

**REGULAR ADJOURNED/STUDY SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF COSTA MESA**

**April 10, 2012**

The City Council of the City of Costa Mesa, California met in a regular Study Session on Tuesday, April 10, 2012 at 4:30 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, 77 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa. The meeting was called to order by the Mayor.

**ROLL CALL:**

Council Members Present: Mayor Eric R. Bever  
Mayor Pro Tem James M. Righeimer  
Council Member Wendy Leece  
Council Member Stephen M. Mensinger  
Council Member Gary Monahan

Council Members Absent: None

Officials Present: CEO Thomas R. Hatch  
Assistant CEO Rick Francis  
City Attorney Thomas Duarte  
Economic Develop Dir./Deputy CEO Peter Naghavi  
Transportation Services Manager Raja Sethuraman  
Interim Development Services Dir. Khanh Nguyen  
Public Affairs Manager Bill Lobdell  
Police Chief Tom Gazsi  
Contract Administrator Robert Staples  
Acting Deputy City Clerk Christine Cordon

**PUBLIC COMMENTS (00:00:29)**

No public comments.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

“Celebrate Costa Mesa” Photo Contest Winners Recognition (00:00:58)

Public Affairs Manager Bill Lobdell presented a slideshow of the winning photos in each category for the inaugural “Celebrate Costa Mesa” photo contest. Mayor Bever thanked the contest participants and winners.

Orange Coast River Parks (OCRP) Presentation (00:06:46)

CEO Tom Hatch introduced this item and Orange Coast River Parks Board Member Gary Gorman presented a slideshow providing background on the formation of the

Orange Coast River Parks (OCRP) and their efforts to bring agencies together to create wildlife areas open for the public. Mr. Gorman presented plans to partner with the City for open space, nature preserves and access improvements for Fairview Park.

Council Member Wendy Leece asked questions about the Huntington Beach property location, Santa Ana Watershed, and the Fairview Park project. Mr. Gorman confirmed the Huntington Beach property location, the Santa Ana Watershed project stretching into the San Bernardino Mountains, and the lower Santa Ana River as an area of concentration for the OCRP.

The City Council took no action on this item.

Employee of the Month (00:15:55)

The City Council reviewed one application submitted for Employee of the Month; a preference was indicated, absent any objection. Announcement of the Employee of the Month would be made at a subsequent City Council meeting.

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORTS, COMMENTS, AND SUGGESTIONS**

Mayor Pro Tem Righeimer commented on the cancelled special meeting, unfunded capitol improvement projects; the Charter as a financial tool; \$7.3 million in roadwork improvements to be spent in July, and the 10 to 27 percent that might have been saved with the Charter by outsourcing services; and the missed deadline for putting the Charter on the June ballot. (00:16:12)

Council Member Leece commented on the desire of the people of Costa Mesa for the City to put its finances in order and expressed concern about the vitriol and anger toward public employees, the previous employee agreements that were made to retain and attract the best and provide a good level of service to the community, the need to put aside both sides as the residents are caught in the middle and asked for respect for employees and residents making Costa Mesa a city where we honor and respect each other. (00:26:12)

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The Mayor adjourned the Study Session at 5:07 p.m.

---

Mayor of the City of Costa Mesa

ATTEST:

---

Acting Deputy City Clerk of the City of Costa Mesa