

**Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
City Council/Public Financing Authority  
City of Huntington Beach**

Tuesday, June 2, 2026  
3:30 PM — Council Chambers  
6:00 PM — Council Chambers  
Civic Center, 2000 Main Street  
Huntington Beach, California 92648

**A video recording of the 3:30 PM and 6:00 PM portions of this meeting  
is on file in the Office of the City Clerk, and archived at  
<https://huntingtonbeach.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>**

**3:30 PM — COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**CALLED TO ORDER — 3:30 PM**

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Gruel, Kennedy, Twining, McKeon, Burns, Van Der Mark, and Williams  
Absent: None

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS PERTAINING TO CLOSED SESSION**  
(Received After Agenda Distribution)

Pursuant to the Brown "Open Meetings" Act, City Clerk Lisa Lane Barnes announced supplemental communications received by her office following distribution of the Council Agenda packet which were all uploaded to the City's website and Councilmember iPads: *Closed Session Item #1 (26-490) (1 email communication), and Item #3 (26-492) (1 email communication).*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS PERTAINING TO CLOSED SESSION ITEMS — None**

***Mayor McKeon read the titles for Closed Session Items #1 (26-490), #2 (26-491), #3 (26-492), #4 (26-493) and #5 (26-449) Conference with Labor Negotiators regarding Employee Organizations: Huntington Beach Police Officers' Association (HBPOA), Police Management Association (PMA), Huntington Beach Firefighters' Association (HBFA) and Fire Management Association (FMA).***

A motion was made by Burns, with a second by Van Der Mark, to recess to Closed Session.

**RECESSED TO CLOSED SESSION — 3:32 PM**

**CLOSED SESSION**

- 1. 26-490 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Gov. Code section 54957.6.) Agency designated representatives: Travis Hopkins, City Manager; also in attendance: Marissa Sur, Assistant City Manager; Mike Vigliotta, City Attorney and Zack Zithisakthanakul, Acting Chief Financial Officer. Employee Organization: Huntington Beach Police Officers' Association (HBPOA).**

2. 26-491 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Gov. Code section 54957.6.) Agency designated representatives: Travis Hopkins, City Manager; also in attendance: Marissa Sur, Assistant City Manager; Mike Vigliotta, City Attorney and Zack Zithisakthanakul, Acting Chief Financial Officer. Employee Organization: Police Management Association (PMA).
  3. 26-492 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Gov. Code section 54957.6.) Agency designated representatives: Travis Hopkins, City Manager; also in attendance: Marissa Sur, Assistant City Manager; Mike Vigliotta, City Attorney and Zack Zithisakthanakul, Acting Chief Financial Officer. Employee Organization: Huntington Beach Firefighters' Association (HBFA).
  4. 26-493 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Gov. Code section 54957.6.) Agency designated representatives: Travis Hopkins, City Manager; also in attendance: Marissa Sur, Assistant City Manager; Mike Vigliotta, City Attorney and Zack Zithisakthanakul, Acting Chief Financial Officer. Employee Organization: Fire Management Association (FMA).
  5. 26-494 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-EXISTING LITIGATION. (Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9). People of the State of California/Bonta v. City of Huntington Beach, et al.; Case No. 30-2023-01312235-CU-WM-CJC.
  6. 26-503 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-EXISTING LITIGATION. (Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9). City of Huntington Beach v. Surf City Partners, LLC, et al.; Case No. 30-2026-01565130-CU-BC-NJC.
  7. 26-508 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-EXISTING LITIGATION. (Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9). Lockhart (Janet) v. City of Huntington Beach; OCSC Case No. 30-2022-01250448.
  8. 26-507 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-EXISTING LITIGATION. (Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9). Southwest Voter Registration Education Project, et al. v. City of Huntington Beach; OCSC Case No. 30-2024-01397379-CU-CR-NJC.
- NEW 26-510 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-LITIGATION (Gov. Code section 54956.9(d)(4).): One (1).

**6:00 PM — COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**RECONVENED CITY COUNCIL/PUBLIC FINANCING AUTHORITY MEETING — 6:00 PM**

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Gruel, Kennedy, Twining, McKeon, Burns, Van Der Mark, and Williams  
Absent: None

**INVOCATION**

In permitting a nonsectarian invocation, the City does not intend to proselytize or advance any faith or belief. Neither the City nor the City Council endorses any particular religious belief or form of invocation.

**9. 26-49 Huntington Beach Police and Fire Chaplain Roger Wing**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**10. 26-499 James Ghormley, American Legion Post 133**

**CLOSED SESSION REPORT BY CITY ATTORNEY**

City Attorney Mike Vigliotta announced that City Council unanimously (7–0) approved filing litigation, the substance of which will be disclosed once the lawsuit has been filed.

**CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS (2-Minute Time Limit)**

Councilmember Burns reported attending a meeting of the Coordinating Council; Kiwanis Club awarded six student scholarships to acknowledge excellence; Young Republicans event with IDF speakers; Memorial Day Event sponsored by American Legion Post 133; and Kowabunga HB Van Show on the Pier with thanks to Don Ramsey; Council Woman Van Der Mark expressed appreciation for everyone from Huntington Beach who assisted with the recent safety incident in Garden Grove; Councilmember Kennedy commended the synchronized effort by state, county and local agencies to get information out to the public during the recent safety incidence in Garden Grove; commended Don Ramsey and his team for cleaning up the Pier following the Kowabunga HB Van Show; Councilmember Williams expressed his gratitude for the Memorial Day event; Mayor McKeon thanked the City Celebration Committee for the unveiling of the 250th Banner at the Pier; Huntington Beach Symphony Orchestra at the City Hall "Bowl" for the free "Sea Breeze & HB Symphony Orchestra" concert; and the 121st Annual Memorial Day Ceremony at Pier Plaza.

**MAYOR'S SPOTLIGHT**

**11. 26-496 Mayor's Spotlight Presentation**

Mayor McKeon acknowledged recipients of the May Mayor's Excellence Award to Jesus Martinez Ruiz, Senior Wastewater Pump Technician, Public Works Department; Code Enforcement Team members; Darren Diaz of David's Tree Service; David Garafalo, Community Volunteer; Jim Brown; local Booster Club Helping Heroes; Tanner Humble and Rich Sanchez, Co-Leaders of the Fire Explorers Program; and the Under 12 Girls Culture SC Soccer Team.

**BUSINESS HIGHLIGHT**

**12. 26-495 Business Highlight Presentation**

Mayor McKeon noted the Ribbon Cutting celebrations for Champagnes Kitchen on Main Street; 25 Degrees at 412 Walnut Street; Coach's Lounge at 8911 Adams Avenue; and announced the Soccer Fest, June 11 — July 19 at Old World; Huntington Beach Chamber of Commerce AM Connect on June 11th at 7:30 AM; and availability of Surf City USA Bike Valet service on weekends and during special events.

*Minute with the Mayor* videos were played to recognize Bra Garden, at Goldenwest and Bolsa, and Hennessee Real Estate Group on Main Street.

**COMMUNITY EVENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS** (2-Minute Time Limit) Limited to one representative, one announcement — 4 Speakers

Ron Brown, President and CEO, All for Kids, commented on the Community Block Grant for Oakview and described the services provided to Huntington Beach by All for Kids during the last 20 years.

Allen Merdrin, College View Elementary School Principal, commended the Huntington Beach Police Department Mounted Unit for recently spending time with College View students

Justine Makoff, Free Rein Foundation, Huntington Beach Equestrian Center, commented on recent events held for the benefit of the community and reminded everyone of the August 8, 2026, annual fundraising event.

Colin Stevens, City Treasurer's Office Manager, announced another presentation of the AI Senior Scams class on Friday, June 12, at 1:30 PM at the Senior Center; and Family Scams class on Wednesday, June 18, 6:00 pm, in the Talbert Room at Central Library.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS** (Received After Agenda Distribution)

Pursuant to the Brown "Open Meetings" Act, City Clerk Lisa Lane Barnes announced supplemental communications received by her office following distribution of the Council Agenda packet which were all uploaded to the City's website and Councilmember iPads: *City Manager's Report Item #16 (26-477) (staff PowerPoint communication, 5 email communications); City Treasurer's Report Item #17 (26-506) (staff PowerPoint communication); Councilmember Items #26 (26-485) (3 email communications, and staff report dated May 5, 2025).*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** (3-minute time limit) — 32 Public Speakers

*The number [hh:mm:ss] following the speakers' comments indicates their approximate starting time in the archived video located at <https://huntingtonbeach.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>.*

Amory Hanson commented on Consent Calendar Item #23 (26-475) regarding an application for funds for the Environmental Cleanup, Tier 1 Grant Program under Orange County Local Transportation Ordinance No. 3. (00:39:07)

Andrew Einhorn commented on Public Hearing Item #13 (26-439) regarding appeal of the Planning Commission's Action on Conditional Use Permit No. 25-027 (Distractions Lounge). (00:39:35)

Joanne Sosa commented on Public Hearing Item #13 (26-439) regarding appeal of the Planning Commission's Action on Conditional Use Permit No. 25-027 (Distractions Lounge). (00:39:48)

Roz Price commented on Council Member Items #26 (26-485) regarding Lifeguard Tower Advertising License Agreement. (00:41:08)

Brenda Glim commented on Public Hearing Item #13 (26-439) regarding appeal of the Planning Commission's Action on Conditional Use Permit No. 25-027 (Distractions Lounge). (00:43:37)

Unnamed Speaker commented on costs related to the Airshow, Terry Park and the Reliable Lumber project. (00:46:29)

Tomoe Santillan commented on Public Hearing Item #13 (26-439) regarding appeal of the Planning Commission's Action on Conditional Use Permit No. 25-027 (Distractions Lounge). (00:47:48)

David Crowley, Huntington Beach Sailing Foundation President, commented on the condition of the docks at 38211 Warner Avenue. (00:49:23)

