios, yes; Vice Mayor Avalos, abstain; Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes.

Council Member Davila motioned to appoint Mayor Rios as representative to the Los Angeles County City Selection Committee and seconded by Council Member Hurtado.

Roll Call: Mayor Rios, abstain; Vice Mayor Avalos, yes; Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes.

Council Member Davila motioned to appoint Vice Mayor Avalos as representative to the Los Angeles County City Selection Committee and seconded by Council Member Hurtado.

Roll Call: Mayor Rios, yes; Vice Mayor Avalos, abstain; Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes.

Mayor Rios motioned to appoint Vice Mayor Avalos as representative to the Imperial Highway Complete Street Study Committee and seconded by Council Member Hurtado.

Roll Call: Mayor Rios, yes; Vice Mayor Avalos, abstain; Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes.

City Council Subcommittees:

Delta Subcommittee – Council Member Davila motioned to appoint Council Member Diaz and Mayor Rios seconded by Council Member Hurtado.

Roll Call: Mayor Rios, yes; Vice Mayor Avalos, yes; Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes.

Mayor Rios and Council Member Diaz both abstained from voting for their own appointments.

Waste Management Subcommittee - Mayor Rios motioned to appoint Council Member Davila and Council Member Diaz seconded by Council Member Hurtado.

Roll Call: Mayor Rios, yes; Vice Mayor Avalos, yes; Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes.

Council Member Davila and Council Member Diaz both abstained from voting for their own appointments.

Budget Subcommittee - Council Member Davila motioned to appoint Mayor Rios and Vice Mayor Avalos seconded by Council Member Diaz.

Roll Call: Mayor Rios, yes; Vice Mayor Avalos, yes; Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes.

Mayor Rios and Vice Mayor Avalos both abstained from voting for their own appointments.

Public Access Corporation Subcommittee - Mayor Rios motioned to appoint Council Member Diaz and Council Member Hurtado seconded by Council Member Davila.

Roll Call: Mayor Rios, yes; Vice Mayor Avalos, yes; Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes.

Council Member Diaz and Council Member Hurtado both abstained from voting for their own appointments.

Council Member Davila motioned to approve the current appointments with no change

to the representatives for Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District; HUB Cities Consortium; Independent Cities Association; Independent Cities Risk Management Authority; League of California Cities; Eco-Rapid Transit Authority; California Contract Cities Association; School Safety Collaborative; Atlantic Ave/Blvd. Corridor Cities Committee and Southeast Community Development Corporation and seconded by Council Member Hurtado. An amendment to the motion was made by Council Member Davila and seconded by Council Member Hurtado to accept the following changes:

Independent Cities Finance Authority  
Representative: Council Member Hurtado  
Alternate: Vice Mayor Avalos

Southeast Water Coalition Joint Powers Authority  
Representative: Vice Mayor Avalos  
Alternate: Council Member Davila

Roll Call: Mayor Rios, yes; Vice Mayor Avalos, yes; Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes.

All Council Members abstained from voting on their own appointments.

Southern California Association of Governments was removed from the list of outside agencies as the City of South Gate lost the election of a representative to the City of Downey caused by Council Member Hurtado supporting Downey over the South Gate representative.

### **VIII. Adjournment**

Mayor Rios unanimously adjourned the meeting in memory of Jose (JoJo) Gomez, long-time resident and 30+ years as a Board Member of the South Gate Junior Athletic Association at 10:38 p.m. by motion of Vice Mayor Avalos and seconded by Council Member Hurtado.

**PASSED** and **APPROVED** this 27th day of April 2021.

For a signed copy of the minutes for this meeting please contact the City Clerk's Office:  
8650 California Avenue, South Gate, California 90280  
(323) 563-9510 \* fax (323) 563-5411 \* [www.cityofsouthgate.org](http://www.cityofsouthgate.org)