

MINUTES - FINAL

City of Orange

Orange City Council

October 28, 2025

The City Council of the City of Orange, California convened on Tuesday, October 28, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, 300 E. Chapman Avenue, Orange, California.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(b), Councilmember Gyllenhammer participated in this meeting via teleconference from the Business Center, Marriott Hotel & Golf Club at Champion Circle, 3300 Championship Pkwy, Fort Worth TX 76177. A copy of the agenda was posted at this location.

5:00 PM CLOSED SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Slater called Closed Session to order at 5:00 p.m.

1.1 ROLL CALL

Present: Bilodeau, Barrios, Dumitru, Gutierrez, Tavoularis, Gyllenhammer, and Slater

Absent: None

Councilmember Gyllenhammer participated via teleconference. Councilmember Gutierrez joined Closed Session at 5:07 p.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Public Speaker:

In regards to Item 3a, Adrienne Gladson spoke about the importance of retaining employees.

Councilmember Gyllenhammer confirmed there was no one present to speak at his location.

3. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

The City Council recessed to Closed Session at 5:06 p.m. with all Members present, except Councilmember Gutierrez who joined Closed Session at 5:07 p.m., to discuss the following:

a. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

City Negotiators: Jarad Hildenbrand, City Manager; Cody Kleen, Assistant Human Resources Director

Employee Organizations: International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 47 (Maintenance and Crafts and Water Division) and Top Management

b. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2)
(One potential case)

In addition to the Closed Session item titles, City Attorney Adourian made the following announcement: The City Council will meet in Closed Session to discuss potential litigation against the City as set forth in correspondence dated October 22, 2025, from Carstens, Black & Minter, LLP, on behalf of their clients, regarding the proposed amendments to the City's Design Review Ordinance. A copy of the October 22, 2025, correspondence is available for inspection at the Office of the City Clerk located at 300 E. Chapman Avenue, Orange, CA 92866.

4. CLOSED SESSION REPORT

None

5. ADJOURNMENT

Closed Session was adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

6:00 PM REGULAR SESSION**1. OPENING/CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Slater called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

1.1 INVOCATION

Given by Reverend Dr. Robb Ring from Immanuel Lutheran Church of Orange.

1.2 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Councilmember Ana Gutierrez.

1.3 ROLL CALL

Present: Bilodeau, Barrios, Dumitru, Gutierrez, Tavoularis, Gyllenhammer, and Slater

Absent: None

Councilmember Gyllenhammer participated via teleconference.

1.4 PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Memorial Adjournment in honor of John Thomas Moore.

1.5 REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS

None

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Councilmember Gyllenhammer confirmed there was no one present to speak at his location.

Public Speakers:

Greg Arrowsmith spoke about items missing from an American Legion Museum display.

Laurie Cesena spoke about an alleged illegal structure in her neighborhood.

Cynthia Gonzalez spoke about ongoing federal immigration raids.

Mary Oberschlake spoke in opposition of the Resolution adopted by Council at the October 14 meeting opposing Proposition 50.

Mel Vernon spoke about protecting democracy and a recent protest in Yorba Park.

Michael Ristig urged the Council to follow the example of neighboring cities taking action to provide assistance to immigrants.

Adrienne Gladson spoke about the ongoing efforts of the community group United Neighborhoods of Orange.

Written Public Comments

Janice Brownfield submitted an email recognizing John Thomas Moore's contribution to protecting the City's natural spaces and the importance of implementing a Citywide Active Transportation Plan.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

All items on the Consent Calendar are considered routine and are enacted by one motion approving the recommended action listed on the Agenda. Any member of the City Council, staff, or the public may request an item be removed from the Consent Calendar for discussion or separate action. Unless otherwise specified in the request to remove an item from the Consent Calendar, all items removed shall be considered immediately following action on the remaining items on the Consent Calendar.

3.1. Waive reading in full of all ordinances on the Agenda.

ACTION: Approved.

3.2. Approval of minutes of the City of Orange City Council Regular Meeting held on October 14, 2025.

ACTION: Approved minutes as presented.

3.3. Agreement with Mark Thomas and Company, Inc. for transportation planning services to develop a Citywide Active Transportation Plan.

A speaker card was submitted for Item 3.3; therefore, the item was removed from the Consent Calendar for separate consideration.

Public Speaker:

Jake Comer spoke in support.

Staff confirmed the project would be funded through grants and Transportation System Improvement Project (TSIP) funds.