Unnamed Speaker, current Commodore of the Huntington Yacht Club, commented on the condition of the docks at 38211 Warner Avenue. (00:50:55)

Russ Neal commented on what makes America special and great and the heritage of the Founders. (00:54:37)

David Rynerson commented on Council Member Items #26 (26-485) regarding Lifeguard Tower Advertising License Agreement; Public Hearing Item #13 (26-439) regarding appeal of the Planning Commission's Action on Conditional Use Permit No. 25-027 (Distractions Lounge); Terry Park and the Reliable Lumber project; Public Hearing Item #14 (26-482) regarding General Plan Amendment No. 21-003 (2021-2029 Housing Element Update); Airshow settlement; and various litigation cases. (00:58:05)

Diane Bentley commented on Housing Element litigation, and continuing budget deficits. (01:00:38)

Chris Waring commented on space rental increases through the years at Surf City Cottages. (01:02:37)

Unnamed Speaker asked several questions of Councilmembers. (01:05:54)

Chris Kluwe commented on the fact he completed a blue card and noted he has not yet been contacted. (01:07:22)

Elaine Bauer Keeley commented on the services provided by Friends of the Library. (01:09:41)

Chris Rini commented on Council Member Items #26 (26-485) regarding Lifeguard Tower Advertising License Agreement, Pride month and placement of the surf boards in the Main Street Library. (01:12:51)

Melanie Brady commented on Public Hearing Item #13 (26-439) regarding appeal of the Planning Commission's Action on Conditional Use Permit No. 25-027 (Distractions Lounge). (01:14:25)

Ann Palmer commented on Public Hearing Item #14 (26-482) regarding General Plan Amendment No. 21-003 (2021-2029 Housing Element Update). (01:16:13)

Unnamed Speaker commented on Public Hearing Item #13 (26-439) regarding appeal of the Planning Commission's Action on Conditional Use Permit No. 25-027 (Distractions Lounge); Public Hearing Item #14 (26-482) regarding General Plan Amendment No. 21-003 (2021-2029 Housing Element Update); Administrative Items #25 (26-277) regarding Brown Act Modernization implementing a technology disruption policy during public comments; and Council Member Items #26 (26-485) regarding Lifeguard Tower Advertising License Agreement. (01:18:24)

Pat Goodman commented on City Manager's Report #16 (26-477) regarding Study Session: Fiscal Year 2026–27 Proposed Budget Review. (01:20:33)

Paula Schaefer commented on the Friends of the Library benefits to Huntington Beach. (01:23:43)

Unnamed Speaker commented on Public Hearing Item #14 (26-482) regarding General Plan Amendment No. 21-003 (2021-2029 Housing Element Update). (01:26:41)

Keri Gorsage, Ocean View School District Board Trustee, commented on Public Hearing Item #13 (26-439) regarding appeal of the Planning Commission's Action on Conditional Use Permit No. 25-027 (Distractions Lounge). (01:29:02)

Gina Clayton-Tarvin, Ocean View School District Board of Trustees President, commented on Public Hearing Item #13 (26-439) regarding appeal of the Planning Commission's Action on Conditional Use Permit No. 25-027 (Distractions Lounge). (01:30:56)

Kanen Durham commented on Pride month. (01:34:20)

Robin Braithwaite commented on Public Hearing Item #14 (26-482) regarding General Plan Amendment No. 21-003 (2021-2029 Housing Element Update). (01:36:57)

Eric Evans commented on City Manager's Report #16 (26-477) regarding Study Session: Fiscal Year 2026–27 Proposed Budget Review. (01:39:48)

Karen Carroll commented on Public Hearing Item #14 (26-482) regarding General Plan Amendment No. 21-003 (2021-2029 Housing Element Update). (01:42:55)

Ben Davis commented on Closed Session Item #8 (26-507) regarding Southwest Voter Registration Education Project, et al. v. City of Huntington Beach. (01:46:02)

Unnamed Speaker commented on Friends of the Library and on Public Hearing Item #13 (26-439) regarding appeal of the Planning Commission's Action on Conditional Use Permit No. 25-027 (Distractions Lounge). (01:47:34)

Unnamed Speaker apologized to Police Chief Parra for comments made at the last Council meeting; thanked Director of Community Services Ashley Wysocki and her staff for services provided; and shared his personal experiences related to dealing with several City departments. (01:49:22)

***Council Woman Van Der Mark left the meeting at approximately 7:50 PM.***

**COUNCIL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS — None**

**AB 1234 REPORTING — None**

**OPENNESS IN NEGOTIATION DISCLOSURES** — Mayor Pro Tem Twining and Councilmembers Burns, Gruel and Williams reported speaking with members of the Huntington Beach Police Officer's Association (POA).

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**13. 26-439 Appeal of the Planning Commission's Action on Conditional Use Permit No. 25-027 (Distractions Lounge)**

Mayor McKeon called for Councilmember disclosure of ex parte communications and there were none.

**SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING PUBLIC HEARING FOR ITEM #13 (26-439)**

Pursuant to the Brown "Open Meetings" Act, City Clerk Lisa Lane Barnes announced supplemental communications received by her office following distribution of the Council Agenda packet which were all uploaded to the City's website and Councilmember iPads: *Public Hearing Item #13 (26-439) (report submitted by Councilmember Williams) and (4 email communications).*

Director of Community Development, Jennifer Villasenor, introduced Planning Manager Rick Ramos who presented a PowerPoint communication titled *Appeal of the Planning Commission's Action on Conditional Use Permit No. 25-027* with slides entitled: *Request, Project Location, Site Plan, Analysis (2), and Summary*. Marco Klebus, Associate Planner and Police Department Captain Kevin Johnson were also introduced as available to answer discussion questions.

Mayor Pro Tem Twining and Captain Johnson discussed the number of calls for service at Distractions Lounge over three years. Mayor Pro Tem Twining reported his observations during visits to Westmont Elementary School. City Attorney Mike Vigliotta reminded Councilmembers this discussion time should be focused on the staff report.

Councilman Burns confirmed with Captain Johnson that the other restaurants and the liquor store in same center where Distractions Lounge is located all have the same address, except for unit number; and Distractions Lounge is approximately 600 feet from Heil Avenue on the alley side.

Councilmember Kennedy and Captain Johnson discussed the amount of time and thought that goes into alcohol recommendations for any specific site.

Councilmember Gruel and Captain Johnson discussed that Municipal Code Section 5.7 covers regulations for a bikini bar. There was further discussion on what triggers a call for service or inspection of a facility. Director Villasenor stated that currently Distractions Lounge does not require nor need a Conditional Use Permit (CUP). The State does not allow public consumption from an open alcoholic container outside of an establishment.

Councilmember Williams reviewed in greater detail several of the incidents on the Ten-Year Calls for Service report.

Mayor McKeon opened the Public Hearing.

**Public Speakers for Public Hearing Item #13 (26-439) — 7 Speakers**

Brian Thienes, Huntington Beach Planning Commissioner, stated he originally voted to deny this Conditional Use Permit (CUP). He provided distances from Distractions Lounge to the parcel at Beach and Heil that is expected to be used for a senior care facility and Westmont Elementary School. He added that if this establishment becomes a nuisance, the added conditions can be used to shut them down and therefore it is appropriate to approve this CUP. (02:19:37)

Roz Price shared she made a personal visit to Distractions Lounge and asked if approving this Conditional Use Permit is really in the best interests of the community. She supports businesses in Huntington Beach, but questions expanding beer and wine service to broader alcohol privileges and how that could impact public safety, neighborhood compatibility and compliance with existing license requirements. She requested that Council deny this request. (02:22:43)

Unnamed Speaker, who lives at 16591 Waite Lane, directly across the alley from Distractions Lounge back door, shared in the five years he has lived there at least three times he has had to walk very drunk people out of his backyard, or off the back retaining wall. He also described multiple incidents on his street that required calls for police. He added that he believes Distractions Lounge does what they are supposed to do, but with alcohol comes a lot of commotion, drunk people coming over the wall into the residential neighborhood and multiple burglaries. (02:25:52)

Dawn Thomas shared her personal experience of being drugged twice in her life when she attended various bars and stated hard alcohol just makes situations worse. She asked Council to deny this request. (02:27:48)

Keri Gorsage, Ocean View School District Board Trustee, stated that one of the most troubling aspects of this process is lack of clarity regarding how future impacts will be measured and addressed. She stated the Ocean View School District has requested annual police reviews for the life of the permit, clearer standards for evaluating increases in service calls, improved lighting, unobstructed visibility into the establishment and reporting requirements related to drink-spiking incidents. Good public policy requires measurable standards, on-going oversight. (02:31:01)

Gina Clayton-Tarvin, Ocean View School District Board of Trustees President, stated her support for the appeal. She noted the liquor license being sought is specifically designed for establishments that primarily serve alcohol, not meals. She stated the public is being asked to believe that increasing alcohol service at this location, already associated with police activity, will somehow improve conditions in the area. She added that no District school, other than Westmont Elementary, is surrounded by this concentration of alcohol serving establishments. She asked Council to approve this appeal. (02:33:41)

Peter Blied, Land Use Consultant representing the owner of Distractions Lounge, clarified this is an existing business with a bar on premises since the 1960s. The current owner purchased the bar in 2012, incorporated in 2019, has an active, current business license and is in good standing with the City and Huntington Beach Police Department. He noted this Conditional Use Permit has been approved twice already and has been reviewed by the Zoning Administrator, staff and the Planning Commission. Required findings for this project can be made and should be made to allow the business owner to improve his competitive disadvantage with other Type 48 establishments that are nearby. He noted that review of the calls for service shows there are no incidents involving juveniles or minors. He stated that decisions can't be based on fears of what could happen and asked that Council deny this appeal. (02:36:55)

There being no more speakers, Mayor McKeon closed this Public Hearing.

