

**Joint City Council/*Redevelopment Agency Regular Meeting
March 1, 2006**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor/Chairman Richard Ortiz called the Joint City Council/Redevelopment Agency Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Fire Chief Jesse Casillas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PEACEBUILDERS' PLEDGE

Mayor/Chairman Richard Ortiz led the Peacebuilders' Pledge.

ROLL CALL

Present when the meeting was called to order were: Councilmember/Agencymember Christopher Bourke, Councilmember/Agencymember Stefanie De La Rosa, Councilmember/Agencymember Patricia Stephens and Mayor/Chairman Richard Ortiz.

Mayor Pro Tem/Vice-Chair Juan Saavedra arrived at 6:32 p.m.

MAYOR'S/CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mayor/Chairman Ortiz reported that he did not make the last Council/Agency meeting due to him attending the ACCAP Winter Meeting in Folsom. He informed the Council/Agency that a topic of great discussion was the initiative of the inmate crew and making inmate day labor for a Senate bill. He said that the Cities wanted to use the population of inmates for the City's advantage and are trying to get support to develop a bill for additional funding. He stated Senator Jeff Denham was the special speaker.

COUNCILMEMBER'S/AGENCYMEMBER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember/Agencymember Stephens stated she attended the Citizen of the Year dinner on Friday, February 17th.

Councilmember/Agencymember Bourke stated he attended the Little League meeting on February 23rd, the grand opening of the new credit union in Gabilan Gardens and will be attending on April 5th the Disaster Services Forum.

COUNCILMEMBER'S/AGENCYMEMBER'S PRAISES

Councilmember/Agencymember Bourke congratulated Rotary on their 75th Anniversary and also the new credit union for supporting the local FFA chapter.

Mayor/Chairman Ortiz stated he attended the Citizen of the Year banquet on February 17th and congratulated all those who received awards.

PRESENTATIONS

City Manager Chapa stated that each respective department head would be introducing their new employees.

Fire Chief Jesse Casillas introduced each of the Fire Engineers.

- Jacob Artiaga
- Juan Carlos Cabrera
- Elda Escalante

City Manager Chapa performed the Oath of Office.

Police Chief Richard Cox introduced Roman Mendoza, the newest addition to the Soledad Police Department. He asked that Ruby Alvarez be introduced at the next Council meeting due to an illness.

City Manager Chapa performed the Oath of Office for Officer Mendoza.

Councilmember/Agencymember Bourke congratulated each of them on their accomplishments.

At 6:55 p.m. Mayor/Chairman Ortiz called for a recess in order to welcome each of the new employees.

At 7:06 p.m. Mayor/Chairman Ortiz called the meeting back to order.

Police Chief Richard Cox provided the Council and Community a presentation on the State of the Police Department for the Fiscal Year 2005. In his presentation he covered the following areas: Organizational Goals, Organizational Conditions, Organizational Function, Special Projects and Programs, Future Concerns, 2005 Goals, 2006 Goals. He also reviewed the top achievers for individual performance for citations, case reports and arrests.

Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra congratulated Chief Cox on the tremendous change and improvements in the Police Department.

Councilmember Bourke asked about domestic violence training and if the officers receive any kind of special training at the academy on the subject. Chief Cox stated that the officers receive training at the academy and they are also required to have domestic violence training every few years.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Erica Padilla-Chavez, asked if she could speak regarding Agenda Item #11. She was instructed that she would need to wait until the item's turn.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Item #1: Approval of Minutes

City Council Regular Meeting Minutes January 19, 2005

Joint City Council/*Redevelopment Agency Regular Meeting Minutes February 15, 2006

Redevelopment Agency Special Meeting Minutes February 22, 2006

Item #2: Approval of Warrants

#37981 - #38095

ITEM #3 WAS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR BY MAYOR PRO TEM SAAVEDRA

Item #3: Resolution No. 3741, “Approving the Second Cycle of Grant Funding For Non-Profit Agencies for Fiscal Year 2005-06 Pursuant to City Policy No. 480.”