ACTION: A motion was made by Councilmember Dumitru, seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez, to approve the agreement with Mark Thomas and Company, Inc. in the total amount of \$384,781 representing the cost of transportation planning services of \$349,781, plus a \$35,000 contingency; and authorize the Mayor and the City Clerk to execute on behalf of the City. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Bilodeau, Barrios, Dumitru, Gutierrez, Tavoularis, Gyllenhammer, and Slater

Noes: None

Absent: None

3.4. Agreement with the State of California, Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control for the Alcoholic Beverage Control/Office of Traffic Safety Grant Program from October 1, 2025, through August 31, 2026. Resolution No. 11641.

ACTION: 1) Approved the agreement with the State of California, Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control in the amount of \$30,000 for the Alcoholic Beverage Control/Office of Traffic Safety Grant Program; and authorized the City Manager to execute on behalf of the City.

2) Adopted Resolution No. 11641. A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Orange accepting funds in the amount of \$30,000 from the State of California, Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control for the ABC-OTS Grant Program, and authorizing the City Manager to execute all grant documents on behalf of the City.

3) Accepted into the City’s General Fund (100) revenue budget \$30,000 in grant funds from the State of California, Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to:

100-4133-43299-264001 State-Other

4) Authorized the appropriation of \$30,000 into the following expenditure accounts:

100-4133-51003-264001 Overtime - Safety \$29,000

100-4133-57101-264001 Training/Conference/Meeting \$ 1,000

3.5. Appropriation of \$41,702 in designated grant funding received from California Library Literacy Services.

ACTION: 1) Accepted into the City’s General Fund (100) revenue budget \$41,702 in grant funds from California Library Literacy Services to:

100-2001-48101-262101-48 California Literacy Grant FY26

2) Authorized the appropriation of \$41,702 to General Fund (100) as follows:

100-2101-53101-262101-20 Materials and Supplies \$15,918

100-2101-59998-262101-10 Part-time Miscellaneous Salaries \$25,784

Approval of the Consent Calendar

Item 3.3 was removed from the Consent Calendar and heard separately. All other items were approved as recommended.

A motion was made by Councilmember Gutierrez, seconded by Councilmember Barrios, to approve the Consent Calendar as recommended. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Bilodeau, Barrios, Dumitru, Gutierrez, Tavoularis, Gyllenhammer, and Slater
Noes: None
Absent: None

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

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4. REPORTS FROM MAYOR SLATER

Mayor Slater announced there are currently vacancies on the CDBG Program Committee and the Investment Advisory Committee. Applications are available on the City's website.

5. REPORTS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS

5.1. Highlight Local Business (Gutierrez)

Councilmember Gutierrez highlighted the following local business: Loaded Cafe and My Panecito.

5.2. Additions/Reforms to OMC Chapter 2.10 (Campaign Reform) to increase transparency and accountability to the public (Dumitru)

Councilmember Dumitru requested to work with the City Attorney's Office to revise contribution limits and transfers in the Campaign Reform Ordinance. Following a brief discussion, Council concurred and established a subcommittee consisting of Councilmembers Dumitru and Barrios to work with the City Attorney's Office on the proposed revisions.

5.3. Historic Preservation Ordinance (Barrios & Gutierrez)

Councilmembers Barrios and Gutierrez requested that a Historic Preservation Ordinance be added to a future agenda, expressing concern that proceeding with the revised DRC Ordinance on the current agenda could delay or prevent consideration of the Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Public Speakers:

Reggie Mundekis spoke in opposition.

The following spoke in support of Council considering a Historic Preservation Ordinance: Patti Ricci, Diana Zdenck, Susanna Branch, Sue Vours, Maryanne Skorpanich, and Kathleen Voss.

Written Public Comments

The following submitted eComments in support of Council considering a Historic Preservation Ordinance: Tony Trabucco, Adrienne Gladson, Ron Brown, Leslie Manderscheid, Jeff Frankel, Vickie Laughlin, Jeannette McClain, Ashley Brodtkin, and Bruce Finn.

During discussion staff noted the intent to agendize an agreement with a consultant to develop a Historic Preservation Ordinance specific to the City of Orange. Council asserted support for a Historic Preservation ordinance and directed staff to return with a proposed agreement for consideration.

6. AB 1234 REPORTS

None

7. REPORTS FROM CITY MANAGER

None

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

8.1. Public Hearing to consider introduction and First Reading of an ordinance amending Title 12, Title 16, and Title 17 of the Orange Municipal Code modifying the duties and responsibilities of the Design Review Committee. Ordinance No. 18-25.