Council discussion continued with a review of the Planning Commission meeting, discussion and action; the added conditions of approval to provide more safeguards and oversight by the Police Department, which signed off on this CUP, were reviewed; Police Chief Parra confirmed the calls for service for this establishment are not abnormal; Councilmembers are elected to make responsible decisions based on lawful exercise of rights, conformity, and safety checks, not personal values or opinions; the added conditions put more protections for residents in place; Responsible Beverage Control (RBC) does not allow bar tenders to drink with patrons nor take any drinks outside of the establishment; a definition for bikini bars already exists; Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) is the ultimate enforcement mechanism; City Attorney Mike Vigliotta confirmed that Council may approve or deny any Conditional Use Permit but there have to be findings for the decision, and added there is not a ministerial right to receive a CUP; portions of the letter from Ocean View School District regarding this item were read; we live in a free-market based society, in a nation of laws, where the Police Department can validate public safety concerns.

A motion was made by Williams, second Gruel to find the proposed project categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15301, Class 1. ~~Deny~~ **Approve** Conditional Use Permit No. 25-027 with suggested findings and conditions of approval (Attachment No. 4), **denial based on the detrimental impact to the community and students of Westmont Elementary School.**

The motion failed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Gruel, and Williams  
NOES: Kennedy, Twining, McKeon, and Burns  
ABSENT: Van Der Mark

A motion was made by McKeon, second Burns to find the proposed project categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15301, Class 1. Approve Conditional Use Permit No. 25-027 with suggested findings and conditions of approval (Attachment No. 1).

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Kennedy, Twining, McKeon, and Burns  
NOES: Gruel, and Williams  
ABSENT: Van Der Mark

**14. 26-482 CONTINUED to June 16, 2026: Adopt Resolution No. 2026-25 to Approve General Plan Amendment No. 21-003 (2021-2029 Housing Element Update)**

Mayor McKeon called for disclosure of any Councilmember ex parte communications regarding this item and there were none.

**SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATION PERTAINING TO PUBLIC HEARING ITEM #14 (26-482)**

Pursuant to the Brown "Open Meetings" Act, City Clerk Lisa Lane Barnes announced supplemental communications received by her office following distribution of the Council Agenda packet which were all uploaded to the City's website and Councilmember iPads: *Public Hearing Item #14 (26-482) (4 email and 2 letter communications), (updated staff report table), and (updated staff PowerPoint communication).*

Director of Community Development Jennifer Villaseñor presented a PowerPoint communication titled *2021-2029 Housing Element Update*, with slides entitled: *Housing Element Status (3); May 2026 Housing Element Revisions; Housing Element Update; Housing Element Contents; Regional Housing Needs; 2021 – 2029 Huntington Beach RHNA; Total RHNA Strategy Including Buffer Sites; Sites to Accommodate the RHNA; Housing Goals & Programs; 2026 CEQA Finding; and Recommendation.*

Mayor McKeon called for Councilmember discussion on the 2021–2029 Housing Element Update report and there was none.

Mayor McKeon opened the Public Hearing for Item #14 (482).

**Public Hearing Speakers (3-Minute Time Limit) — 5 Speakers**

Brian Thienes, Huntington Beach Planning Commissioner, stated his support for adopting the proposed Housing Element despite the massive burden it will place on the City's infrastructure. He noted that exempting the City from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) removes citizen participation and the Senate bills are in violation of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) policy. (03:39:50)

Unnamed Speaker stated her support for adopting the proposed Housing Element to bring Huntington Beach into compliance with the California housing law. She added that continuing to resist compliance puts the City at risk of significant consequences, including the possibility of surrendering local control over land use decisions. Adopting a Housing Element is not just about avoiding penalties, it is also an economic opportunity, as new housing supports local businesses, generates property tax revenue and helps create a stronger local economy. Compliance will also restore Huntington Beach's eligibility for SB2 planning grants and other State funding opportunities. She noted that when this lawsuit was initiated, four current Councilmembers were not part of that decision. She believes the current Councilmembers have an opportunity to hit the reset button, protect local control, and position Huntington Beach for future success. (03:42:58)

Daniel Sasse, Outside Counsel for the Kennedy Commission, stated it is very clear that the Huntington Beach Housing Element is not yet compliant because it does not include the 16 requirements set out by the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) letter. He also noted there has not been a full seven days since the draft was posted for public comment; the inventory of sites is incomplete; and the City's Adequate Building Site Analysis and Appendix B are deficient, inconsistent and incomplete. (03:45:12)

Cesar Covarrubias, Kennedy Commission Executive Director, stated it is expensive to live in Orange County where the median income is now \$139,000. It is important to ensure that housing opportunities are created for every segment, including affordable housing and above-moderate housing. He noted that every single Orange County city has a compliant Housing Element except Huntington Beach. He stated it appears from the report presented for this item, only about 10% of the affordable housing needed has been developed or is in the pipeline for Huntington Beach compared to market rate development which has already created about 50% of the Regional Housing Needs Allowance (RHNA). He urged Councilmembers to submit a compliant Housing Element that addresses the issues outlined by HCD, the Kennedy Commission and community stakeholders. (03:48:32)

Eric Evans, Retired Orange County Deputy Fire Marshall, noted the issues of call loads, increased paramedic runs and congestion, and inability to provide decent response times. He stated Huntington Beach is at risk of having to deal with a builder's remedy situation and is headed to being the example for what happens in a municipality when state mandates are ignored. (03:51:42)

There being no more speakers, Mayor McKeon closed this Public Hearing for Item #14 (26-482).