ITEM #4 WAS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR BY MAYOR PRO TEM SAAVEDRA

Item #4: Resolution No. 3742, “Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Contract with Commercial Environmental Landscape in the Amount of \$43,800 for the City of Soledad Landscape Maintenance Project and Appropriating Funding in the Amount of \$11,000 from General Fund Reserves.”

MOTION: The Consent Calendar (Items #1 and #2) were approved by a unanimous vote on a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra and a second by Councilmember De La Rosa.

ITEM #3 WAS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR BY MAYOR PRO TEM SAAVEDRA

Item #3: Resolution No. 3741, “Approving the Second Cycle of Grant Funding For Non-Profit Agencies for Fiscal Year 2005-06 Pursuant to City Policy No. 480.”

Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra stated he asked to pull this item to bring attention to the public that the City has funds available for non-profits to apply for.

Councilmember Bourke stated that he was concerned because at the beginning of the year some of the non-profits who applied for funding were either denied or not given the monies they requested and now it is the last funding cycle and there would be money left over. Mayor Ortiz stated that none were denied, but that the reason some did not receive all the monies they were requesting was because they had indicated it would be for salaries, and the grant specifically was not for salaries. He also stated that those non-profits who applied for the first funding cycle could also apply for the second funding cycle.

Councilmember De La Rosa stated that her concern was that it was only advertised in the Soledad Times, which only goes out to Soledad residents, and she said she felt it was not noticed as it was intended. She said it was not advertised properly and the City did not provide agencies another opportunity to apply.

MOTION: Councilmember Bourke motioned to have the City advertise for a third funding cycle and advertise in all the newspapers. Due to the lack of a second motion, the motion died.

City Attorney Rodriguez stated that the policy only indicated a first and second cycle, and the policy would first need to be amended to add a third cycle or the motion could extend the period of the second cycle without prejudice to applicants.

MOTION: Resolution No. 3741 was continued to a future meeting and Staff was instructed to extend the deadline for the second funding cycle by a unanimous vote on a motion made by Councilmember Bourke and a second by Councilmember De La Rosa.

City Manager Chapa stated that Staff would advertise in the Salinas Californian and the Soledad Bee and that letters would also be sent to those agencies who applied during the first funding cycle.

ITEM #4 WAS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR BY MAYOR PRO TEM SAAVEDRA

Item #4: Resolution No. 3742, “Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Contract with Commercial Environmental Landscape in the Amount of \$43,800 for the City of Soledad Landscape Maintenance Project and Appropriating Funding in the Amount of \$11,000 from General Fund Reserves.”

City Attorney Rodriguez stated that his concern was that the contractor had bid work within the assessment district and outside the assessment district, and he was concerned that assessment funds would be used to pay for work outside the district. He stated that he wanted to make sure that separate invoices were submitted for work within the district and outside the district. Public Works Director Price stated that the City Engineer will make sure to keep track of the payment of invoices from the assessment district and he also stated that two separate contracts will cause two separate bonds and it was not bid that way.

MOTION: Resolution No. 3742 was approved by a unanimous vote on a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra and a second by Councilmember De La Rosa.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Item #5: Resolution No. 3743, “Approving New Wastewater Service Rates.”

Staff Presentation

Assistant City Manager De La Rosa addressed the Council. He stated that the existing rate is \$11.39 and that the rates actually went down to \$9.01.

He said that not included in the proposed base rate is the cost associated for new debt service and if the City was to issue new debt for equipment and plant improvements related to the State Regional Water Quality Control Boards Permit requirement for tertiary treated effluent, the proposed rate for single family residences would have to be increased by 42 cents per every million dollar issued in bonds. He said that the estimated cost associated with Tertiary improvements is estimated at \$21 million dollars. He said the maximum rate (base rate plus debt service rate) would result in a monthly cost to a single family property owner of \$16.71 per month.

