



MINUTES

City Council / Planning Agency Regular Meeting

Tuesday, August 25, 2026

A Regular Meeting of the City Council / Planning Agency of the City of Laguna Hills, California, was called to order by Mayor Caskey at 6:00 p.m., on August 25, 2026, in the City Council Chambers at 24035 El Toro Road, Laguna Hills, California.

A complete copy of the agenda for the meeting containing all items as shown herein was posted by 5:00 p.m. on August 21, 2026, on the outdoor bulletin board at Laguna Hills City Hall. A copy was also posted at Laguna Hills Community Center and Knotty Pine Park.

Call to Order

Mayor Caskey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. upon determining a quorum of the Council was present.

Invocation: Elder Jeff Anderson of Christ Community Church

Mayor Caskey called for the Invocation. The Invocation was given by Elder Jeff Anderson of Christ Community Church.

Pledge of Allegiance: Councilmember Pezold

Mayor Caskey called for the Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge was led by Councilmember Pezold.

Roll Call of City Council Members

Present: Mayor Don Caskey
Mayor Pro Tempore Jared Mathis
Council Member Erica Pezold
Council Member Joshua Sweeney
Council Member Dave Wheeler

Absent: None

Mayor Caskey called for the following item out of order.

5. Administrative Reports

5.3 Community Services Director

5.3.1 Proposed Update to the City of Laguna Hills Banner Program

Recommendation: That the City Council discuss the provided Street Pole Banner options and provide direction to Staff.

Mayor called for the item

Director Holland gave the staff report

Principal of Laguna Hills High School spoke regarding this item.

Council, Staff, and Principal had discussion regarding this item.

Mayor Pro Tem Mathis moved to approve proposal option #3. Seconded by Councilmember Sweeney.

Councilmember Pezold made a substitute motion to approve option #3 and for the City to work with the School to create a program to have parents help pay for the program.

The motion did not receive a second. The motion died on the floor.

A motion to approve Proposed Option #3 was moved by Mayor Pro Tempore Mathis, seconded by Council Member Sweeney.

Result:

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Pezold, Wheeler, Caskey, Sweeney, Mathis

Nays: None

Abstain: None

1.1 Wildfire Awareness and Prevention Season Proclamation

Recommendation: That the City Council issue a Proclamation declaring mid-summer to early autumn as "Wildfire Awareness and Prevention Season" and that Mayor Caskey present the Proclamation to Reid Gibson, Division Chief, Orange County Fire Authority.

Mayor called for the item.

Mayor Pro Tem Mathis read the proclamation

Mayor Caskey declared mid-summer to early autumn as Wildfire Awareness and Prevention Season.

Chief Gibson spoke regarding this item. An OCFA educator spoke regarding this item.

Council Members Pezold and Sweeney spoke regarding this item.

1.2 El Toro Road/Interstate 5 Interchange Project Update

City Attorney Burns recused himself due to a conflict of interest

Mayor called for this item.

Representatives of OCTA gave the presentation.

Council and the representatives from OCTA had discussion regarding this item.

No action was taken regarding this item.

2. Schedule of Future Events

2.1 Schedule of Future Events

Mayor Caskey called for the Schedule of Future Events.

Community Services Director Gannon presented the Schedule of Future Events.

3. Public Comments

Mayor Caskey called for Public Comments on items not on the agenda.

YiNing Wang spoke regarding the Massage Establishments Moratorium and her business.

5. Administrative Reports

5.2 Assistant City Manager

5.2.1 Review of Petitions Received Regarding the Establishment of Proposed Residential Permit Parking District(s) for Camberwell Street, Hendon Street, Calle Carmel, Via Balboa, Avenida Avalon, Luton Street, Costeau Street, Salford Street, Derby Circle, York

Circle, Sunset Place West, Sunset Place East, and Sunset Place

Recommendation: That the City Council discuss and provide direction on a proposed residential permit parking district.