Councilmember discussion included that there has not been adequate time for proper public or Councilmember review of the proposed Housing Element; the Housing Element is still in need of additional updates; there needs to be a reasonable and responsible consideration of the public concerns and issues that have been expressed; everyone was encouraged to read the on-line Orange County Grand Jury report just issued about the California Housing mandates and unintended reshaping of Orange County neighborhoods; and Councilmembers need time to read all of the Supplemental Communication received for this item.

An amended motion was made by Williams, second Burns to find that the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirement for GPA No. 21-003 is satisfied based on court orders in the People of

California ex rel. Rob Bonta v. City of Huntington Beach, San Diego Superior Court Case No. 30-2023-01312235-CU-WM-CJC that include, as provided by Government Code section 65759, that CEQA does not apply to the City's actions that are necessary to comply with the orders of the court. Approve General Plan Amendment No. 21-003 (Housing Element Update) and adopt City Council Resolution No. 2026-25, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach approving General Plan Amendment No. 21-003 (2021-2029 Housing Element Update)." (Attachment No. 1) **as amended to be continued to the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting on June 16, 2026.**

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Gruel, Kennedy, Twining, McKeon, Burns, and Williams

NOES: None

ABSENT: Van Der Mark

### **ADMINISTRATIVE PUBLIC HEARING**

#### **15. 26-442 Received and Filed Status of City of Huntington Beach Vacancies and Recruitment and Retention Efforts Pursuant to Government Code Section 3502.3**

### **SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS PERTAINING TO ADMINISTRATIVE PUBLIC HEARING**

Pursuant to the Brown "Open Meetings" Act, City Clerk Lisa Lane Barnes announced supplemental communications received by her office following distribution of the Council Agenda packet which were all uploaded to the City's website and Councilmember iPads: *Administrative Public Hearing Item #15 (26-442) (1 email communication)*.

Assistant City Manager Marissa Sur presented a PowerPoint communication titled *AB2561 Vacancy Reporting* with slides entitled: *AB2561 Overview, Vacancy Update, Vacancies by Association, Recruitment Efforts, and Questions?*

There being no Councilmember discussion on the staff report, Mayor McKeon opened the Administrative Public Hearing for Item #15 (26-442).

**PUBLIC SPEAKERS** — None

Mayor McKeon closed the Public Hearing.

There was no Council discussion on this item.

Mayor McKeon stated this report was received and filed.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

#### **16. 26-477 Study Session: Fiscal Year 2026-27 Proposed Budget Review**

City Manager Travis Hopkins introduced Zack Zithisakthannakul, Chief Financial Officer, and Robert Szilagyi, Finance Manager, who were available to re-present the PowerPoint communication if needed and answer Councilmember questions.

Councilmembers reviewed budgeted amounts for dock repairs; Sports Complex parking lot lighting, requested adding batting cages; noted an upcoming study session to consider the current operator's capital expenditure report for proposed improvement projects for the Sports Complex; the need for a Central Park Irrigation Master Plan; the need for the City to increase revenue and off-load some expenses; requested quarterly budget reports going forward; noted staff effort to make it easier to drill down for specific budget details; discussed the concept of "ending operating at a surplus but budgeted as a deficit"; and CalPERS considerations.

A motion was made by McKeon, second Burns that City Council receive the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-27; and, set the date for adoption of the City budget as June 16, 2026. Should additional City Council deliberation be necessary prior to budget adoption, a Special Meeting may be scheduled at the direction of the City Council.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Gruel, Kennedy, Twining, McKeon, Burns, and Williams  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Van Der Mark

## **CITY TREASURER'S REPORT**

### **17. 26-506 MyMeter Presentation**

City Treasurer Jason Schmitt stated this is a report and file item and presented a PowerPoint communication titled *My Meter Overview* with slides entitled: *My Meter Program, Intuitive Sign-Up Options, My Meter Charts and Data Views, My Meter Markers and Alerts*, and video presentation.

Councilmembers and City Treasurer Schmitt discussed what the City expects to see in cost savings when 90% of customers are signed up; how information about My Meter will be distributed; confirmed that historical information will remain for each account; use of the app will make it easier for customers to identify water leaks; and confirmed the app is available through the Apple store.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR (Items 18 - 24)**

Mayor McKeon pulled Item #23 for further discussion.

