

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Nikki Bufford called the study session to order at 6:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers David M. Viafore, Shannon Reynolds, Brett L. Wittner, Karen Mauer-Smith, Hunter T. George, and Joe Barrentine were present.

Councilmember Shannon Reynolds attended the meeting virtually.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

There were none.

CITY COUNCIL/PLANNING COMMISSION JOINT MEETING TOPICS

City Manager Masko briefed the Council on the upcoming Joint City Council and Planning Commission meeting and highlighted that it provides direction to the Planning Commission as it develops its work plan.

The current Planning Commission 2026-2027 work plan contains ongoing housing legislation from the State Legislature. At their January 2026 meeting, the Planning Commission identified several topics for discussion at the joint meeting, including the 2026 Comprehensive Plan Amendment, STEP Housing, design review relating to Middle Housing legislation, and traffic calming measures. City Manager Masko clarified that traffic calming measures may not formally come before the Planning Commission, but were identified as a topic of interest for discussion. She also noted that the Whittier Elementary School Replacement Project should be included as a discussion topic. City Manager Masko requested Council feedback to identify additional topics they would like included in the joint meeting or to remove from the list.

Council discussions included current design protections to maintain Fircrest standards; inviting the City's planning consultants to provide technical expertise; current staff workload; financial constraints related to deficit spending concerns; and creating new work plans. There was a consensus to discuss the 2026 Comprehensive Plan Amendment Window and STEP Housing, Design Review relating to Middle Housing, Traffic Calming Solutions, and the Whittier Elementary School Replacement Project.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Viafore MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 6:11 P.M., seconded by Councilmember Mauer-Smith.

The Motion Carried (7-0).



Nikki Bufford, Mayor



Arlette Burkhardt, City Clerk