Mayor Caskey called for this item.

Assistant City Manager Ames presented the staff report.

Mayor Caskey called for public comment on this item.

Curtis Van Buskirk spoke in favor of this item.

Staff answered the Council's questions.

Councilmember Sweeney motioned to direct staff to return with a plan using alignment 5A and the following: 1) that Staff return with an equitable citywide option for the city to absorb the cost of the standard resident and guest permits; 2) an alternating side or staggered street sweeping schedule that preserves necessary service; 3) an evaluation of additional overnight parking on the north side of Laguna Hills Drive; 4) a resident education and warning period before citations; 5) a process for monitoring displaced parking and allowing adjoining streets to petition for inclusion; and 6) a six-month review of effectiveness, enforcement, resident concerns, and unintended consequences. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mathis.

A motion to approve staff's recommendation of 5A and six other points was moved by Council Member Sweeney, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Mathis.

Result:

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Sweeney, Pezold, Mathis, Wheeler, Caskey

Nays: None

Abstain: None

4. Consent Calendar

Mayor Caskey called for the Consent Calendar.

Councilmember Wheeler requested the following items to be considered

individually: 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 4.10, 4.11, 4.12, 4.13, 4.14, 4.15, 4.16, 4.17, 4.19.

A motion to approve the remaining Consent Calendar was moved by Council Member Sweeney, seconded by Council Member Pezold.

Result:

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Mathis, Pezold, Caskey, Wheeler, Sweeney

Nays: None

Abstain: None

4.1 Waive Reading in Full of all Ordinances and Resolutions on the Agenda

Waived reading in full of all ordinances and resolutions on the agenda and declared that said titles which appear on the public agenda shall be determined to have been read by title and further reading waived.

4.2 Approval of Minutes for July 14, 2026, Special Meeting

Approved the City Council/Planning Agency Minutes for the July 14, 2026, Special Meeting.

4.3 Approval of Minutes for July 14, 2026, Regular Meeting

Approved the City Council/Planning Agency Minutes for the July 14, 2026, Regular Meeting.

4.4 Approval of Minutes for August 19, 2026, Special Meeting

Approved the City Council/Planning Agency Minutes for the August 19, 2026, Special Meeting.

4.5 Ratification of August 25, 2026 Warrant Register

Ratified the accompanying Warrant Register for the period from July 3, 2026, to August 13, 2026, in the amount of \$5,323,199.96.

4.9 Approval of Amended Memorandum of Understanding with SDRMA for Employee Health Insurance Program

Approved the Resolution authorizing continued participation in SDRMA's Health Insurance Program and authorize City Staff to sign the amended Memorandum of Understanding.

4.18 City's Conflict of Interest Code Update

Adopted a Resolution entitled: "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of

Laguna Hills, California, Adopting an Updated Conflict of Interest Code and Rescinding Resolution No. 2024-08-27-2"

Items Removed from the Consent Calendar

Mayor Caskey recessed the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

Mayor Caskey reconvened the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

4.6 Treasurer's Investment Report for June 2026

Recommendation: That the City Council receive and file the Treasurer's Investment Report for the month of June 2026.

Mayor Caskey called for this item.

Councilmember Wheeler spoke regarding this item.

Staff answered Council's questions.

A motion to approve staff's recommendation was moved by Council Member Wheeler, seconded by Council Member Pezold.

Result:

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Mathis, Sweeney, Caskey, Wheeler, Pezold

Nays: None

Abstain: None

4.7 Treasurer's Investment Report for July 2026

Recommendation: That the City Council receive and file the Treasurer's Investment Report for the month of July 2026.

Mayor Caskey called for this item.

A motion to Approve staff's recommendation was moved by Council Member Wheeler, seconded by Council Member Pezold.

