



**City Council  
of the  
City of Las Cruces**

**Regular Meeting**

**August 16, 2010  
1:00 P.M.**

**Council Chambers, City Hall**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mayor Ken Miyagishima  
Councillor Miguel Silva, District 1  
Councillor Dolores Connor, District 2  
Councillor Olga Pedroza, District 3  
Councillor Nathan Small, District 4  
Councillor Gill Sorg, District 5  
Councillor Sharon Thomas, District 6

**STAFF:**

Terrence Moore, City Manager  
Harry (Pete) Connelly, Interim City Attorney  
Esther Martinez, City Clerk

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**I. OPENING CEREMONIES**

Mayor Miyagishima called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of silence. Councillor Pedroza led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation/Proclamations.

Mayor Miyagishima and a representative from the Animal Services Center of the Mesilla Valley presented the Pet of the Week.

Councillor Thomas presented a Proclamation to the Women Win the Vote Committee.

Councillor Pedroza presented a Proclamation to the Desert Fish Collaborative Group and they gave a presentation to Council.

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**II. CONFLICT OF INTEREST INQUIRY BY MAYOR AS REQUIRED BY LCMC SECTION 2-27(E)(2).** *At the opening of each council meeting, the chairperson shall ask if any member of the city council, city manager, or any member of the city staff has any known conflict of interest with any item on the agenda.*

Mayor Miyagishima asked if anyone had any conflicts with anything on the agenda?

None given.

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### **III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Richard King, Member of the Public said I heard that the City Council was going to move forward with the Recycling Program and add a fee to our utility bill; I just wanted to let you know that I'm against it.

Dave Madison, Member of the Public said I read in the paper that there was a man from El Paso who was taking pictures of handicap parking violations which I think is a great idea. I would like to suggest that our Police Department consider hiring retired Police Officers to go around and look for parking violations.

Ryan Dailey, Member of the Public said I did a tour of our Police Station and we do need a new Substation and a new Police Department. I want to mention that I was pulled over last week for going three miles over the speed limit by DASO which he was driving right next to me so I don't know how he could have measured my speed. I have been pulled over in the past for going ten miles above the speed limit and was only given a warning by LCPD. I think our Police Department is very fair and I am thankful for the tour they gave me.

Stacey Durham, Member of the Public said the walls of the racquetball section of Lyons Park were vandalized and a lot of the pictures were torn down. I would like to get permission from Council to organize a group of people for art in public places to repaint these walls. We could do a drawing contest for kids from kindergarten to twelve grade and also have a program for kids who have gotten in trouble and have the City donate these walls for these programs.

Mayor Miyagishima said it sounds like a good idea but we will need to get more information on what you'd like to do before we can give you a consensus.

Brian Denmark, Facilities Director said it is my understanding that there is already efforts in place to repaint those walls but we can still sit down with you to discuss your ideas and maybe we can setup something with our Park and Recreation Programs.

Mayor Miyagishima said there are plenty of places around town that need to be repainted so I think we can find a place for you.

Ema Murrillo, Member of the Public said I have some issues with Memorial Medical Center, Mountain View Regional Hospital, Mesilla Valley Hospital and the overall mental health organizations in New Mexico. I have had a lot of problems with the Police Department of Las Cruces. I have had over twenty arrests since I moved to Las Cruces and I have spoken with Mayor Miyagishima concerning my issues and he has put forth an investigation into the matter. I have been stalked and harassed by Officer Jaramillo and the latest incident happened because I was bitten by some kind of an insect in my backyard. My body swelled up and I drove myself to Memorial Medical Center which I was seen by a physician and he gave me some medication and sent me home. When I got home, I discovered that my water had been shut off so after a few hours, I needed water and went to get a gallon of water from my neighbor. I was carrying the water over the fence to my property and I was approached by Officer Jaramillo. He asked me what I was doing and I told him I was getting water. He began to ask me if I had any sharp objects on me and I replied, "yes, I have some small tools in my pocket." I have Parkinson's Disease which makes it very difficult for me to gain my balance and I am prone to fall without warning at anytime. I had fallen and the next the thing I knew, there were Police Officers and Firemen surrounding me and I was taken to Memorial Medical Center, where they locked me up in the Psychiatric Unit. There have been many incidents like this since 1991 and I am repeatedly put into Mesilla Valley Hospital. I do want to thank the City's Senior Programs and the Fire Department and Travis Brown for all the help they've given me during this time.

