



**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

**April 1, 2025, 6:00 p.m.  
City Council Chamber - 1243 National City Boulevard  
National City, CA**

**Present:**  
**Councilmember Molina**  
**Councilmember Rodriguez**  
**Councilmember Yamane**  
**Vice-Mayor Bush**  
**Mayor Morrison**

**Others Present:**  
**Ben Martinez, City Manager**  
**Barry J. Schultz, City Attorney**  
**Shelley Chapel, City Clerk (via Zoom)**  
**Carlos Aguirre, Director of Community Development**  
**Derek Aydelotte, Police Captain**  
**Bruce Foltz, Director of Finance**  
**Brian Hadley, Deputy City Manager**  
**Lydia Hernandez, Human Services Director**  
**Tonya Hussain, Deputy City Clerk**  
**Steve Manganiello, Director of Engineering & Public Works**  
**Sergio Mora, Fire Chief**

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of National City was called to order at 6:27 p.m. via teleconference and in the Council Chamber, located in City Hall, 1243 National City Boulevard, National City, California.

*Vice-Mayor Bush left the dais at 6:28 p.m. and returned at 6:29 p.m.*

2. **ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers present: Molina, Rodriguez, Yamane, Bush, Morrison.

Interpretation in Spanish provided by Carlos Diaz and Luisa Diaz de Leon.

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

Councilmember Yamane led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. **INVOCATION**

None.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor Morrison summarized the process for acceptance of live public comment allowing one (1) minute per comment and introduced City Clerk Chapel.

In-person comment:

Luisa McCarthy  
Liliana Armenta  
Paul Wapnowski  
Laura Wilkinson Sinton  
Alex Neu  
Mike Montoya  
Randi Castle-Salgado  
Ruth Cuevas  
Jeanine Santa Cruz Hernandez  
Iso Rios  
Doyle Morrison  
Alisha Morrison  
Ed Nieto  
Sandy Scheller  
Micaela Polanco

*Mayor Morrison left the dais at 6:47 p.m. and returned at 6:48 p.m.*

Virtual comment:

Judi Strang  
Madison Rapp

Barbara Gordon  
Roberto Umana

**6. PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITION**

6.1 Proclamation: Fair Housing Month

Proclamation introduced by Mayor Morrison and accepted by CSA San Diego.

6.2 Introduction of New City Employees

Police Captain Derek Aydelotte and Assistant Director of Community Development introduced new department staff.

**7. PRESENTATION (Limited to Five (5) Minutes each)**

*Vice-Mayor Bush left the dais at 7:00 p.m. and returned at 7:05 p.m.*

7.1 Del Mar Fairgrounds 2050

Del Mar Fairgrounds Chief Executive Officer Chris Wahl provided a PowerPoint presentation.

7.2 Community and Police Relations Commission Annual Report to Council

Community and Police Relations Commission Chair Daniel Orth presented a PowerPoint presentation.

7.3 Traffic Safety Committee Annual Report

Traffic Safety Committee Chair Cynthia Fuller Quinonez provided a PowerPoint presentation.

**8. REGIONAL BOARDS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS (Limited to Five (5) Minutes each)**

Councilmember Rodriguez had nothing to report.

Councilmember Yamane reported on her attendance at a SANDAG Board of Director's meeting.

Councilmember Molina provided an update on the SANDAG Public Safety Committee Meeting.

Vice-Mayor Bush had nothing to report.

Mayor Morrison had no report.

**9. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Molina, seconded by Vice-Mayor Bush to approve the Consent Calendar with the exception of items 9.3 through 9.9 pulled by Councilmember Yamane and for public comment.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 9.1 Approval of Reading by Title Only and Waiver of Reading in Full of Ordinance on this Agenda

**Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

- 9.2 Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes.

Approve and file.

**Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

*Item pulled for discussion.*

- 9.3 Authorizing the Filing of Seven Applications for Smart Growth Incentive Program (SGIP) Grant Funds from the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) and Accepting the Terms of the Grant Agreement.

