

**LODI CITY COUNCIL
SHIRTSLEEVE SESSION
CARNEGIE FORUM, 305 WEST PINE STREET
TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 2021**

A. Roll Call by City Clerk

An Informal Informational Meeting ("Shirtsleeve" Session) of the Lodi City Council was held Tuesday, March 30, 2021, commencing 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 meeting was available for viewing by the public via livestream at <https://www.facebook.com/CityofLodi/> and <https://zoom.us/j/93455719476?pwd=NDdhc1E4OEZyYWV3d2pDY1U5SjVZZz09>; the opportunity for public comment was available through councilcomments@lodi.gov and <https://zoom.us/j/93455719476?pwd=NDdhc1E4OEZyYWV3d2pDY1U5SjVZZz09>.

Present: Council Member Hothi, Council Member Khan, Council Member Kuehne, Mayor Pro Tempore Chandler, and Mayor Nakanishi

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager Schwabauer, City Attorney Magdich, and City Clerk Cusmir

B. Topic(s)

B-1 Presentation of Draft Grow in Lodi Development Prospectus (CM)

Business Development Manager Astrida Trupovnieks provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Grow in Lodi - a Development Prospectus. Specific topics of discussion included Executive Summary; prospectus content; Lodi development by the numbers - top business indicators and quality of life; employment breakdown; catalytic investments - industrial sector, Downtown retail and restaurants, Downtown offices, areas of City (northeast, east, and south), hospitality, and residential; market strengths; catalytic development opportunities - community college, affordable housing, key undeveloped sites, and business incubator for wine grape, food, and ag tech industry; Opportunity Zone (OZ) tax incentives; geography of OZ; geography of low and moderate income areas; housing geography of Lodi Development Zones; other development incentives for investors; opportunities in OZ; and recommendations to sustain business and stimulate growth.

Pat Patrick, President and CEO, Lodi Chamber of Commerce, provided public comment. Mr. Patrick commended the City on hiring Business Development Manager Trupovnieks and spoke about the Chamber's investment in a website, www.growinlodi.com, used to market Lodi to businesses in the Bay Area. Mr. Patrick also spoke about direct marketing campaigns highlighting the benefits of doing business in Lodi. Mr. Patrick spoke about the role of the Chamber and its relationship with the City.

Lisa Craig, member of the Lodi Chamber of Commerce and small business owner, provided public comment. Ms. Craig supported comments made by Mr. Patrick. Ms. Craig's family owns the Kettleman Station site and encouraged Council to focus on businesses already in Lodi and build on those businesses. Ms. Craig provided statistics on the employment business opportunities in Lodi. Ms. Craig spoke about the importance of technical trades. Ms. Craig spoke about the challenges associated with business incubators. Ms. Craig spoke about the Opportunity Zones and the tax credits that are not being utilized.

Council Member Khan spoke about the importance of being a "business friendly" city.

Mayor Pro Tempore Chandler stated that he would like to see more resources made available in the Community Development Department to assist businesses.

Council Member Kuehne said that there may be some issues that the City can address to help support new businesses and developers.

Council Member Hothi spoke about the Chamber's Grow in Lodi virtual tour and spoke in support of being creative and innovative to attract businesses.

Mayor Nakanishi spoke about the opportunity for development on the east side of the City.

C. Comments by Public on Non-Agenda Items

Mark Armstrong, General Manager, Lodi Grape Festival, provided public comment via email regarding the homeless individuals sleeping and congregating in Lawrence Park. City Clerk Cusmir read the email into the record.

D. Adjournment

No action was taken by the City Council. The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 a.m.

ATTEST:

Jennifer Cusmir
City Clerk