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**IV. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA: THOSE ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INDICATED BY AN ASTERISK (\*) ARE ON THE CONSENT AGENDA AND WILL BE VOTED ON BY ONE MOTION.**

Mayor Miyagishima said Item 7 needs to be removed from the Agenda and Item 9 needs to be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Councillor Connor said it doesn't need to be pulled off but there is a typo in the amount for Item 11.

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Councillor Small Moved to approve the Agenda as Amended and Councillor Thomas Seconded the motion.

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Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to accept the Agenda as Amended and it was Unanimously APPROVED. 7-0

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**V. CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

- \* (1) Regular Meeting of July 19, 2010
- \* (2) Regular Meeting of July 26, 2010
- \* (3) Regular Meeting of August 2, 2010

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**VI. RESOLUTIONS AND/OR ORDINANCES FOR CONSENT AGENDA**

- \* (4) Resolution No. 11-035: A Resolution Authorizing the Las Cruces Museum of Art to Accept From the Department of Cultural Affairs New Mexico Arts, a Grant in the Amount of \$6,740.00, With a \$3,370.00 In-Kind and \$1,685.00 Cash Match Requirement, to Ratify the City Manager's Signature on Grant Agreement, and to Adjust the FY 2011 Budget.
- \* (5) Resolution No. 11-036: A Resolution Allowing the Las Cruces Fire Department, Hazmat Team to Accept Funding From the New Mexico Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Management, 2009-Dot-City of Las Cruces, in the Amount of \$3,796.00 With a Cash Match of \$753.80 for Hazmat Challenge and Training; to Ratify the City Manager's Acceptance to Meet Grant Deadline Requirements, and Adjust the FY 2010/2011 Budget.
- \* (6) Resolution No. 11-037: A Resolution Authorizing the Las Cruces Police Department (LCPD) to Apply for and Accept Grant Funds Upon Award From the New Mexico Dept. Homeland Security and Emergency Management for Expenses Related to the Area Six Communications Exercise, Estimated at \$529.83, Ratify the City Manager's Approval of the Application and Adjust the FY 2011 Budget.
- \* (7) Resolution No. 11-038: A Resolution Authorizing a Contract with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to Conduct Joint Activities With the Las Cruces Police Department (LCPD) Gang Unit, Approve the Model Safe Streets Task Force Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Separate Cost Reimbursement Agreement to Reimburse Overtime Expenses Remaining Under the Contract of \$26,158 for Officer Activities, Ratify the City Manager's Approval of the Contract and Cost Reimbursement Agreement and Adjust the FY 2011 Budget.

**Removed from the Agenda.**

- \* (8) Resolution No. 11-039: A Resolution Authorizing the Las Cruces Police Department (LCPD) to Contract With the Region VII Drug Enforcement Coordinating Council for Reimbursement of Overtime (Not to Exceed \$10,000) and of Travel Expenses (Not to Exceed \$2,500) With the Total Estimate Not to Exceed \$12,500, for the LCPD Intensive

Interdiction Operation, to Ratify the City Manager's Approval of the Contract and to Adjust the FY 2010 Budget.