Adopted Resolution No. 2025-27.

Adopt a Resolution entitled, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Authorizing the Filing of Seven Applications for Smart Growth Incentive Program Grant Funds from the San Diego Association of Governments and Accepting the Terms of the Grant Agreement."

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Yamane, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to adopt the resolution.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

*Item pulled for discussion.*

- 9.4 First Amendment of On Duty Health Agreement

Public comment received from Thomas Rike.

Adopt the Resolution Entitled, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Ratifying the Expenditure of \$49,398 for Services Provided by On Duty Health, LLC, in Fiscal Year 2024 and Approving and Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the First Amendment to the Agreement by and Between the City of National City and On Duty Health, LLC".

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Yamane, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to table the item and have it return at the May 6, 2025 City Council meeting.

Motion carried by 4-1 vote.

Ayes: Molina, Rodriguez, Yamane, Morrison

Nays: Bush

*Item pulled for discussion.*

- 9.5 Installation of a Blue Curb Disabled Persons Parking Space with Signage in Front of the Residence Located at 1721 Wilson Avenue.

Adopted Resolution No. 2025-29.

Adopt a Resolution entitled, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Authorizing the Installation of a Blue Curb Disabled Persons Parking Space with Signage in Front of the Residence at 1721 Wilson Avenue."

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Yamane, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to adopt the resolutions for agenda items 9.5 and 9.6.

*Item pulled for discussion.*

- 9.6 Installation of a Blue Curb Disabled Persons Parking Space in Front of the Residence Located at 2028 Wilson Avenue

Adopted Resolution No. 2025-30.

Adopt a Resolution entitled, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Authorizing the Installation of a Blue Curb Disabled Persons Parking Space in Front of the Residence Located at 2028 Wilson Avenue."

*Item pulled for discussion.*

- 9.7 Warrant Register #31 for the Period of 1/24/25 through 1/30/25 in the Amount of \$2,187,613.06

Public comment was received from Thomas Rike.

Ratify Warrants Totaling \$2,187,613.06.

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Yamane, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to ratify the warrants.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

*Item pulled for discussion.*

- 9.8 Warrant Register #32 for the Period of 1/31/25 through 2/06/25 in the Amount of \$4,520,556.17

Public comment was received from Thomas Rike and Ed Nieto.

Ratify Warrants Totaling \$4,520,556.17.

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Yamane, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to ratify the warrants.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

*Item pulled for discussion.*

- 9.9 Warrant Register #33 for the Period of 2/07/25 through 2/13/25 in the Amount of \$3,701,370.11

Public comment received from Thomas Rike.

Ratify Warrants Totaling \$3,701,370.11.

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Yamane, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to ratify the warrants.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

## **10. PUBLIC HEARING**

- 10.1 Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Streamlined Annual Public Housing Agency Plan, 2025-2029 Five-Year Public Housing Agency Plan, and Updated Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program Administrative Plan.

Adopted Community Development Commission Resolution No. 2025-96

Item introduced by Director of Community Development Carlos Aguirre.

Mayor Morrison opened the Public Hearing at 7:54 p.m.

There was no public comment.

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Rodriguez, seconded by Councilmember Yamane to close the Public Hearing.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Public Hearing closed at 7:55 p.m.

Recommendation: Conduct the Public Hearing and Adopt a Resolution Entitled, "Resolution of the Community Development Commission-Housing Authority of the City of National City, California, Approving the Streamlined Annual Public Housing Agency Plan for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and the 2025-2029 Five-Year Public Housing Agency Plan for Submission to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and Adopting an Updated Housing Choice Voucher Administrative Plan."

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Rodriguez, seconded by Councilmember Yamane to adopt the resolution.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 10.2 Introduction and First Reading of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 15.29 of the National City Municipal Code Establishing a Fire Inspection Program

Fire Chief Sergio Mora and Deputy Fire Marshall Robert Drew provided a report.