He stated in considering the procedures applicable to establishing new wastewater rates, Staff evaluated Proposition 218 and its impact on adoption of the rates and that the fee adjustment process, under Proposition 218, requires that wastewater increases be subject to a majority protest provisions of Proposition 218. He said that notices were required to be mailed to affected property owners advising them of the proposed increases, the date of the public hearing, and the protest provisions and that they had to be mailed at least 45 days prior to the hearing. He said that in the event of a majority protest, the rates may not be raised. He indicated that the City had received five (5) protest letters opposing the increase and the City had complied with the Proposition 218 requirements. He requested once the resolution is approved that it not be

implemented until April 15th due to a mid-month billing cycle. He requested this so that Staff can complete the change over in the system prior to the April 15th billing.

Open and close hearing to the public

Mayor Ortiz opened the hearing to the public and hearing no comments, closed the hearing to the public.

Councilmember Bourke asked if letters were sent to both residential customers and commercial customers. Assistant City Manager De La Rosa stated that letters were only sent to residential customers. He also requested that the resolution be changed from four protest notices to five, and that the effective date be changed to April 15th.

MOTION: Resolution No. 3743 was approved by a unanimous vote with the number of protest letters changed from four to five and the effective date changed to April 15th on a motion made by Councilmember Bourke and a second by Councilmember Stephens.

BUSINESS

Item #6: Consider a Request to take a Position to Oppose the Monterey County Quality of Life, Affordable Housing and Voter Control.

Mayor Ortiz stated that he had requested the item to be agendaized for the Council's input, but based on the vote by the Board of Supervisors the previous day the item was not going to be put on the ballot. He stated that if it comes forward on the ballot he would like the Council to oppose it. Mayor Ortiz stated that the problem with the plan is it focuses on Salinas Valley cities and not the entire Monterey Peninsula. He asked the Council to consider bringing the item back as a resolution opposing the plan.

Councilmember Stephens stated she felt the Council should take a strong stance against the plan and should start by opposing it and also be kept informed regarding the plan.

Alejandro Chavez, Soledad resident, addressed the Council. He stated that in regards to the initiative he felt the Council should take action opposing it now as it effects Salinas Valley residents and overrides to a certain degree the LAFCo process. He said he felt the Council should take a stand against the plan early on.

Erica Padilla-Chavez, Soledad resident, addressed the Council. She urged the Council to take action and be proactive and don't delay taking a stand opposing the initiative.

Councilmember Stephens asked that the item be put on the April agenda for Council action. Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra reiterated that he would like the Council to take action with a formal resolution opposing the initiative at the April Council meeting. City Attorney Rodriguez asked what the purpose of opposing was and the Mayor responded that it was to protect the City's ability to grow and a means of protecting the general plan and a way of protecting the Salinas Valley cities from the decisions the Peninsula cities make.

Item #7: **Resolution No. 3744,** "Approving the Soledad Rotary Club's Request for Use of the Community Center for Its Annual Fundraising Event and Authorizing Use of Approximately Fifteen City Hours."

Assistant City Manager Hector De La Rosa addressed the Council. He stated this was a fundraiser for the organization with the proceeds going back to the community. He said that in an effort to maximize the amount of proceeds from the event, Rotary was requesting that the City sponsor the event through use of City hours (approximately 15 hours). He stated the Council could chose not to sponsor it but still provide hours and if they did provide hours the City would have 35 hours left of 50 hours. City Manager Chapa informed the Council that the request does not come from the entire Rotary board due to the nature of the reverse draw.

Councilmember De La Rosa stated that due to the type of event she suggested considering not sponsoring the event but allowing them to use City hours.

MOTION: Resolution No. 3744 was approved by a unanimous vote on a motion made by Councilmember De La Rosa and a second by Councilmember Stephens.