### City Clerk

### **18. 26-453 Approved and Adopted Minutes**

A motion was made by McKeon, second Twining to approve and adopt the City Council/Public Financing Authority regular meeting minutes of May 5, 2026, and May 19, 2026.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Gruel, Kennedy, Twining, McKeon, Burns, and Williams  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Van Der Mark

### Fire

**19. 26-441 Adopted Resolution 2026-13 to Acknowledge Receipt of a Fire Department Report Regarding the Annual Inspection of Certain Occupancies**

A motion was made by McKeon, second Twining to adopt Resolution No. 2026-13, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach, California Acknowledging Receipt of a Report Made by the Fire Chief of the Huntington Beach Fire Department Regarding the Inspection of Certain Occupancies Required to Perform Annual Inspections in Such Occupancies Pursuant to Sections 13146.2 and 13146.3 of the California Health and Safety Code."

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Gruel, Kennedy, Twining, McKeon, Burns, and Williams  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Van Der Mark

Public Works

**20. 26-500 Accepted Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bid and Authorized Execution of a Construction Contract with Sanz Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$155,748 for City Gym and Pool Flooring Replacement (CC-1850), and authorized a 4.5% contingency**

A motion was made by McKeon, second Twining to accept the lowest responsive and responsible bid submitted by Sanz Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$155,748; and, authorize the Director of Public Works to approve change orders for potential construction-related changes up to a 4.5% contingency; and, authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a construction contract with Sanz Construction, Inc. in a form approved by the City Attorney.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Gruel, Kennedy, Twining, McKeon, Burns, and Williams  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Van Der Mark

**21. 26-407 Accepted Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bid and Authorized Execution of a Construction Contract with Performance Pipeline Technologies, Inc., in the Amount of \$1,970,231.60, for the FY 2025/26 Sewer Lining Project (CC-1845)**

A motion was made by McKeon, second Twining to accept the lowest responsive and responsible bid submitted by Performance Pipeline Technologies, Inc. in the amount of \$1,970,231.60; and, authorize the Director of Public Works to approve change orders up to 15% contingency in potential construction change orders; and, authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the construction contract in a form approved by the City Attorney.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Gruel, Kennedy, Twining, McKeon, Burns, and Williams  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Van Der Mark

- 22. 26-462 Adopted Resolution No. 2026-14 concerning the status and update of the Local Signal Synchronization Plan (LSSP) for the Measure M2 Program; adopted Resolution No. 2026-18 concerning the status and update of the Pavement Management Plan (PMP) for the Measure M2 Program; and adopted a 7-year Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Years 2026/2027 through 2032/2033 for compliance with renewed Measure M eligibility requirements**

A motion was made by McKeon, second Twining to adopt Resolution No. 2026-14, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach concerning the update of the Local Signal Synchronization Plan for Measure M (M2) Program"; and, adopt Resolution No. 2026-18, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach concerning the status and update of the Pavement Management Plan for the Measure M2 Program; and, adopt the 7-year Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Years 2026/2027 through 2032/2033 for compliance with renewed Measure M eligibility requirements.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Gruel, Kennedy, Twining, McKeon, Burns, and Williams  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Van Der Mark

- 23. 26-475 Adopted Resolution No. 2026-21 authorizing an application for funds for the Environmental Cleanup, Tier 1 Grant Program under Orange County Local Transportation Ordinance No. 3 for the Huntington Beach Greer Park South Flood Control Project**

Public Works Director Chau Vu presented a PowerPoint communication titled *Adopt Resolution No. 2026-21 Authorizing an Application for Funds for the Environmental Cleanup, Tier 1 Grant Program Under the Orange County Local Transportation Ordinance No. 3 for the Huntington Beach Greer Park South Flood Control Project* with slides entitled: *BACKGROUND; NEED/WHY/BENEFITS; DETAILS; FUNDING/SCHEDULE; RECOMMENDATION; and Questions?*

A motion was made by McKeon, second Twining to adopt Resolution No. 2026-21, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach Authorizing an Application for Funds for the Environmental Cleanup, Tier 1 Grant Program Under Orange County Local Transportation Ordinance No. 3 For the Huntington Beach Greer Park South Flood Control Project."

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Gruel, Kennedy, Twining, McKeon, Burns, and Williams  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Van Der Mark

- 24. 26-480 Adopted Ordinance No. 4348, "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach Amending the Franchise to Collect Refuse Granted to Rainbow Disposal and Rainbow Transfer and Recycling Companies" — Approved for Introduction May 19, 2026 (Vote: 4–1–2, Williams — No, Gruel and Van Der Mark — Abstain)**

A motion was made by McKeon, second Twining to adopt Ordinance No. 4348, "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach Amending the Franchise to Collect Refuse Granted to Rainbow Disposal and Rainbow Transfer and Recycling Companies"

The motion carried by the following roll call vote, **as corrected by Councilmembers Gruel and Williams just before this meeting adjourned:**

AYES: Gruel, Kennedy, Twining, McKeon, Burns, and Williams  
 NOES: Gruel, and Williams  
 ABSENT: Van Der Mark

## ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

### 25. 26-277 Approved Brown Act Modernization, Adopted Resolution No. 2026-17 Implementing a Technology Disruption Policy During Public Comments, and Approved for Introduction Ordinance No. 4349 Regarding Public Participation and Disruptive Behavior

Council Policy Analyst Shannon Levin presented a PowerPoint communication titled *SB 707: Brown Act Modernization* with slides entitled: *Table of Contents, Introduction, Intent of SB 707, Eligibility, Training & Distribution, Updated Regulations, Remote Participation - Member, Remote Participation: Two-Way Public Access, Managing Disruptions — Technology, Managing Disruptions — Decorum, Social Media and Compensation Reporting, Accessibility, Language and Outreach, Policy Adoption (2), and Questions?*

There was no Councilmember discussion for this item.