- \*(10) Resolution No. 11-041: A Resolution Authorizing the Transit Administrator to Execute an Award of Section 5309 Capital Funds From the Federal Transit Administration in the Amount of \$146,700 Requiring a City Match of \$30,047 for the Purpose of Buying Paratransit Vehicles in FY 2012.
- \*(11) Resolution No. 11-042: A Resolution Allowing Transit Section Staff to Accept a Federal Transit Administration Grant Award in the Amount of \$650,00 Requiring a City Match of \$162,500 for the Purpose of Enhancing the Grant Funding Applied to the Transit Intermodal Center in FY 2012.
- \*(12) Resolution No. 11-043: A Resolution Approving a Lease Agreement Between the City of Las Cruces and Michael Vento for the Exclusive Use of Space in the City Parking Area Located at City Hall, 700 North Main Street in Downtown Las Cruces.
- \*(13) Resolution No. 10-11-316A: A Resolution Authorizing Change Order No. 1 to the Contract Between the City of Las Cruces and Steve Newby Architects & Associates, Inc., for the La Casa Domestic Violence Shelter Reroofing and HVAC/Interior Remodeling Project as Approved by City Council Under Resolution No. 10-11-316; Authorizing an Increase in the Amount of \$46,380.45; Plus New Mexico Gross Receipts Tax of \$3,507.52; and Project Contingency of \$2,320.00; for a Total Change Order Authorization of \$52,207.97.
- \*(14) Resolution No. 10-11-320: A Resolution to Award a Contract for the Piggyback Purchase of Two (2) 11-15 Passenger, Gasoline, Low-Floor, Arboc Spirit Mobility Paratransit Mini Buses to the Arizona Bus Sales Corp / New Mexico Bus of Albuquerque, NM for a Total Purchase Price of \$292,835.76 Plus Applicable Taxes and License Fees.
- \*(15) Resolution No. 10-11-355: A Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Two (2) Replacement 2010 Custom Pierce Impel Pumpers for the Fire Department From First In, Inc. Of Phoenix, Arizona, In the Amount of \$877,888.00 for Fiscal Year 2011.

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## **VII. RESOLUTIONS AND/OR ORDINANCES FOR DISCUSSION**

- \*(9) Resolution No. 11-040: A Resolution Authorizing Three Contracts With the New Mexico High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Investigative Support Center for Reimbursement of Law Enforcement Overtime Expenses for Domestic Highway Enforcement (DHE) Operations in the Amount of Approximately \$20,650, to Ratify the City Manager's Approval of Contracts, and to Adjust the FY2010 Budget.

Councillor Connor Moved to Adopt Resolution No. 11-040 and Councillor Thomas Seconded the motion.

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Auguie Henry, Grants Administrator said there is a typo in paragraph three; it states FY11 and it should be FY10.

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Councillor Connor Moved to Amend Resolution No. 11-040 to change it to FY10 and Councillor Thomas Seconded the motion.

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Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Amend Resolution No. 11-040 to change it to FY10 and it was APPROVED. 6-0 Councillor Silva was Absent.

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Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 11-040 as Amended and it was APPROVED. 6-0 Councillor Silva was Absent.

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(16) Resolution No. 11-044: A Resolution Authorizing the City of Las Cruces to Designate a Voting Delegate and An Alternate to Attend the Annual Business Meeting of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference of the New Mexico Municipal League on September 2, 2010.

Councillor Connor Moved to Adopt Resolution No. 11-044 and Councillor Thomas Seconded the motion.

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Esther Martinez, City Clerk said the Municipal League is holding their Annual Conference and they are requiring that a Voting Delegate and an Alternate be appointed to attend the meeting.

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Councillor Small Moved to Amend Resolution No. 11-044 to appoint Councillor Connor as the Voting Delegate and Councillor Silva as the Alternate and Councillor Thomas Seconded the motion.

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Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Amend Resolution No. 11-044 to appoint Councillor Connor as the Voting Delegate and Councillor Silva as the Alternate and it was Unanimously APPROVED. 7-0

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Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 11-044 as Amended and it was Unanimously APPROVED. 7-0

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(17) Resolution No. 11-045: A Resolution Amending the City Council Regular Meeting Schedule for the Remainder of the 2010 Calendar Year.

Councillor Connor Moved to Adopt Resolution No. 11-045 and Councillor Silva Seconded the motion.

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Esther Martinez, City Clerk said this is to amend our meeting schedule to reflect the cancellation of the last three Land Use Meetings for this year.

Councillor Pedroza asked does this show that we are replacing the Land Use Meeting with a Work Session?

Esther Martinez said this is only to cancel the Land Use Meetings but it doesn't obligate you to have a Work Session.

Councillor Pedroza said I was asked by a constituent, "what will happen if the economy booms and there were more land use issues"?

Mayor Miyagishima said we can always go back to having another meeting during the month or we can split those issues between the two regular meetings.

