

MINUTES OF THE ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE MONTCLAIR
CITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2019, AT
5:47 P.M. IN THE SOUTH CONFERENCE/THEATER ROOM, 9955
FREMONT AVENUE, MONTCLAIR, CALIFORNIA

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Dutrey called the meeting to order at 5:47 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Dutrey, Mayor Pro Tem Raft; Council Members Ruh and Johnson; City Manager Starr; Director of Administrative Services and Human Resources Hamilton; Finance Director Parker; Public Works Director/City Engineer Castillo; Director of Community Development Diaz; Assistant Director of Housing/Planning Manager Caldwell; City Attorney Robbins; City Clerk Phillips

III. PUBLIC COMMENT — None

IV. COUNCIL WORKSHOP

A. Federal Legislative Advocate Presentation by David Turch & Associates

Due to the current disruption to business-as-usual in the nation's capitol, **Mr. David Turch** discussed the impeachment inquiry launched by Congressional Democrats related to **President Trump's** alleged withholding of U.S. foreign aid to Ukraine pending a return of political favors brought to light via a whistleblower complaint. He emphasized the unease throughout the capitol due to the unpredictable outcome for this process.

Mr. Turch noted the process of impeachment in general is not uncommon and that it is a highly political process, typically used to remove federal judges from office. He explained the process consists of a case being heard by the Senate Judiciary Committee and requires a two-thirds affirmative vote of those present in the Senate for the removal of an official from office. Those removed from office in this way are prohibited from holding a federal office. **Mr. Turch** pointed out the impeachment process precludes and is separate from a criminal or civil case, which may be brought forth after in a court under the appropriate jurisdiction. He advised Congress has passed a continuing Resolution to fund the federal government through November 21st.

Mr. Jamie Jones reviewed the current status of funding for the **Gold Line's** extension to the Montclair Transcenter, noting the **Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority** is resistant to applying for and accepting federal funds, which would federalize the project and subject it to an additional federal environmental review process (the **National Environmental Policy Act**, or **NEPA**), further delaying the project.

City Manager Starr noted the City Council will be lobbying several U.S. Representatives in Congress, including **Representatives Norma Torres** (CA 35th Dist.), **Grace Napolitano** (CA 32nd Dist.), **Adam Schiff** (CA 28th Dist.), and **Judy Chu** (CA 27th Dist.), during an upcoming federal legislative advocacy trip to Washington, D.C., to request legislation for additional funding and allowing the project to be excluded from **NEPA** review due to already having completed a **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)** review, which is the state's more stringent review process. He advised this has been done for other road construction projects throughout the state, and he feels this will ease the reluctance from the **Construction Authority**.

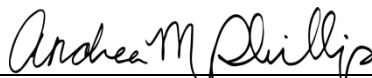
Mr. Jones noted another local project in need of funding is the rehabilitation of the Central Avenue railroad overpass, which has been declared structurally deficient and must be completely rebuilt. The new bridge would have six lanes, an increase from the current four. He advised at its federal advocacy trip, participating Council Members will meet with **Department of Transportation, Federal Railroad Administration** officials regarding the **Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI)** grant program to discuss potential funding for the project.

Mr. Jones discussed the potential for the City to purchase the Transcenter property from the state in order to construct a public parking garage and to maintain local control of the property and its facilities. He advised the City would be exploring grants, including those available through the **Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act**, signed into law by former President Obama in 2015.

V. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:26 p.m., Mayor Dutrey adjourned the City Council.

Submitted for City Council approval,



Andrea M. Phillips
City Clerk