Planning Manager Hayden Beckman provided a brief staff report utilizing a PowerPoint presentation.

Mayor Slater opened the Public Hearing at 8:03 p.m.

Public Speakers:

The following spoke in opposition of approval: Carol Craig, Carol Fox, Diana Zdenck, Amy Minter, Sue Vaurs, Maryanne Skorpanich, Laurie Sandoval, Laura Thomas, Tom Loughrey, Jerico Farfan, and Adrienne Gladson.

Reggie Mundekis spoke in support of approval.

Written Public Comments

The following submitted eComments opposing approval: Doug Hamilton; Alan Hess, Preserve Orange County; Tony Trabucco; Ron Brown; Andrea McCullough; Leslie Manderscheid; Jeff Frankel; Vickie Laughlin; Jeannette McClain; and Bruce Finn.

Mayor Slater closed the Public Hearing at 8:32 p.m.

During discussion, staff clarified any projects located in a historic district would still be required to be reviewed by DRC. In addition, all historic inventories are covered in the Ordinance; and, if adopted, the proposed Ordinance would not alter the General Plan.

A motion was made by Mayor Slater, seconded by Councilmember Dumitru to introduce and conduct First Reading of Ordinance No. 18-25.

After further discussion, Councilmember Barrios requested an amendment to the motion adding a sunset clause to the proposed ordinance. Mayor Slater dissented.

A substitute motion was made by Councilmember Barrios, seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez, to introduce and conduct First Reading of Ordinance No. 18-25 with an added sunset clause of June 30, 2026. The motion failed by the following vote:

Ayes: Barrios, Gutierrez, and Tavoularis
Noes: Bilodeau, Dumitru, Gyllenhammer, and Slater
Absent: None

Following the failed substitute motion, Mayor Slater called for the vote on the main motion.

A motion was made by Mayor Slater, seconded by Councilmember Dumitru to introduce and conduct First Reading of Ordinance No. 18-25.

During discussion, staff responded to Council's questions regarding the appeal process and clarified the notification process. Staff verified residents have the capability to sign up for notices of projects.

Councilmember Dumitru requested to amend the motion to update existing code definitions to include all historic inventories. Mayor Slater agreed to the amendment.

An amended motion was made by Mayor Slater, seconded by Councilmember Dumitru, to introduce and conduct First Reading of Ordinance No. 18-25 with an updated definition of historic building inventory to include all historical inventories. An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Orange amending Title 12, Title 16, and Title 17 of the Orange Municipal Code to update duties and responsibilities of the Design Review Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Bilodeau, Dumitru, Tavoularis, Gyllenhammer, and Slater
Noes: Barrios, and Gutierrez
Absent: None

9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Councilmember Barrios recused herself from Item 9.1 due to a potential conflict with nearby property and left the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

9.1. Establishment of permit parking for the Downtown Commercial Core paid parking areas. Resolution No. 11642.

In response to Council's questions, staff reviewed criteria for the permit program. Council discussed bifurcating the residential portion and continuing the commercial portion to a future meeting.

Staff was directed to return with a subsequent resolution which adds clarifying criteria to the commercial portion of the program including limiting the number of permits issued.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dumitru, seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez, to bifurcate the residential and commercial program and adopt Resolution No. 11642 approving the residential portion of the permit program and continuing the commercial portion of the permit program to the December 9, 2025, Council meeting. A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Orange establishing permit program; permit fees; within paid parking meter zones. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Dumitru, Gutierrez, Tavoularis, Gyllenhammer, and Slater

Noes: Bilodeau

Absent: None

Recuse: Barrios

9.2. Approval of an “Adopt a Box” Utility Box Art and Sponsorship Program in the City.

During discussion, staff was directed to consider a patriotic theme for the first couple of utility boxes.

A motion was made by Councilmember Gutierrez, seconded by Mayor pro tem Bilodeau, to approve "Adopt a Box" Utility Box Art and Sponsorship Program and authorize staff to solicit artists and sponsors for the program. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Bilodeau, Dumitru, Gutierrez, Tavoularis, Gyllenhammer, and Slater

Noes: None

Absent: Barrios

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned in Memory of John Thomas Moore at 9:38 p.m.

Pursuant to Resolution No. 11433, the next Regular City Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber, with Closed Session beginning at 5:00 p.m., if necessary.

 /s/ Pamela Coleman
PAMELA COLEMAN
CITY CLERK

 /s/ Daniel R. Slater
DANIEL R. SLATER
MAYOR