



CITY OF CARSON
MINUTES
CARSON CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 21, 2020
7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Albert Robles via Zoom Teleconference.

ROLL CALL:

City Clerk Donesia Gause-Aldana noted the roll:

Council Members Present via Zoom Teleconference:

Mayor Albert Robles, Mayor Pro Tem Jim Dear, Council Member Lula Davis-Holmes, Council Member Jawane Hilton, and Council Member Cedric Hicks.

Also Present via Zoom Teleconference:

Monica Cooper, City Treasurer; Sharon Landers, City Manager; Sunny Soltani, City Attorney; David Roberts, Assistant City Manager; John Raymond, Assistant City Manager; Saied Naaseh, Director of Community Development; Faye Moseley, Director of Human Resources and Risk Management; and Tarik Rahmani, Director of Finance

Mayor Pro Tem Dear noted he did not receive notice of the special meeting and waives his right for noticing.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FOR MATTERS LISTED ON THE AGENDA (MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC)

City Clerk Gause-Aldana presented the following public comments:

Antonio - Email

Offered comments in support of item; Inquired about the following: 1) What is the vision/plan to reopen Carson economy; 2) Carson residents lost their jobs due to this pandemic, how is the City Council working with the private/public sector to retrain Carson residents so they can be ready once the local economy opens; and 3) What is the shape of our city budget and reserves as of right now?

I. Dacus - Email

Inquired about the following: 1) Why now when there is a drive-thru resource in the area; 2) Will this testing entity be completely independent of the Carson Council and staff, i.e. funding and

oversight; 3) Who will be responsible for making sure the entity meets the criteria to provide testing services, noted a drive-thru site was closed because of this; 4) Are you trying to open this drive-thru in the very immediate future or will you wait to review data from the Harbor UCLA experience; and 5) What hospitals will work with this site if needed; noted having a business license in another city and the business community receives regular emails from the mayor with updates and city partnership with other entities. In addition, the Council should be more thoughtful regarding all expenditures, consider a moratorium on some expenditure, and new expenses should not be incurred.

DISCUSSION: (Item 1)

Item No. 1. 2020-258 CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A DRIVE-THRU COVID-19 TESTING SITE AT THE JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD COMMUNITY CENTER IN THE CITY OF CARSON (CITY COUNCIL)

Recommendation: DISCUSS and PROVIDE direction.

ACTION: Discussion was held and direction was provided to staff as follows:

Mayor Robles offered comments expressing the need for a testing site in Carson. He noted the proposed vendor will provide free tests for all City of Carson residents at no cost to the city.

Mayor Pro Tem Dear inquired about the name of the vendor. Mayor Robles responded US Health Fairs.

Motion

It was moved to approve a drive-thru COVID-19 testing site at the Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald Community Center on motion of Dear, seconded by Hilton.

During discussion of the motion, Council Member Hilton spoke about his excitement of establishing a testing site in Carson.

Assistant City Manager Roberts gave a staff report. Swab Testing will take place by appointment only through the city's online registration system.

Mayor Pro Tem Dear inquired about health insurance billing. Staff addressed his question.

Mayor Pro Tem Dear offered a friendly amendment to his motion to make testing available to people who work in Carson after Carson employees and Carson residents have been served which was accepted by the seconder of the motion.

Mayor Robles offered a friendly amendment to offer time slots not taken up by City Employees, Carson residents and those that work in Carson to make them available for anyone interested to be tested which was accepted by the maker and seconder of the motion.

Council Member Davis-Holmes inquired about the medical provider's ability to have results back within a 24-hour timeframe. She also inquired about how the Grab and Go program will work simultaneous with the testing site.

Staff addressed her inquiry, noting the Sheriff and Task Force vetted and approved a traffic plan map.

Discussion ensued between staff and City Council about the need for fourteen volunteers who are needed on a daily basis from 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., Monday through Friday.

Council Member Davis-Holmes inquired about repurposing city employees. City Manager Landers noted that she has been in communication with employees who would like to come back to work.

Mayor Pro Tem Dear inquired if staff who were deemed nonessential may be brought back and repurposed for the testing site. City Manager Landers addressed his inquiry.

Council Member Hicks inquired about protocols that will be in place for residents testing positive and how are residents handled that do not have insurance. In addition, he asked if staff have been in communication with Harbor UCLA notifying them of the potential increase of volume in patient care and of the days the additional testing will take place.

Assistant City Manager Roberts addressed Council Member Hicks's inquiry.

Mayor Pro Tem Dear inquired if the vendor has the capability to do antibody testing. Staff addressed his inquiry.

Mayor Robles directed staff to prepare for a press conference Thursday, April 23, 2020.

Vote on motion

The motion was unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Mayor Robles, Mayor Pro Tem Dear, Council Member Davis-Holmes, Council Member Hilton and Council Member Hicks
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (COUNCIL MEMBERS) – None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 P.M. by Mayor Robles.

Mayor Albert Robles

ATTEST:

City Clerk Donesia Gause-Aldana