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Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 11-045 and it was Unanimously APPROVED. 7-0

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- (18) Resolution No. 11-046: A Resolution for the City of Las Cruces, Public Works Department, Engineering Services to Enter Into an Agreement With Paso Del Norte Watershed Council For the Purpose of the City Participating as a Council Member and Member of the Council Watershed Subcommittee Representing the City of Las Cruces, and Provide an In-Kind Contribution of Volunteer Participation to the Paso Del Norte Watershed 319(H) Grant.

Councillor Connor Moved to Adopt Resolution No. 11-046 and Councillor Thomas Seconded the motion.

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Loretta Reyes, Engineering Services Administrator gave an overhead presentation and said I want to make it clear that this MOU does not have anything to do with the establishment of a Flood Control Authority. This will be a coordinated process that will result in the development of a watershed restoration action strategy which would enhance watershed health and reduce non-point source pollution. The City's participation on the Paso del Norte Watershed Committee results in the City being a stakeholder and we will supply in-kind support, we can attend the Executive Committee Meetings and the Clean Water Sub-Committee Meetings and we may make contributions to watershed education and outreach materials and/or public event sponsorship.

Councillor Connor asked why isn't El Paso participating in this?

Hillary Breniger, Vice Chair of the Paso del Norte Watershed Council said El Paso was a previous member of the Council but they currently are not a member. We are continuing to expand our membership which is why we are here today.

Councillor Sorg asked can I attend these meetings?

Hillary Breniger said yes.

Councillor Small said I support this and I'm excited to see it moving forward.

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Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 11-046 and it was Unanimously APPROVED. 7-0

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- (19) Resolution No. 11-047: A Resolution Authorizing the Transit Administrator to Execute an Award of Section 5307 Formula Funds Awarded by the Federal Transit Administration in

the Amount of \$1,288,075 Requiring a City Match of \$1,288,075 for the Purpose of Routine Transit Operating Support in Fiscal Year 2011 and Adjust the Budget Accordingly.

Councillor Small Moved to Adopt Resolution No. 11-047 and Councillor Sorg Seconded the motion.

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Mike Bartholomew, Transit Administrator gave an overhead presentation and said Council approved to apply for this grant on June 7, 2010 and this is a routine annual obligation of Section 5307 formula funds that the City relies on for Transit operations. The initial budget amount was \$1,313,400 and the actual apportionment was \$1,288,075. This will require an adjustment to the FY11 budget of a downward adjustment in 5307 revenues of \$25,325 which the difference will come from the Transit Fund balance.

Councillor Connor asked how are we doing with the advertisements on the sides of our buses?

Mike Bartholomew said we do have a contract with Templeton Marketing for getting the ads and putting them on our buses. It is going slow because we didn't already have a program in place and because of the current state of our economy.

Councillor Silva said 70% of our cost is for labor; do you monitor overtime?

Mike Bartholomew said we do about \$80,000 to \$90,000 a year in overtime.

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Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 11-047 and it was Unanimously APPROVED. 7-0

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(20) Resolution No. 11-048: A Resolution Approving Two Home Investment Partnerships Act (HOME) Grant Agreements Between the City of Las Cruces and Tierra Del Sol Housing Corporation for the Development and Construction of Owner-Occupied, Single-Family Affordable Housing Units in Paseo Del Oro Phase III Subdivision.

Councillor Connor Moved to Adopt Resolution No. 11-048 and Councillor Silva Seconded the motion.

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David Dollahon, Neighborhood Services Administrator gave an overhead presentation and said Tierra Del Sol Housing Corporation is proposing the development of Paseo del Oro Subdivision and they will be acquiring 23.8 acres at the northwest corner of Elks and Moreno. There will be 85 lots which will include 24 single family market rate homes and 51 single family low income homes.

Councillor Sorg asked are we approving to spend money on affordable housing?

David Dollahon said yes.

Councillor Sorg said there is an arroyo that goes through this property and we need to be very careful on how it is planned.

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Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 11-048 and it was Unanimously APPROVED. 7-0

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- (21) Resolution No. 10-11-318: A Resolution Approving an Indefinite Quantity, Indefinite Cost Price Agreement for Police Car Accessory Equipment Packages to First In, Inc. - NM, Of Albuquerque, New Mexico (Items 1 Through 7), Via the State of New Mexico Pricing Agreement No. 70-000-00-04054, Effective Through June 11, 2011, and (Items 8 Through 34 and All Labor) Via the City of Albuquerque, New Mexico Contract No. 0000450546, Effective Through January 31, 2011, Subject to Approved Budget Appropriations For Police Department Vehicles and to Adjust the Fiscal Year 2011 Budget.