A motion was made by Twining, second Burns to adopt Resolution No. 2026-17 "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach Adopting a Policy Regarding Technology Disruption During Public Comments"; and, **after City Clerk reads by title**, approve for introduction Ordinance No. 4349 "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach Amending the Huntington Beach Municipal Code by Adding New Chapter 2.102 Thereto Entitled 'Public Participation and Disruptive Behavior.'"

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Gruel, Kennedy, Twining, McKeon, Burns, and Williams  
 NOES: None  
 ABSENT: Van Der Mark

## COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS

### 26. 26-485 Approved Item Submitted by Mayor Pro Tem Twining and Councilman Kennedy — Lifeguard Tower Advertising License Agreement

Mayor Pro Tem Twining introduced this item by reading the Issue Statement. Mayor Pro Tem Twining noted that Rio Media is a local Huntington Beach firm that won the bid in May 2025 and shared an image of a lifeguard tower wrapped in a Yaamava Resort and Casino ad which promotes one of their upcoming concerts. It is expected these ads will increase City revenue by approximately \$332,000 in 2026, and Yaamava has stated interest in advertising for 12 months in 2027 which would generate over \$500,000 in

City revenue. Rio Media gets 25% of the revenue generated and the City gets 75%. The \$332,000 and \$500,000 numbers presented are the City's 75% of total revenue generated.

Councilmember Kennedy stated he believes Huntington Beach will be leading the way by approving this item and noted the way these ads will improve the appearance of lifeguard towers that are fading in color. He added the benefit for Huntington Beach is direct revenue. The wraps are paid for by Yaamava using Sticky Fingers, a local Huntington Beach company, to produce them. He stated that lifeguard tower advertising is wide open for all Huntington Beach companies, and noted that already Sea World, Toyota, and Raising Cane's have taken space. There is also interest from Hollywood movie studios. Every wrap will include the public safety rip current visual and QR code. Marine Safety and Fire have been very involved in the process. It was noted that a new lifeguard tower costs approximately \$75,000 and some of the revenue will be used to replace the most dilapidated of the total of 24 towers.

Councilmember Gruel confirmed that this item is specifically to allow Yaamava to advertise, not opening up advertising categories to include gambling businesses. It was also noted that alcohol, cigarette, vaping, sexual content or gambling advertising will continue to be banned for City asset advertising.

City Attorney Mike Vigliotta noted that the authority for ad approval is delegated to the City Manager, and Council can tether that in this case by stating it just applies to Yaamava as part of the motion.

A motion was made by Twining, second Kennedy to direct staff to allow for copy content related to gambling and delegate authority to the City Manager to execute an amended agreement for the Lifeguard Tower Advertising License Agreement, **as amended to allow for copy content only from Yaamava Resort and Casino related to resorts and casinos.**

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Kennedy, Twining, McKeon, and Burns  
NOES: Gruel, and Williams  
ABSENT: Van Der Mark

**Councilmember Williams asked that his vote on Consent Calendar Item #24 (26-480) regarding amending the franchise to collect refuse granted to Rainbow Disposal and Rainbow Transfer and Recycling Companies should be recorded as a No. Councilmember Gruel also stated he would also like his vote to be recorded as a No.**

City Attorney Mike Vigliotta stated as a point of order Council can dispense the whole motion to reconsider it or ask the City Clerk to clarify the record. Typically, the motion would have to be reconsidered. Council verbally agreed to ask the City Clerk to clarify the record.

There was further Council discussion clarifying that a "No" vote on this item is essentially putting a tax increase on all Huntington Beach residents because trash collection is a private company service paid for by the customers; review of the available Senior discount; and acknowledgement that if the item was not approved, the cost of service would be charged to all Huntington Beach residents as increased taxes.

**ADJOURNMENT** — At 10:56 PM a motion was made by Burns, with a second by McKeon, to adjourn to the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Huntington Beach City Council/Public Financing Authority on Tuesday, June 16, 2026, in the Civic Center Council Chambers, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, California.

INTERNET ACCESS TO CITY COUNCIL/PUBLIC FINANCING AUTHORITY AGENDA AND  
STAFF REPORT MATERIAL IS AVAILABLE PRIOR TO CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS AT  
<http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov>

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City Clerk and ex-officio Clerk of the City Council  
of the City of Huntington Beach and Secretary of  
the Public Financing Authority of the City of  
Huntington Beach, California

**ATTEST:**

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City Clerk-Secretary

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Mayor-Chair