Item #8: Resolution No. 3745, “Authorizing the City Manager to Submit a Written Request to the California Housing and Community Development Department to Reallocate the HOME Investment Partnerships Program from First Time Homebuyers Program to Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Program and to Request an Extension of Term of the Agreement to Expend Funds.”

Economic Development Director Rodriguez addressed the Council. He stated that at the time the City submitted the HOME application in September 2004, there were a number of factors that indicated a need for the program. He stated that at the time affordable housing was being constructed, home sale prices were about \$350,000 and the City was anticipating issuing building permits for additional housing construction but that between the time period that the application was submitted and the contract was awarded in May 2005, the home-buying window of opportunity had closed. He said the supply of affordable housing for sale dwindled and housing prices rose to the mid \$500,000, with a City imposed a sewer moratorium curtailing the issuance of building permits. He said that Staff felt at today’s pricing it is beyond the reach of the program and due to the constraints; Staff felt that the City would get better use of the funds if they were available for housing rehabilitation. He said that according to the State, if the funds could be used for Rehabilitation, only the \$600,000 in Home funds could be used for the program and the \$200,000 under the American Dream program would not be eligible to be used for rehabilitation purposes. Mayor Ortiz asked why the American Dream program money could not be used. Economic Development Director Rodriguez stated that the American Dream program money could only be used for advertising strictly for first time homebuyers.

MOTION: Resolution No. 3745 was approved by a unanimous vote on a motion by Councilmember Bourke and a second by Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra.

Item #9: Discuss and Provide Staff with Direction on Policy Establishing Supplemental Benefits for Employees Deployed to Military Service

City Attorney Rodriguez addressed the Council and stated that he had been asked by the Council about providing assistance to City employees deployed to military service. He stated that the Council was forwarded with the Staff report copies of other cities policies and that most of the cities that have adopted a policy have done it in small steps being fiscally responsible for the annual budget.

Mayor Ortiz asked if it was possible to add a clause that the policy would be reviewed annually. City Attorney Rodriguez responded that the review of the policy would be part of the budget workshop. Councilmember Bourke asked what would happen if the next Council did not approve the policy. Councilmember De La Rosa asked about the employee's performance or time with the company if it would effect the assistance. City Attorney Rodriguez stated that language would be added that there would be consideration for that type of situation and if adopted by a unanimous vote, for rescission it would take the same number to get back on the agenda for reconsideration.

Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra stated that he agreed with the policy and it should be brought back for approval at the April 5th City Council meeting.

Item #10: **Resolution No. 3746**, "Approving an FLSA 7(K) work schedule, establishing a Fourteen (14) day 106 hour work period and approving an alternative work schedule (48/96 hour work schedule) for the Fire Department."

Fire Chief Casillas addressed the Council. He stated that at the February 1, 2006 City Council meeting, Staff provided the Council with a one year update on the 24 hour Staffing Pilot Project and at that time Staff described the overall pros and cons of enhanced fire protection services resulting from the Project. He reviewed some of the pros which included a reduction in response times by approximately 50% which resulted in a significant amount of lives and property saved and possibly a lower Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating benefiting commercial and residential property owners within the community by reducing the cost of hazard insurance. He said that the 24 hour Staffing Pilot Project was well accepted by many throughout the community because of the reduced response times.

He also reviewed the project shortfalls which included the fact that Staffing levels did not address the standards set forth by the National Fire Protection Association nor did it satisfy the OSHA requirements that mandate four fire personnel on a fire engine to perform offensive fire suppression operations. He said that there was also a potential fatigue aspect resulting from the 48 on/48 off work schedule.

Chief Casillas stated that Staff implemented the 24 hour staffing utilizing the existing Staff that consisted of one Fire Chief, one permanent Fire Engineer and one Temporary Fire Engineer. He said that because the City employed less than five (5) fire service employees, the City was eligible to claim the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA") 13(b)20 exemption that allowed the City to avoid incurring fire department-related overtime costs.

