

**LODI CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CARNEGIE FORUM, 305 WEST PINE STREET
TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021**

A. Call to Order / Roll Call

The City Special Meeting of March 23, 2021, was called to order by Mayor Nakanishi at 7:00 a.m.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20, all Council Members participated in the meeting via teleconference and the public portion of the meeting was available for viewing by the public via livestream at <https://www.facebook.com/CityofLodi/> and [https://zoom.us/j/91064420987?pwd=dDINSWZPUUpySklnQU0xVIBJUEhKUT09](https://zoom.us/j/91064420987?pwd=dDINSWZPUUpySklnQU0xVIBJUEhKUT09;); the opportunity for public comment was available through councilcomments@lodi.gov and <https://zoom.us/j/91064420987?pwd=dDINSWZPUUpySklnQU0xVIBJUEhKUT09>.

Present: Mayor Nakanishi, Mayor Pro Tempore Chandler, Council Member Kuehne, Council Member Khan, Council Member Hothi, City Manager Schwabauer, City Attorney Magdich, and City Clerk Cusmir

Absent: None

Also Present: None

B. Topic(s)

B-1 Provide Direction on the City of Lodi's Priorities for the use of Federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Funding (CM)

Deputy City Manager Andrew Keys provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Specific topics of discussion included programs, services, and projects that are eligible for funding, local government allocation, revenue loss replacement plan, FY 2020-2021 unfunded reserve allocations, total funds for the City plan, a proposed plan for the community, and funded and unfunded priorities.

The City of Lodi expects to receive approximately \$16.1 million of American Rescue Plan Act 2021 funding.

Deputy City Manager Keys addressed questions asked by the City Council regarding lost revenue for various City Departments.

Mayor Nakanishi commented that the federal government is considering offering additional small business relief to individuals, not through cities. Mayor Nakanishi stated that he does not support offering incentives for testing and vaccinations, but he believes the City should invest in vaccinating citizens at a facility.

Deputy City Manager Keys responded to questions asked by Council Member Khan regarding the timing for construction of the Navigation Center/Low Bar Shelter project and fund requirements.

Council Member Kuehne asked about the potential cost listed for the Navigation Center/Low Bar Shelter. City Manager Schwabauer stated the project would be a phased project and the potential cost included in the presentation would be the cost of the initial phase. The project may be expanded in the future.

Council Member Kuehne noted that the federal government is expected to provide additional funding for small businesses and stated that he supports focusing on projects 6 and 7 on the list, Navigation Center/Low Bar Shelter and City Wide Homeless Cleanup. Council Member Kuehne

said that he needs more details about projects number 5 and 8, Utility Debt Relief and Broadband Infrastructure. Council Member Kuehne said that he also supports projects number 9 and 10 addressing affordable housing and funding unforeseen needs in the Library and Parks and Recreation. Council Member Kuehne said that he does not support funding testing and vaccine incentives.

In response to an inquiry made by Mayor Nakanishi, City Manager Schwabauer explained that the law is such that the City is not able to enforce anti-camping ordinances unless the City can show that there is a location for individuals who are homeless and camping to stay at no charge. City Manager Schwabauer stated that there is some public concern about building the Navigation Center. City Manager Schwabauer said that all of the jurisdictions in San Joaquin County are working on this issue. The City does not have the authority to change the current State and federal laws regarding the issue and the Navigation Center/Low Bar Shelter would allow for the City to start to address the homeless issue and give people who are camping in parks a place to go.

Mayor Nakanishi stated that he supports the investment in the Navigation Center/Low Bar Shelter project and the City Wide Homeless Cleanup.

Council Member Hothi stated that he supports incentivizing testing and vaccinations, small business grants, and utility debt relief. Council Member Hothi spoke about supporting downtown businesses and outdoor recreation activities.

Police Chief Bruscia explained that the Highway 99 homeless cleanup would be a different project, in response to questions asked by Mayor Pro Tempore Chandler regarding the City Wide Homeless Cleanup project.

Council Member Khan stated that he supports projects number 6 and 7 based on feedback from the public. Council Member Khan asked if any of the relief funding can be used to install sidewalks.

Deputy City Manager Key answered that, based on his understanding, the sidewalk infrastructure project will not be eligible for funding. City Manager Schwabauer explained how other funding may be made available for sidewalks.

Mayor Pro Tempore Chandler spoke in favor of funding the Broadband Infrastructure project.

C. Comments by Public on Non-Agenda Items

Dennis and Susie Harrison provided public comment, via email, regarding the possibility of playing music in the downtown area to deter homeless individuals from gathering in front of businesses. City Clerk Cusmir read the email into the record.

D. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 a.m.

ATTEST:

Jennifer Cusmir
City Clerk