Councillor Small Moved to Adopt Resolution No. 10-11-318 and Councillor Sorg Seconded the motion.

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Brian Denmark, Facilities Director gave a verbal presentation and said the budgetary portion of this resolution is a little confusing because staff is still trying to get use to the new resolution format. This process started eight months ago when Council approved a \$1.5 million General Fund transfer to the Vehicle Acquisition Fund for the potential purchase of Police vehicles. A resolution came before Council and they approved \$997,000 for the purchase of Police vehicles as well as addressed this particular resolution which is for the accessory items, such as light bars and sirens, that are needed for the Police vehicles. It was agreed that the budget would be split and half of the funds would come from the STOP Program and the other half would come from the Vehicle Acquisition Fund.

Mayor Miyagishima said when we purchase Police cars, they don't come fully equipped with all the necessary accessories which is why we need to purchase them separately.

Brian Denmark said I want to mention that these aren't new or additional funds.

Councillor Connor asked does the amount include the cost to transport these vehicles from Alamogordo to Albuquerque for the installation of the accessories?

Brian Denmark said yes.

Ryan Dailey, Member of the Public said I haven't seen any new bikes purchased for the Police Department; are you going to purchase any new bikes and I also would like to know what type of vehicles were purchased?

Don Haskins, Fleet Manager said the vehicles are Dodge Chargers and we have a yearly lease for motorcycles with Barnett Harley Davidson.

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Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 10-11-318 and it was Unanimously APPROVED. 7-0

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**VIII. BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

Mayor Miyagishima appointed Travis Dulany, NMSU Student Representative to the University District Citizen's Design Review Committee.

Councillor Connor Moved to Approve the Mayor's Board Appoint of Travis Dulany, NMSU Student Representative to the University District Citizen's Design Review Committee and Councillor Thomas Seconded the motion.

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Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Approve the Mayor's Board Appoint of Travis Dulany, NMSU Student Representative to the University District Citizen's Design Review Committee and it was Unanimously APPROVED. 7-0

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**IX. REVIEW OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE(S)**

- (22) Council Bill No. 11-009; Ordinance No. 2589: An Ordinance Amending the Las Cruces Municipal Code Sections 24-131, 24-132, 24-162 and 24-164 to Require Cost or Price Analysis on all Federally Funded Procurement as Required by Federal Regulations.

Mayor Miyagishima and Council agreed to bring this item back.

- (23) Council Bill No. 11-010; Ordinance No. 2590: An Ordinance Authorizing a Real Estate Purchase Agreement Between the City of Las Cruces and David and Linda Schroeder, for the Sale of 2.56 Acres of Municipally Owned Land in the West Mesa Industrial Park for the Purchase Price of Seventy Six Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$76,800.00) In Accordance With Provisions of Section 3-54-1, NMSA, 1978, as Amended.

Mayor Miyagishima and Council agreed to bring this item back.

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#### **X. STATUS/UPDATES ON CURRENT PROJECT LIST**

1. **Strategic Plan** - *(Implementation documents being prepared, finalizing plan for council review and consideration.)*
2. **Las Cruces Convention Center** – *(Building exterior near complete with windows being installed with most efforts towards interior construction at this time. Site work continues as well with sidewalks poured and curbing being installed to accommodate parking lot construction. This project is still on schedule with completion expected by fall 2010.)*
3. **Downtown Main Street Construction** - *(Existing trees, plants, and bricks on Main Street have been removed with some of the salvageable items being transported to the City yard between Motel Blvd. and Westgate. Lane and road closures will be in effect at the north end of the project and Las Cruces Avenue for road work at each location. Las Cruces Avenue currently has one lane open for traffic.)*
4. **Impact Fees** – *(The project is on-going. The Consultant is making the necessary revisions to the Land Use Assumptions and Impact Fee Capital Improvements Plan. Staff is in the process of providing the necessary information for these revisions. It is anticipated that a draft of each document may be available for staff review by the end of August.)*
5. **Vision 2040** – *(The Vision 2040 Advisory Committee, consisting of various stakeholders throughout Doña Ana County, has resumed review of the Vision 2040 Regional Plan. Stakeholders have formed subcommittees and a seven member Steering Committee to review and make recommendations on this plan. In June 2010, they have begun the process of reviewing sections of a working draft of the plan. This process is estimated to take until late Fall 2010. Regular updates will be given to the elected and appointed bodies. Meeting dates, draft documents, and related information on Vision 2040 are available online at <http://vision2040.las-cruces.org>.)*