He stated that the Council approved an additional full-time Fire Engineer during the budget adoption, bringing the Department's personnel to four (4) full-time Staff members and in November of 2005 he was informed that the City was awarded the "SAFER Act" grant which increased the Fire Department to five (5) full-time fire personnel. He said that the grant was awarded based on the City's need to alleviate the firefighter safety concern resulting from the potential fatigue aspect of the current 48-on 48-off work schedule.

He stated that after evaluating the Department's needs and given that the Fire Engineer position awarded by the Safer Act will provide the Department with the third shift supervisor and the foundation in which the department can expand as growth occurs, Staff was recommending

migrating to a permanent twenty four (24) hour work schedule. He reviewed the two work schedule options with the Council:

Option One - 3 on / 4 off

Chief Casillas said that this work schedule would have three shifts with each person per shift, excluding the Fire Chief and a Fire Engineer, would work one 24 hour shift, be off one 24 hour shift and repeat the process two more times and on the third time after their shift is over, the employee will be off for four (4) consecutive days. He stated that this type of schedule would allow for twenty-four hour coverage all week and three Fire personnel (Fire Chief and two Engineers) would be in the station during normal business hours when volunteer participation is limited.

Chief Casillas stated that if the City was interested in Option One, one of the Fire Engineers' positions could be reclassified as a Firefighter position, resulting in a salary savings while still providing the coverage necessary under the option. He also stated that the Firefighter position would not work a twenty-four hour schedule but would work the same basic shift kept by the Fire Chief, which is Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm which would still result in three persons on duty during normal working hours.

Option Two - 48 / 96 shift schedule

Chief Casillas said that under this work schedule there would be three shifts, similar to option one with each shift working forty eight (48) hours and off for ninety six (96) hours, (two days on, four days off). He said that the Fire Chief and an Engineer's position would work Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm allowing three Fire personnel in the station during normal business hours when volunteer participation is limited. He said that similar to Option One, one of the Fire Engineers' positions could be reclassified to a Firefighter position while achieving the necessary coverage.

Under both Option One and Two, the schedules would provide for twenty-four hour coverage all week and if needed, the Fire Chief could respond to calls for service but that would depend on the nature of the alarm and the number of volunteers responding to the call.

Councilmember Bourke asked how different the 48on/48off was from the 48on/96off. Chief Casillas responded that with the 96 hours off, Staff has more time to recover and reduces the chance of fatigue while on duty. Councilmember Stephens asked if it was the lack of enough down time that caused fatigue rather than the shift work. Chief Casillas agreed, and also said that an increase in downtime also reduces the amount of sick time and workers compensation used.

Councilmember Bourke said that his concern was the demand on the Chief's time and one Fire Engineer on limited duty which leaves on firefighter to man the engine. Chief Casillas stated that there would also be the encouragement for volunteers to be scheduled with the shifts.

Mayor Ortiz stated that he would like to have full coverage of the community especially during the day, and that for coverage to be spread throughout 24 hours might limit the coverage during the day. He said his concern was coverage during vacation and sick time for the employees. Chief Casillas responded that it would be filled with paid call staff. Councilmember Bourke asked if the 48 on/72 off would create a middle ground for the employees. Chief Casillas responded that a 48 on/72 off would create an overtime issue.

Councilmember Stephens stated that her concern was firefighter safety and the number on duty. She asked that whatever the Council decides that Staff report back every three months and also include an update on volunteer participation.

Councilmember De La Rosa stated that she liked the idea of a 48 on/96 off and said that she felt there would be more sick time used if a 24 on/24 off was initiated. Councilmember Stephens asked to be informed of how the schedule is doing on a week to week basis and later a monthly basis.

MOTION: Resolution No. 3746 was approved by a unanimous vote with a three month review on a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra and a second by Councilmember De La Rosa.

Item #11: Consider a Request Concerning Use of the City Hall Parking Lot for Public and/or Civic Events.