Result:

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Mayor Pro Tempore Mathis, Council Member Wheeler, Council Member Sweeney, Council Member Pezold, Mayor Caskey

Nays: None

Abstain: None

4.8 Informal Bidding Ordinance Use Quarterly Report for Public Works Projects

Recommendation: That the City Council receive and file the report.
Mayor Caskey called for this item.

A motion to Approve staff's recommendation was moved by Council Member Wheeler, seconded by Council Member Sweeney.

Result:

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Mayor Pro Tempore Mathis, Council Member Sweeney,
Council Member Pezold, Mayor Caskey, Council Member
Wheeler
Nays: None
Abstain: None

4.10 2026 Holiday Lighting and Decorations Agreement with Shine Creations LLC (formerly The Christmas Kings)

Recommendation: That the City Council: 1) Waive competitive formal bidding requirements and procedures set forth in the City of Laguna Hills Municipal Code (LHMC) Section 3-08.090 with regard to approval of the proposed Holiday Lighting and Decorations Agreement with Shine Creations LLC (formerly The Christmas Kings,) as it is hereby found and determined, pursuant to LHMC Section 3-08.110, that the recommended contract is for entertainment services and community support; and 2) Approve the proposed Holiday Lighting and Decorations Agreement and authorize the City Manager to execute the Agreement.

Mayor Caskey called for this item

Councilmember Wheeler and Pezold spoke regarding this item.

Council and Staff had discussion regarding this item.

A motion to approve staff's recommendation and direct Staff to work with Mayor Caskey regarding the decorations with the authorization to utilize the

entire line item budget was moved by Council Member Wheeler, seconded by Council Member Pezold.

Result:

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Wheeler, Caskey, Mathis, Pezold, Sweeney
Nays: None
Abstain: None

4.11 2026 Holiday Event Series Pre-Event Report

Recommendation: That the City Council receive and file the 2026 Holiday Event Series Pre-Event Report.

Mayor Caskey called for this item.

Councilmember Pezold spoke regarding this item.

Council had discussion regarding this item.

A motion to approve staff's recommendation was moved by Council Member Wheeler, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Mathis.

Result:

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Mathis, Caskey, Wheeler, Pezold, Sweeney
Nays: None
Abstain: None

4.12 License Agreement with SOCAL Counseling Services for 24031 El Toro Road, Suite 250D

Recommendation: That the City Council: 1. Approve of the license agreement; and 2. Authorize the City Manager to sign the license agreement.

Mayor Caskey called for this item.

Staff answered Council's questions.

A motion to approve staff's recommendation was moved by Council Member

Wheeler, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Mathis.

Result:

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Council Member Wheeler, Mayor Pro Tempore Mathis, Council Member Sweeney, Council Member Pezold, Mayor Caskey

Nays: None

Abstain: None

4.13 Laguna Hills-Laguna Woods El Toro Road and Moulton Parkway Traffic Signal Interconnect Conduit License Agreement

Recommendation: That the City Council: 1. Approve of the Laguna Hills-Laguna Woods El Toro Road and Moulton Parkway Traffic Signal Interconnect Conduit License Agreement; 2. Authorize the City Attorney to make minor edits as may be necessary to execute the Agreement; and 3. Authorize the City Manager to execute the Agreement.

Mayor Caskey called for this item.

Councilmember Wheeler spoke regarding this item.

Staff answered Council's questions.

A motion to approve staff's recommendation was moved by Council Member Wheeler, seconded by Council Member Sweeney.

Result:

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Wheeler, Pezold, Sweeney, Mathis, Caskey

Nays: None

Abstain: None

4.14 Approval of an Ordinance Adopting the Urban Village Specific Plan Amendment to Modify Permitted Uses, Development Standards, and Applicability of the City's Objective Design Standards

Recommendation: That the City Council adopt an Ordinance entitled: "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Laguna Hills, California, Approving and Adopting the Urban Village Specific Plan Amendment to Modify Permitted Uses, Development Standards, and Applicability of the City's Objective Design Standards."