Mayor Morrison opened the Public Hearing at 8:11 p.m.

Public comment was received from Thomas Rike.

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Yamane, seconded by Vice-Mayor Bush to close the Public Hearing.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Public Hearing closed at 8:13 p.m.

Recommendation: Introduce the Ordinance by First Reading, Entitled, "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Amending Chapter 15.29 of the National City Municipal Code to Establish an Annual and Biennial Fire Inspection Program as Well as a Self-Inspection Program for Low-Risk Commercial Businesses."

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Molina, seconded by Mayor Morrison to introduce the Ordinance by First Reading.

Motion carried by 4-1 vote.

Ayes: Bush, Molina, Rodriguez, Morrison

Nays: Yamane

- 10.3 Introduction of Ordinance Amending Chapter 9.60 of the National City Municipal Code to Expand Operating Hours for Store Front Cannabis Retail Facilities.

Assistant Director of Community Development Martin Reeder introduced the item.

Mayor Morrison opened the Public Hearing at 8:22 p.m.

In-person public comment

Thomas Rike

Alex Ayon

*Councilmember Rodriguez left the dais at 8:21 p.m. and returned at 8:25 p.m.*

Virtual public comment

Judi Strang

Peggy Walker

Megan Stuart

Madison Rapp

Written comment was received from Ted Godshalk.

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Rodriguez, seconded by Councilmember Yamane to close the Public Hearing.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Public Hearing closed at 8:27 p.m.

Councilmember Yamane disclosed that she had visited Sessions by the Bay and spoke with the owners.

Mayor Morrison disclosed that he had toured the facility and met with the owners of Sessions by the Bay.

Vice-Mayor Bush disclosed that he had toured the facility.

Recommendation: Introduce Ordinance Entitled: "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Amending Chapter 9.60 'Commercial Cannabis Activity' of the National City Municipal Code to Modify Operating Hours for Store Front Retail Facilities."

**ACTION:** Motion by Vice-Mayor Bush, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to introduce the Ordinance.

Motion carried by 4-1 vote.

Ayes: Bush, Molina, Rodriguez, Morrison

Nays: Yamane

- 10.4 Public Hearing and Introduction of an Ordinance Amending National City Municipal Code Title 11, Section 11.32.140, Pertaining to Stopping and Parking Prohibitions.

Director of Engineering & Public Works Stephen Manganiello.

Mayor Morrison opened the Public Hearing at 8:36 p.m.

There was no public comment

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Yamane, seconded by Vice-Mayor Bush to close the Public Hearing.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Public Hearing closed at 8:38 p.m.

Recommendation: Introduce Ordinance by First Reading, entitled, "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Amending Chapter 11.32 'Stopping, Standing and Parking' of the National City Municipal Code Pertaining to Stopping and Parking Prohibitions."

## 11. **STAFF REPORTS**

*Vice-Mayor Bush left the dais at 8:40 p.m. and returned at 8:42 p.m.*

- 11.1 Discussion of Potential Short-Term Rental Ordinance

Director of Community Development Martin Reeder provided a PowerPoint presentation.

In-person public comment

Paul Wapnowski  
Justine Mariscal  
Stacy Amaral  
Randi Castle-Salgado  
Ed Nieto  
Adriana Huerta

Recommendation: Direct Staff to Come Back with a Draft Ordinance Regulating Short-Term Rentals in the City.

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Rodriguez, seconded by Councilmember Yamane to hold a workshop and bring a draft Ordinance forward at the first City Council meeting scheduled to occur in June.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

*ITEM HEARD EARLIER – RETURNED FOR CORRECTION*

- 10.4 Public Hearing and Introduction of an Ordinance Amending National City Municipal Code Title 11, Section 11.32.140, Pertaining to Stopping and Parking Prohibitions.

City Clerk Chapel advised that the vote on the recommendation was not taken. The item returned for a vote.

