

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

May 17, 2012

The City Council of the City of Costa Mesa, California met in a Special Adjourned/Study Session on Thursday, May 17, 2012 at 4:30 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, 77 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa.

The meeting was called to order at 4:36 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Council Members Present: Mayor Pro Tem James M. Righeimer
Council Member Wendy Leece (arrived at 4:37 p.m.)
Council Member Stephen M. Mensinger
Council Member Gary Monahan

Council Members Absent: Mayor Eric R. Bever

Officials Present: City Chief Executive Officer Thomas R. Hatch
City Attorney Thomas Duarte
Deputy CEO/Economic & Develop Dir. Peter Naghavi
Public Services Director Ernesto Munoz
Public Affairs Manager Bill Lobdell
Police Chief Tom Gazsi
Interim Fire Chief Tom Arnold
Interim Deputy Fire Chief Steve Bunting
Battalion Chief Kevin Diamond
Acting Deputy City Clerk Christine Cordon
Executive Secretary Chris Goldsworthy

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Ernie Feeney, Costa Mesa, spoke about being billed for ambulance services and an increase in her insurance co-payment as a result, and expressed concerned for seniors who have limited income. (00:00:40)

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Fire Department Reorganization Plan (00:04:28)

CEO Hatch introduced this item as the Fire Department's preliminary reorganization plan and thanked Interim Fire Chief Tom Arnold, Interim Deputy Fire Chief Steve Bunting and Battalion Chief Kevin Diamond for gathering the information and putting together the presentation.

Interim Fire Chief Arnold presented an introduction to the plan and referred to this statement when considering the reorganization plan: "When a member of the community calls 911, they expect highly trained, well equipped, professional and compassionate emergency responders to arrive quickly and in sufficient numbers, to effectively deal with their crisis". Chief Arnold presented animated PowerPoint presentation showing current scenarios when members of the community call for fire or paramedic services. (00:05:59)

Interim Deputy Fire Chief Steve Bunting presented data on call types, total and types of runs, types of patients, population distribution, density and travel times. A model for a four minute travel time was presented. A composite for the city showing incident density and number of calls per square mile was presented. Deputy Chief Bunting indicated that currently, firefighters are able to arrive anywhere in the city within 8 minutes. (00:08:57)

Chief Arnold showed current deployment of personnel. The proposed reorganization plan depicted five fire stations, five medic stations and closing station 6 with restructuring of staffing. A response scenario using the reorganized plan was presented. Chief Arnold concluded the presentation stating that the reorganized plan will increase response units and improve efficiency. (00:25:49)

Chief Arnold, Deputy Chief Bunting and CEO Hatch responded to questions from Council Members regarding insurance rates, response time for emergency medical aid calls and fire rescue calls, traffic pre-emption, ambulance fees, purchase of vehicles and informal discussions with the Costa Mesa Fire association regarding contract terms.

The City Council took no action on this item.

2. Capital Improvement Budget Overview and Discussion (01:17:57)

CEO Hatch introduced this item as the second budget discussion focusing on the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). CEO Hatch noted that 10-15 percent of the budget would go toward capital projects, while providing services at a lower cost allowing the city more sustainability in the future.

Finance/IT Director Bobby Young presented an overview of the FY 2012-13 preliminary budget noting the development process for the capital improvement program, appropriations and revenues, the general fund summary. Mr. Young noted a capital improvement projects preliminary budget increase of 216.55 percent. (01:25:58)

Discussion ensued on grant funding for capital improvement projects, the Library Master Plan, the Fairview Park Master Plan, Sports Field Master Plan, IT upgrades,

the 900 Mhz System, the seven-year capital improvement plan, and financing for long term projects. (01:33:15)

Finance/IT Director Young, Public Services Director Munoz and CEO Hatch responded to questions from Council Members.

3. City's Master Drainage Plan Update (02:57:48)

This item was continued to the May 24, 2012 Special Study Session.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORTS, COMMENTS, AND SUGGESTIONS

None

ADJOURNMENT (02:57:58)

The Mayor Pro Tem adjourned the Special Study Session at 7:34 p.m.

Mayor of the City of Costa Mesa

ATTEST:

Acting Deputy City Clerk of the City of Costa Mesa