Mayor Caskey called for this item.

Staff answered Council's questions.

Council had discussion regarding this item.

A motion to approve staff's recommendation was moved by Council Member Wheeler, seconded by Council Member Sweeney.

Result:

Yes 4, No 1, Abstained 0

Ayes: Mathis, Sweeney, Wheeler, Caskey

Nays: Pezold

Abstain: None

4.15 Approval of an Ordinance Adopting an Amended and Restated Development Agreement between the City of Laguna Hills and MGP Fund X Laguna Hills, LLC for the Village At Laguna Hills Project

Recommendation: That the City Council adopt an Ordinance entitled: "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Laguna Hills, California, Approving and Adopting an Amended and Restated Development Agreement Between the City of Laguna Hills and MGP Fund X Laguna Hills, LLC for the Village at Laguna Hills Project.

Mayor Caskey called for this item.

Mayor Caskey called for public comments.

Bruce Johnson spoke in favor.

Cathy Udovch spoke in favor.

City Clerk read the names of online comments that were submitted for this item.

Comments in favor:

1. Michaela Nozaki
2. Kathy Temple
3. Christine Morinello
4. Barbara Siry
5. Jeffrey Gothard
6. Holly Magana
7. Judy Northrop

8. Bruce Johnson
9. Rayna Hamre
10. Laura Shapiro
11. Carol McVay
12. Vicki Hines
13. Marcella Lawson
14. Ann Beltran
15. Sayre Weaver
16. Rona Henry
17. David Salahi
18. Alice Soto
19. John Mendonca
20. Keith Tuominen
21. Wendy Washington
22. Cesar Covarrubias

Council Members Wheeler and Pezold spoke regarding this item.

Council had discussion regarding this item.

A motion to approve staff's recommendation was moved by Mayor Caskey, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Mathis.

Result:

Yes 3, No 1, Abstained 0, Refusal to Vote 1

Ayes: Sweeney, Caskey, Mathis
Nays: Pezold
Abstain: None
Refusal to Vote: Wheeler

4.16 Approval of an Ordinance Adopting Zoning Text Amendment and Zoning Map Amendment No. RZNE-0014-2026, (10 A Text Amendment to Title 9 (Zoning and Subdivisions) of the Laguna Hills Municipal Code to Implement the General Plan Housing Element by Amending Chapter 9-11 (Overlay Districts) to Implement the Amended Land Use Element by Renaming the Existing Housing (H) Overlay Zone to Housing 50 (H50) Overlay Zone and Introducing a New Housing 80 (H80) Overlay Zone; and (2) A Zone Change to Apply the Housing 50 (H50) Overlay Zone and Housing 80 (H80) Overlay Zone to 23501 - 23561 Ridge Route Drive (APN# 588-331-12), 25201 - 25241 Paseo De Alicia (APN# 620-221-42, 620-221-44, and 620-221-49), and to Additional Properties as Specified in the Proposed Ordinance

Recommendation: That the City Council approve an Ordinance entitled: "An Ordinance of the City of Laguna Hills, California, Adopting Zoning Text

Amendment and Zoning Map Amendment No. RZNE-0014-2026, (10 A Text Amendment to Title 9 (Zoning and Subdivisions) of the Laguna Hills Municipal Code to Implement the General Plan Housing Element by Amending Chapter 9-11 (Overlay Districts) to Implement the Amended Land Use Element by Renaming the Existing Housing (H) Overlay Zone to Housing 50 (H50) Overlay Zone and Introducing a New Housing 80 (H80) Overlay Zone; and (2) A Zone Change to Apply the Housing 50 (H50) Overlay Zone and Housing 80 (H80) Overlay Zone to 23501 - 23561 Ridge Route Drive (APN# 588-331-12), 25201 - 25241 Paseo De Alicia (APN# 620-221-42, 620-221-44, and 620-221-49), and to Additional Properties as Specified in the Proposed Ordinance"

Mayor Caskey called for this item.