Recommendation: Introduce Ordinance by First Reading, entitled, “An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Amending Chapter 11.32 ‘Stopping, Standing and Parking’ of the National City Municipal Code Pertaining to Stopping and Parking Prohibitions.”

**ACTION:** Motion by Vice-Mayor Bush, seconded by Councilmember Yamane to introduce the Ordinance.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

*Mayor Morrison called for a recess at 9:28 p.m. Meeting reconvened at 9:38 p.m. with all members present.*

- 11.2 Staff Report Describing the Discretionary Application Process for the Sweetwater Gas Station Project.

Director of Community Development Martin Reeder provided a PowerPoint presentation.

In-person public comment

Michael Aguirre  
Frank Rivera  
Micaela Polanco  
Luisa McCarthy

Maria Severson  
Martha Hernandez  
Sandra Scheller  
Doyle Morrison  
Alisha Morrison  
Josie Flores Clark

Recommendation: File the Report.

*At 10:45 p.m., Councilmember Molina reminded the City Council of Policy #104 that requires the City Council Meeting to be adjourned no later than 10:30 p.m. unless extended by Council vote. Mayor Morrison asked the City Council to consider extending the meeting beyond 10:30 p.m.*

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Yamane, seconded by Vice-Mayor Bush to extend the meeting to finish the agenda items.

Motion carried by 4-1 vote.

Ayes: Bush, Molina, Yamane, Morrison

Nays: Rodriguez

**ACTION:** Motion by Vice-Mayor Bush, seconded by Councilmember Yamane for staff to return with an updated report to include a California Environmental Quality Act exemption determination, findings of denial, and record of communication between the Mayor's office and the developer.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

#### 11.3 Discussion on Recommendation to Amend City Council Policy No. 105

Recommendation: Discuss and Provide Direction to Staff.

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Molina, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to postpone the item to the April 15, 2025 City Council meeting.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

## 12. **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

None.

## 13. **ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORT**

### 13.1 POLICY 105 REQUEST - Ethics Policy Update - Requested by Vice-Mayor Bush

Item presented by Vice-Mayor Bush.

Public comment

Paul Wapnowski

Alisha Morrison

Ed Nieto

**ACTION:** Motion by Vice-Mayor Bush, seconded by Councilmember Molina to add the item on the next City Council agenda.

Motion carried by 3-2 vote.

Ayes: Bush, Molina, Morrison

Nays: Rodriguez, Yamane

Closing remarks were provided by members of the City Council.

**14. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT**

Mayor Morrison introduced City Attorney Schultz who reported on Item 5.1 of the Closed Session items. Mayor Morrison advised that the City Council would continue to discuss Item 5.2 after adjournment of the Regular City Council meeting.

City Attorney Schultz reported on Item 5.1 and stated that, “the City of National City acknowledges the jury's verdict in that case involving Ashley Cummins, wherein Ms. Cummins was awarded \$10 million in damages following claims of harassment and discrimination. The City is extremely disappointed with the outcome and is currently reviewing all of the legal options, including a possible appeal. The City remains committed to ensuring a fair and inclusive workplace for all employees and will continue to uphold the highest standards of professionalism within the Police Department. Notwithstanding the City's disappointment, the City and the Police Department will carefully assess the verdict and determine what lessons can be learned. The City will continue working diligently to support a workplace culture that values respect and equal opportunity for all.”

**CLOSED SESSION**

5.1 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION Cummins v. City of National City. et al  
San Diego Superior Court  
Case Number: 37-2022-00004671-CU-OE-CTL

5.2 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Government Code Section 54957.6  
Position to be Reviewed: City Attorney

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Morrison adjourned to the Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of National City, Tuesday, April 15, 2025, 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, located in City Hall, 1243 National City Boulevard, National City, California.

The meeting adjourned at 11:21 p.m.

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Tonya Hussain, Deputy City Clerk

The foregoing minutes were approved at the Regular Meeting of May 6, 2025.

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Ron Morrison, Mayor