Community Development Director Fleming addressed the Council. He stated that at the City Council meeting of February 22, 2006 the question was raised regarding the use of the City Hall Parking lot for a press conference for Assemblyman Simon Salinas and following a brief discussion, the Mayor requested that the item be agendaized for Council consideration.

City Attorney Rodriguez said that it is always a liability when City property is used for some other purpose besides City business and that City Hall is not traditionally a public quorum for speech. He also stated that the parking lot has been used in the past for overflow for the church event which is different then what was being proposed, which was a press conference. City Attorney Rodriguez stated that the City may not be able to distinguish requests or deny requests based on the message being sent. He suggested the City be able to regulate the time and manner, and discouraged creating a forum for public speech which would allow other groups or candidates to have the right to request the use of the parking lot. He suggested that the Council adopt a set of guidelines or rules for this and any future requests.

Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra asked if the Council could be selective in who uses the parking lot. City Attorney Rodriguez stated that the Council could not be selective to the message but would have to remain neutral, and could only be selective about the time and the amount of people. Mayor Ortiz stated that he felt it should be open to anyone. Councilmember De La Rosa stated she disagreed and felt the Council should be able to regulate the use of a public facility.

Councilmember Bourke suggested that a permit application be drafted similar to the permit application for use of the park and ride. Councilmember De La Rosa stated that her concern was that consent of the Council would be perceived by the public if it takes place in front of City Hall. Councilmember Bourke requested to see any policies our neighboring cities have regarding the subject.

Erica Padilla-Chavez, Soledad resident, addressed the Council. She said that she strongly disagreed with the Mayor wanting to allow a candidate to use the parking lot and that the public would perceive that as the City supporting that candidate. She stated she felt the Mayor was supporting the candidate requesting the use and that he was using his authority as a powerful individual in City to adopt a policy. She said she felt the Council had a high regard for ethics and allowing a candidate to use the parking lot would go against that. She asked that the Council

ensure the process is made publicly known and that every candidate has an opportunity. Mayor Ortiz responded that he was hoping the request would end up allowing anyone to have an opportunity.

Staff was directed to bring back to the Council policies from other agencies related to the same matter.

Item #12: Review and Discuss the Fiscal Year 2005-06 Six-Month Budget Summary Report for the City of Soledad and Approve Proposed Budget Amendments, by Minute Motion

City Manager Chapa stated that Staff hoped to have the report complete but unfortunately it was not and Staff was asking that the item be continued to the April 5th City Council meeting.

MOTION: Item #12 was continued to the City Council meeting of April 5th by a unanimous vote on a motion made by Councilmember Stephens and a second by Councilmember De La Rosa.

COUNCILMEMBER'S/AGENCYMEMBER'S COMMITTEE UPDATES

- a) **Street Naming** - None
- b) **Energy Plant** – None
- c) **Miravale Section 16** - None
- d) **Development Review** - None
- e) **Overall Landscape Review** - None
- f) **Revolving Loan Fund** - None
- g) **Oldtown Soledad Beautification Association** – Economic Development Director Rodriguez stated that the meeting consisted at looking at furnishing for their new office.
- h) **Parks** – Councilmember De La Rosa stated that he, the Mayor and City Manager met with Little League reps to talk about the parks. Mayor Ortiz stated that he was hoping an engineer would take on the project but unfortunately the project fell through the cracks and the individual is no longer on the board.
- i) **Redevelopment Neighborhoods** – Councilmember De La Rosa stated there was a meeting on Tuesday and they reviewed the lighting situation with the alleyways being a major concern along with graffiti and damage. She also stated that the meeting has been changed to 6 p.m. permanently.
- j) **CAC** - None
- k) **SR146 (Roads)** – City Manager Chapa stated that Staff will be meeting the consultant and then a meeting with the committee would be scheduled.
- l) **Tree** – Councilmember Stephens stated they met the previous evening.
- m) **Wastewater Treatment Plant** – Public Works Director Price stated that the repairs have been completed however Staff is still fine tuning the project.
- n) **Soledad Historical Society** – Councilmember Stephens stated there would be a meeting the following Wednesday.