Councilmember Wheeler spoke regarding this item.

Council had discussion.

Mayor Caskey called for public comment.

Patrick Strader spoke in favor.

The City Clerk read the name of the one comment that was submitted online.

In favor: Cesar Covarrubias.

Council and Staff had discussion regarding this item.

A motion to approve staff's recommendation was moved by Mayor Pro Tempore Mathis, seconded by Council Member Sweeney.

Result:

Yes 3, No 2, Abstained 0

Ayes: Sweeney, Caskey, Mathis

Nays: Wheeler, Pezold

Abstain: None

4.17 Approval of an Ordinance Adopting RZNE-0015-2026 for the Inclusionary Housing Program by Adding Chapter 9-73 (Inclusionary Housing) of Title 9 (Zoning Code) of the Laguna Hills Municipal Code to Establish an Inclusionary Housing Program, Require the Provision of Affordable Housing in Certain Residential Developments, Establish an Inclusionary Housing Fund, Provide Alternative Methods of Compliance, and make

Findings Related Thereto

Recommendation: That the City Council approve an ordinance entitled: "An Ordinance of the City of Laguna Hills, California, Adopting RZNE-0015-2026 for the Inclusionary Housing Program by Adding Chapter 9-73 (Inclusionary Housing) of Title 9 (Zoning Code) of the Laguna Hills Municipal Code to Establish an Inclusionary Housing Program, Require the Provision of Affordable Housing in Certain Residential Developments, Establish an Inclusionary Housing Fund, Provide Alternative Methods of Compliance, and make Findings Related Thereto"

Mayor Caskey called for the item.

Councilmember Wheeler spoke regarding this item.

Mayor Caskey called for public comments regarding this item.

Bruce Johnson spoke in favor of this item.

Cathy Udovch spoke in favor of this item.

Patrick Strader spoke in neutrality on this item.

The City Clerk did not read the names of the of comments that were submitted online during the meeting. The names of individuals that submitted comments online have been listed below.

Comments in favor:

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Barbara Siry | 17. Carol McVay |
| 2. Lynn Cowan | 18. Vicki Hines |
| 3. Michaela Nozaki | 19. Marcella Lawson |
| 4. Marie (no last name give) | 20. Sheryl Sterry |
| 5. Maya Dunne | 21. Ann Beltran |
| 6. Christine Morinello | 22. Debbie Salahi |
| 7. Suzanne Model | 23. Sayre Weaver |
| 8. Ramesh C. Joshi | 24. Rona Henry |
| 9. Kathy Temple | 25. Marie Tsaasan |
| 10. Holly Magana | 26. Celia Young |
| 11. Marilyn Schroeder | 27. John Mendonca |
| 12. Rhett Kuseski | 28. Wendy Washington |
| 13. Bruce L. Johnson | 29. Patti Vaitaitis |
| 14. Jo Ann Panitch | 30. Frieda Gorelick |
| 15. Laura Shapiro | 32. Cesar Covarrubias. |
| 16. Rayna Hamre | |

A motion to approve staff's recommendation was moved by Mayor Caskey, seconded by Council Member Sweeney.

Result:

Yes 3, No 2, Abstained 0

Ayes: Sweeney, Caskey, Mathis

Nays: Wheeler, Pezold

Abstain: None

4.19 Development Application Status Report

Recommendation: That the City Council receive and file the report.

Mayor Caskey called for this item.

Councilmember Wheeler spoke regarding this item.

Council and Staff had discussion.

A motion to approve the staff's recommendation was moved by Council Member Wheeler, seconded by Council Member Pezold.

Result:

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Mathis, Pezold, Sweeney, Caskey, Wheeler

Nays: None

Abstain: None

5. Administrative Reports

5.1 City Manager

5.1.1 Approve a response to the 2025-2026 Orange County Grand Jury Report, "Wildfires Hit Home"

Recommendation: That the City Council approve a response to the 2025-2026 Orange County Grand Jury Report, "Wildfires Hit Home", authorize the Mayor to execute the response, and direct the City Manager to submit the response as required by applicable law.