6. **Regional Recreational & Aquatic Center** – *(Construction is complete, inspections conducted and punch list items being addressed in order to obtain a Certificate of Occupancy. Due to the New Mexico Construction Industries Division's lack of sufficient inspectors, delays have been experienced in obtaining the necessary approvals to begin mobilization of the building. The schedule for Parks and Recreation Staff being able to move into the building has been delayed by two weeks.)*
7. **Las Cruces Intermodal Facility** - *(The consultant design team has begun the project with a kick off meeting with City staff to determine expectations and goals to complete the project. Preliminary research and data collection is underway.)*
8. **Bicycle Facilities Planning** - *(May is National Bicycling Month. The Education and Encouragement Work Group of the Bicycle Friendly Community Task Force (BFC) is working on several ideas for events in May. The proposals include a series of neighborhood bicycle rides, a series of articles promoting bicycling in Las Cruces, Bike to Work Day on May 21<sup>st</sup>, the Ride of Silence on May 19<sup>th</sup>, and a proclamation declaring May as National Bicycle Month.)*
9. **EPA Smart Growth Implementation Assistance Program (SGIA)** - *(August 2, 2010: **Picturing el Paseo: Share Your vision for the Corridor** -Community awareness continues to grow about the City's Smart Growth Implementation Assistance planning project with the EPA, DOT and HUD. The project's website [www.picturingelpaseo.org](http://www.picturingelpaseo.org) has photo sharing capacity, a survey requesting people's ideas for the corridor, and a wealth of information on the workgroups and up and coming events. City staff continues to reach out to people at local hot spots along El Paseo Road such as International Delights, Village Inn, Grandy's, Si Italian Bistro and Mountain View Co-op. Together with our federal partners, staff is producing a number of events this fall: the **Green Infrastructure Conference** on August 26<sup>th</sup>, a 3-day **Road Safety Audit** September 30<sup>th</sup> through October 2<sup>nd</sup>, and a **Visioning Charrette** November 18-20. Regular conference calls occur on Tuesday from 1:30-2:30 PM in Room 1158, City Hall, 700 Main Street.)*
10. **New City Web Site** – *(The new web site will go live for City staff in September, with public unveiling in October. Content from the current web site is being migrated to the new site. Additional effort has been required in updating content, unifying design, and content presentation methodologies. Departmental stakeholders, who will be responsible for authoring content once the site goes live, have been involved in stakeholder meetings, feedback, and content migration. The new site will support greater citizen engagement by providing citizens the ability to receive information via RSS feeds, newsletters, and alerts, as well as providing new content and capabilities. Departmental content authors and Directors will be trained in use of the content management system, authoring standards (including ADA, Section 508, and applicable law).*
11. **Downtown Revitalization Activities** - *(Construction of La Placita has started and will be completed by October 31, 2010. Community Development staff are in the process of forming a Downtown Revitalization Plan Ad Hoc Committee.)*
12. **Grants/ARRA Status** - *(Matrix.)*

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**XI. GENERAL DISCUSSION**

**1. MAYOR**

Mayor Miyagishima said the Sun News did an unofficial poll on names for the lions that are in front of City Hall and the two top names were E.J. and Mable. I would like to get a consensus from Council to put this on the next agenda and declare E.J. and Mable as the official names of the lions.

Council gave a consensus.

Mayor Miyagishima said I have been asked by a few residents to bring back the drive thru window at the El Paso Electric Facility on Solano for our utility payments. I know one of the reasons we stopped doing that was because of the issues with the employee taking their lunch break, is there any regulation that states an employee can't work five or so hours straight before taking a lunch?