CITY MANAGER'S/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- a) Council Requests – Status Table

City Manager/Executive Director Chapa stated the status table had been forwarded to the Council and Staff was asked to be more specific on their items. Councilmember De La Rosa

asked for an update on the sod for the Wind and Wine Festival. Public Works Director Price stated Staff was still in the process of scheduling a meeting.

COUNCILMEMBER'S/AGENCYMEMBER'S ITEMS

Councilmember/Agencymember De La Rosa stated there are still lights out throughout town, specifically on Blueridge, Goldenrod and several other streets. City Manager/Executive Director Chapa stated that Staff has been in contact with PG&E and has not had very good success at getting the situation resolved. Councilmember/Agencymember Bourke asked if there was a supervisor at PG&E that Staff could speak to in order to get the lights replaced.

Councilmember/Agencymember De La Rosa stated that she noticed there were several bollards on Front Street that were either damaged or the lights were out. City Manager/Executive Director Chapa stated that the parts had been ordered along with extra parts due to the lengthy amount of time it takes to receive the products. Councilmember/Agencymember De La Rosa stated there was graffiti on West Street on a small white sign and that also on West Street the area north of Entrada needs "no parking" signs.

Mayor Pro Tem/Vice Chair Saavedra stated he had given the City Manager a map of two specific areas for stop signs and an area for a stop sign and stripping. He stated that there was no four way stop on Sundew. City Manager/Executive Director Chapa stated that Staff would put an update in that week's City Manager's update.

Councilmember/Agencymember Bourke stated that the net below the underpass was hanging too low. He also suggested that due to the costs of animal control for the City that the possibility of combining with other South County Cities be investigated. He also asked about making designated landing areas for medical helicopters. Fire Chief Casillas stated that the County is in the process of identifying landing zones in areas pre-identified.

Mayor Ortiz stated that he would be out of town from March 8th through the 18th.

CLOSED SESSION

At 10:05 p.m. Mayor/ Chairman Ortiz called for a recess to convene to Closed Session to discuss the following items:

1. The Redevelopment Agency will recess to closed session to confer with its attorney regarding litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b)(1) and is hereby of the opinion that a significant exposure to litigation exists.
2. The City Council will recess to closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8 to meet with its real property negotiators. The property in question consists of a parcel or parcels located just north of the northern City limits. Instructions to the negotiator will concern terms and prices related to a proposed acquisition.
3. The City Council will recess to closed session to confer with its attorney regarding litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b)(1) and is hereby of the opinion that a significant exposure to litigation exists.
4. The City Council will recess to closed session to confer with its attorney regarding litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (c- deciding to initiate litigation).

5. The City Council will recess to closed session to consider personnel matters pursuant to Government Code Section 54957- Recruitment and Retention Considerations for Managerial Positions - Employment Contracts

MEETING RECONVENED

At 11:15 p.m. Mayor/Chairman Ortiz reconvened the meeting from Closed Session.

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

Mayor/ Chairman Ortiz made the following announcements with regard to closed session matters:

1. Agency conferred with its attorney and representatives and provided direction. No other reportable action taken.
2. Council conferred with its negotiators and provided direction. No other reportable action taken.
3. Council conferred with its attorney. No other reportable action taken.
4. Council conferred with its attorney- no litigation was initiated. No other reportable action taken.
5. Council completed the evaluation process and provided Staff with direction concerning evaluation related changes to terms and conditions of employment. No other reportable action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Council/Agency, Mayor/ Chairman Ortiz adjourned the meeting.

RICHARD V. ORTIZ, Mayor/Chairman

Approved: April 5, 2006

NOELIA F. CHAPA, City Clerk/Agency Clerk