MINUTES
LA PUENTE SPECIAL JOINT CITY COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING
JUNE 2, 2008

A Special Joint City Council and Community Development Commission Meeting of the City of La Puente was held in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 15900 East Main Street, La Puente, California, on June 2, 2008, at 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor/Chair Lujan called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present:	Storing, Lujan, Holloway, and Mendoza.
Members absent:	Solis (arrived at 6:40 p.m.)
Staff Members present:	City Manager/Executive Director Cowley, Assistant City Manager/Deputy Executive Director Yamachika, City Attorney/Commission Counsel Casso, City Clerk/Secretary Turner, Finance Director Kim, Public Works Director Salas, Recreation Director Bistarkey, Management Analyst Ayala.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member/Commissioner Storing.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Ken Medeiros voiced concern over the availability of budget books at the Library, the reduction of the Los Angeles Sheriff Department budget, the cost of police officers to attend meetings, and how grant money is received.

NEW BUSINESS

A-1 CONSIDERATION OF CITY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION BUDGETS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009

City Manager/Executive Director Cowley gave a brief overview of the budget process.

Finance Director Kim reviewed a Power Point presentation outlining factors considered when writing the budget, challenges encountered, proposed solutions to the challenges, sources of proposed revenues, and the General Fund top three funding sources. She reviewed a pie chart of

General Fund projects, General Fund balances, and percentage changes in the Consumer Price Index.

Finance Director Kim reviewed Sewer Construction/Maintenance Revenues versus expenses, net bond proceeds, sewer construction, and internal service funds.

City Manager/Executive Director Cowley reviewed the Administration Program budget changes.

City Clerk Turner reviewed the City Clerk Program budget changes.

Management Analyst Ayala reviewed the Human Resources Program budget changes. In response to a question about who receives a cost of living increase (COLA), she responded that all staff except part-time receive a COLA increase.

Finance Director Kim reviewed the Finance Program budget changes.

City Manager/Executive Director Cowley reviewed the Public Safety Services program allocation budget changes. In response to a question about how Animal Control services are billed, Ms. Cowley noted that Management Partners will be addressing the issue of how the County bills the City. She also noted that her recommendation is to leave the Sheriff Department budget as is.

Public Works Director Salas reviewed the Public Works, Waste Management Services, and Parks Maintenance Services sections of the budget and program allocation changes. Staff was asked to show on future budgets where changes come from when program allocations are changed.

Assistant City Manager/Deputy Executive Director Yamachika reviewed the Planning/Zoning Services program allocation budget changes. Council questioned whether reducing the conference budget was wise and asked if staff could retain the technical knowledge needed if conferences were cut. Assistant City Manager/Deputy Executive Director Yamachika noted that one membership would be maintained and information could be shared with other staff members.

Mayor/Chair Lujan left the Chamber at 8:25 p.m. and returned at 8:27 p.m.

Assistant City Manager/Deputy Executive Director Yamachika reviewed the Housing/Community Services Program allocation budget changes.

Mayor Pro Tem/Voce Chair Holloway left the chamber at 8:29 p.m. and returned at 8:31 p.m.

Assistant City Manager/Deputy Executive Director Yamachika reviewed the Economic/Business Development Services program allocation budget changes. A question was raised as to how to join the Chamber. City Manager/Executive Director Cowley noted that a contract to join the Chamber would be brought before Council in June for approval. Following a brief discussion and upon Council consensus, staff was directed to use the $12,000 that was allocated to join the Chamber to keep the City Calendar.

Assistant City Manager/Deputy Executive Director Yamachika reviewed the Community Promotion Services program allocation budget changes.

A discussion ensued about social program funding. City Manager/Executive Director Cowley stated that there is funding in the Parks & Recreation budget for an after school program for kids and that a lease agreement will be brought forward for Council approval to allow the Boys & Girls Club to run the after school programs at the Community Center.

Assistant City Manager/Deputy Executive Director Yamachika stated that Council had expressed concern about the number of people requesting money and noted that staff will bring back a policy to address this concern.

It was noted that the primary cost of the city calendar was the printing charges. Staff was directed to look into ways to reduce the cost of the calendar.

Assistant City Manager/Deputy Executive Director Yamachika reviewed the Engineering/Building & Safety Services program allocation budget changes and answered questions about permit timelines.

A question was raised as to how recommendations suggested by Management Partners could be incorporated if the budget is adopted now. City Manager/Executive Director Cowley stated that adjustments can be made at midyear.

Assistant City Manager/Deputy Executive Director Yamachika reviewed the Community Preservation Services program allocation budget changes. A discussion ensued regarding the subsidy provided to local transportation providers.

Mr. Yamachika reviewed the Public Transit Services (Prop A) Services program allocation budget changes.

Recreation Services Director Bistarkey reviewed the Recreation/Community Center Services program allocation budget changes. A discussion ensued about the Main Street Run. Direction was given to staff to raise the cost of the fee for the Run LA group and to eliminate the pancake breakfast in order to save money and keep the run.

A brief discussion was held and consensus was received to eliminate the Cinco de Mayo event.

A suggestion was made to reduce the budget for Council conferences.

Recreation Director Bistarkey reviewed the Youth Learning Activity Center Services Program Allocation Budget changes. He noted that this is a new program allocation and includes many of the start up costs for supplying the facility.

Recreation Services Director Bistarkey reviewed the Nature Education Center program allocation budget changes. It was noted that the budgeted amount does not include security.

Mr. Bistarkey reviewed the Senior Services program allocation budget changes.

Public Works Director Salas reviewed the Sewer Construction/Maintenance program allocation budget changes.

Finance Director Kim reviewed the MIS/Equipment Charges program allocation budget changes.

Finance Director Kim also reviewed the Vehicle Charges program allocation budget changes.

City Manager/Executive Director Cowley reviewed the Administrative Contingency program allocation budget changes. She noted that an item will be brought before Council to address the retiree benefits in hopes of reducing future costs.

Assistant City Manager/Deputy Executive Director Yamachika reviewed the Redevelopment Agency Revenue (RDA) and Expenditure Detail for Low-Moderate Income Housing and reviewed program allocation funding changes.

Finance Director Kim reviewed the Tax Allocation Debt Service program allocation revenue and expenditures details and the Redevelopment Agency revenue and expenditures for the 2007 Tax Allocation Bond.

Assistant City Manager/Deputy Executive Director Yamachika reviewed the Revenue and Expenditure detail for the RDA Capital Projects noting that Contract Services Private should be $72,000.

Council reached consensus that it was okay to continue past 10:30 p.m.

Public Works Director Salas reviewed the Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning (HVAC) capital improvement replacement project at City Hall.

Assistant City Manager/Deputy Executive Director Yamachika reviewed Nature Education Center Phase II.

Finance Director Kim reviewed the Community Center and Youth Learning Activity Center Improvements.

City Engineer Mousavi reviewed Public Works capital improvement projects.

City Manager/Executive Director Cowley concluded the budget presentation noting that staff will be looking at revenue generating sources and that all cities across California are experiencing similar difficulties.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Mayor Pro Tem/Vice Chair Holloway thanked staff for a professional presentation.

Council Members/Commissioners Mendoza, Storing and Solis all thanked staff for a job well done.

Mayor/Chair Lujan thanked staff for striving to be energy efficient, asked staff to determine if there are cost savings when City Hall is closed every other Friday, and thanked staff for the thorough budget and for staying late.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM STAFF

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council or Community Development Commission, Mayor/Chair Lujan adjourned the meeting at 10:38 p.m.

Amy M. Turner, City Clerk/Secretary

Louie A. Lujan, Mayor/Chairperson