Andre Moquin, HR Director said I believe they can work those hours as long as they are paid.

Councillor Pedroza said I have also received a lot of comments on returning the drive thru window.

Pat Degman, Interim Finance Director said another issue we had was with the cash management at that site. There were issues with El Paso Electric cashiers taking check payments for the amount of both the electric and gas bill and then they'd just put it aside until our cashier could handle it and there were other issues with the cash management.

Councillor Connor said it probably wasn't the best idea to remove that service from that site but there were issues with the cash management. Has our computer function at that site already been removed?

Pat Degman said yes.

Mayor Miyagishima said I would like for us to re-evaluate this again and see if we can reduce the time that our cashier is working so there won't be any issues with them having to take a lunch break during the time they are at that site.

Pat Degman said we will be happy to take a look at it again.

**2. CITY COUNCIL**

Councillor Thomas said I want to mention that there is a District 6 Meeting on August 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Good Samaritan Village.

Councillor Sorg passed.

Councillor Small said since the construction at Burn Lake, people are starting to use it more and I'm glad we are continuing to work on its reconstruction.

Councillor Pedroza said regarding the mental health issues that I brought up at the last meeting, I have received several responses, including one from the Department of Health and Human Services which stated that there are Federal funds that are just sitting idle because the City didn't have this type of facility. I think there is a huge need for these services and I think we need to create a committee to look into it.

I will be ending my 7:00 a.m. Walk and Talk at Young Park within the next few weeks.

There are still some departments within the City that I would like to get more familiar with so I will be asking them to get together with me in order for me to understand what the function is of each department.

I want to mention that I think the Proclamation that was given today to Women's Vote was very important and we need to remember the history behind it.

Mayor Miyagishima asked what would we need to do to form an Ad Hoc Committee to look into the mental health issue?

Esther Martinez, City Clerk said we will need a resolution to form an Ad Hoc Committee and staff can discuss how to go about the creation of the resolution, tomorrow at our Executive Team Meeting.

Councillor Connor passed.

Councillor Silva said we received the Acheta Report for our Police Department which listed thirteen items and I would like to get an update on these items to see if they have been addressed.

Chief Williams, LCPD said we should be able to give you an update in a few weeks.

Councillor Silva said regarding the trailer park issues that Councillor Connor brought up last week, I think it would be a good idea for us to look into addressing trailer parks as a global issue.

Councillor Connor said I met with Mr. Garza, Mr. Weir, Robert Kyle and Cheryl Rodriguez regarding these issues and they are looking into it.

David Weir, Community Development Director said we will be bringing you an update and giving you some suggestions on what we need to do concerning these issues.

Councillor Silva said last week, I attended the Mainstreet New Mexico 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Las Cruces received a \$25,000 award for the La Placita Project.

Mayor Miyagishima said I was asked by Mayor Cook of El Paso to attend a briefing from Homeland Security on September 13<sup>th</sup> and I would like to ask the Chief or his representative if they would like to attend it because I have a previous engagement so I won't be able to attend it.

Terrence Moore, City Manager said I have already spoken with the Chief and he will attend it.

3. **CITY MANAGER**

A. **Web 2.0 Presentation by Don Bustamante.**

Sheetal Jain, Web Developer gave an overhead presentation and said some of the user features that CLC Web 2.0 will offer is new e-gov services, virtual reality tours, greater GIS integration, fresher content and communication with our citizens. We did a survey on people's opinion on our website and the most disliked features were the navigation, the front page is too crowded, search capability, difficult to find information, it's not attractive and it's difficult to find updates. The most liked features were the layouts of the departments, the most requested and quick links, maps, news releases, agendas, pictures of the City on the front page, information on the City activities and Recreation Programs, announcements and the access to City records. We have tried to address the dislikes and keep the features that are most liked with our update.

Councillor Thomas asked are the departments being allowed to give their input on this development since they know what the public is mostly looking for?

Don Bustamante, IT Director said every department will be allowed to decide what is included in their section and in the future, we will be adding an interactive feature that would allow citizens to direct questions through the website.

B. **Other Items - Information Only.**

**Meeting Adjourned at 4:10 p.m.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

(SEAL)