Staff answered Council's questions.

Council Member Sweeney made a motion to approve staff's recommendation and the following items: 1) to direct staff to identify the city position serving as the direct resident contact under Grand Jury Report Recommendation R4; 2) establish a resident facing wildfire information page or equivalent communication channel and return to the Council with the implementation of the update; and 3) evaluation of an appropriate community level risk reduction designation. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Mathis.

Result:

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Wheeler, Sweeney, Caskey, Mathis, Pezold

Nays: None

Abstain: None

5.2 Assistant City Manager

5.2.2 Rejection of Bids for CIP 101-M: Citywide Local Street Rehabilitation Project

Recommendation: That the City Council: 1. Reject all Bid Proposals received for the Citywide Pavement Rehabilitation Project, CIP No. 101-M; and 2. Provide direction to City staff on the scope of the Citywide Pavement Rehabilitation Project for a second re-bidding.

Mayor Caskey called for this item.

Assistant City Manager Ames gave the staff report.

Staff answered Council's questions.

Mayor Caskey made a motion to approve staff's recommendation, direct staff to rebid the project with only a base bid, and to reauthorize the City to re-bid the project. Councilmember Sweeney seconded the motion.

Result:

Yes 4, No 0, Abstained 1

Ayes: Mathis, Wheeler, Caskey, Sweeney

Nays: None

Abstain: Pezold

5.2.3 Rejection of Bids and Authority to Re-Advertise for Construction, Park Improvements for Cabot Park, El Conejo Park, MacKenzie Park, San Remo Park, and Veeh Ranch Park, CIP 241

Recommendation: That the City Council: 1. Reject all Bid Proposals received for the Park Improvements for Cabot Park, El Conejo Park, MacKenzie Park, San Remo Park, and Veeh Ranch Park, CIP 241; 2. Approve the revised plans and specifications for Park Improvements for Cabot Park, El Conejo Park, MacKenzie Park, San Remo Park, and Veeh Ranch Park, CIP 241; 3. Authorize the City Engineer to make modifications to the plans and specifications as may be necessary; and 4. Authorize the advertisement for bids for Park Improvements for Cabot Park, El Conejo Park, MacKenzie Park, San Remo Park, and Veeh Ranch Park, CIP 241.

Mayor Caskey called for this item.

Assistant City Manager Ames gave the staff report.

Staff answered Council's questions.

A motion to Approve staff's recommendation was moved by Mayor Pro Tempore Mathis, seconded by Council Member Pezold.

Result:

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes: Wheeler, Sweeney, Pezold, Mathis, Caskey

Nays: None

Abstain: None

5.4 Chief of Police Services

5.4.1 Public Safety Update

This item was not called. This item will be on the agenda for September 8, 2026.

6. Matters Agendized and Presented by City Council Members

None

7. City Council Member Committee Reports

7.1 Committee Assignment Reports

Councilmember Pezold spoke regarding the Orange Council Mosquito and Vector Control District Board of Directors meeting.

Councilmember Wheeler spoke regarding the Orange County Older Adults Advisory Commission meeting.

8. City Council Member Comments

Councilmember Pezold spoke regarding a letter from a resident regarding a HOA flying drones.

Councilmember Sweeney thanked the Orange County Sherri Department and Orange County Fire Authority. The Councilmember further clarified some comments made during meeting.

Adjournment

At the hour of 11:41 p.m., with no further business to come before the City Council/Planning Agency at this session, Mayor Caskey adjourned the meeting to Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Signed by:

Joshua Stevenson

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Joshua Stevenson, City Clerk

ATTEST:

Signed by:

Don Caskey

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Don Caskey, Mayor

Approved at meeting of September 8, 2026