

Meeting Minutes
CITY/SCHOOLS LIAISON COMMITTEE

June 16, 2022 - 1:00 p.m.
Tracy City Hall
333 Civic Center Plaza
Conference Room 203
Tracy, CA 95376

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by Mayor Nancy Young.

ROLL CALL:

Nancy Young, City of Tracy
Rob Pecot, TUSD
Tania Salinas, TUSD
Brian MacDonald, City of Tracy
Luis Mejia, City of Tracy
Michael Rogers, City of Tracy
Tim Spears, SSCFA

Virginia Carney, City of Tracy
Anna Cross, City of Tracy
Michael Nimon, City of Tracy
Miguel Contreras, City of Tracy
Lauren Repetto, City of Tracy
Vinisha Cherukuri, City of Tracy
Sasha Lang, City of Tracy

Recorded By: Sheena Stephens, Executive Assistant to the City Manager, City of Tracy

2. **ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE:** None

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM:**

- The Regular Meeting Minutes were approved from February 17, 2022

4. **UPDATE ON TRACY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (TUSD) ITEMS**

- Rob Pecot, TUSD Superintendent gave the following updates:

Villalovoz Renovation – This was a project for the summer. High percentage of students entering summer school. Experiencing project delays, absent workers, materials. 80% of carpets are complete but library has delays. What was a summer project is turning into a fall/winter/spring project.

Solar Projects – Also running behind schedule. Unable to get steel. Looking to be completed by this fall – probably September.

Energy Savings Initiative – North School solar install was approved.

Preschool/TK/Full Day Kinder Facilities – Universal preschool transitioning to facility-wide and this is as if TUSD is getting a “new grade” in the system. Preparing all facilities. Experiencing massive teacher shortage and employee shortage. Concerned about high amount of teacher vacancies this year because started last year with open teacher positions that never filled throughout the year and in the

same position this school year. Areas like special education are harder to find teachers.

Michael Rogers asked about how many projected students are expected in this program.

Rob Pecot answered that due to phasing in this new program, they do not have a number of students that are expected.

Tania Salinas added that there are four TK classrooms.

Michael Rogers followed up asking if they will have the same school hours and Tania Salinas answered that they will have a full day of educational programming. Mayor young asked about how many sites and what a day consists of. Tania reiterated that there are four sites, and the hours are 8am to 2pm, depending on the number of breaks throughout the day.

Mayor Nancy Young asked about the teacher shortage and if emergency non-credentialed teachers are in place. Rob Pecot responded that the school district is back to a time like never before and considering applicants with a bachelor's degree as teachers without credentials for the time being due to the lack of credentialed teachers applying. Testing being waived not just in Tracy but the educational system as a whole. Rob Pecot reiterated that there is a mass shortage that has led to this system-wide decision.

Brian MacDonald asked if the solar project across the street from City Hall at the high school will allow the students to park there for free. Rob Pecot answered that yes, parking is available to kids.

Tim Spears with SSJCFA added that inspections for the 21/22 school year are currently getting wrapped up and looking to finish prior to the new school year. He also addressed firework concerns stating that they had a meeting with non-profits to address those concerns.

Report was accepted.

5. UPDATE ON CITY OF TRACY ITEMS

- Miguel Contreras, City of Tracy, Tracy Police Department Lieutenant gave the following update:

Update on the City of Tracy's Homelessness Initiatives – El Pescadero Park cleanup along side of Public Works. One of the goals was to provide education to those camping out and they are engaged in conversations with them and it is understood that November is the target month for the shelter and that the Multi Gen Rec Center will be there at that park later on.

Michael Rogers asked if many of them plan on going to the shelter site and Miguel Contreras answered that yes, some of them are and that PD continues to impress upon them that they need to start making plans now and some are looking forward to the resources that may be available there even if they decide not to stay at the shelter.

Miguel Contreras continued stating that the ordinance regarding the homeless population in city parks is being reviewed by the City Attorney's Office. He also added that PD is working with HR in reviewing the Homeless Outreach Coordinator position because they want to establish trust between the City and the unsheltered. The Homeless Outreach Coordinator will also have a vehicle to assist with transporting to the shelter.

Virginia Carney also added information about the Homelessness Initiatives stating she had Vanessa Carrera on the line to help answer questions. Virginia shared that the groundbreaking ceremony took place last week at the temporary shelter site and it was a great turnout. Currently have a request for proposals for operators of the facility and by the end of the month will have a good idea of who will be considered for selection.

Mayor Nancy Young asked about a newsletter update regarding the shelter and Vanessa Carrera answered stating that one is currently underway and will be shared today or next week.

Brian MacDonald shared that they are looking to finalize the location of the Multi-Gen Rec Center and will present to City Council the results that include over 100 signatures that recommend El Pescadero Park as the location. There was negative feedback received about the previous location. The pivot to a new location came about after the Temporary Homeless Shelter Site was made which allowed El Pescadero Park to be considered. There was a community workshop in April and 120+ residents that attended it at North School.

- Youth Employment and Empowerment Program Business plan – Michael Nimon, Economic Development Manager, gave the following update:

There is a draft business plan in place. Building on the Hire Me First program and want to expand the program. Michael Nimon stated all input and ideas are welcome. Looking forward to partnering with the school district.

Brian MacDonald, Parks and Recreation Director introduced the interns that were assigned to his department. He covered that there were 44 applicants to the summer intern program for 10 openings in the City of Tracy. Looking to share the school district to expand the program next year. He advised where the 10 students are located during their internship.

Michael Rogers added that the internship is a part of the Mayor's Summer Youth Program that is being brought forward and iterated the importance of this program for the community and City. Exposure to students so they can understand the job opportunities in the public sector, especially in Tracy, is important and the program supports that.

- STEM Program – Michael Rogers, Tracy City Manager, gave the following update:

Would like to partner with TUSD to collaborate on this program. Mayor Young added that she is working alongside the City Manager with this program and attended the San Joaquin Ag program at the fairgrounds along with Jefferson School District. She is looking for the City and the school districts to be partners in the effort to create a

STEM program beyond the agricultural program (4H), to include other technologies that are a part of STEM.

Anna Cross, Cultural Arts Manager, added that they can have an art outreach program for next school year, to meet art professionals that are established in their careers. Possible workshop opportunities and field trips for schools. The upcoming art walk is an opportunity for students to display their artwork. She offered that if her program could be of help in any way, they are more than willing to do so.

- City Manager Michael Rogers added that the crosswalks near schools are being refreshed. He asked the school to send any recommendations such as refreshing sidewalks near schools to make it safer for the next school year, to please share. There is an agreement that is looking to be set up for crossing guards to help keep kids safe getting across streets to school.

Report was accepted.

7. **ADJOURNMENT** - Meeting was adjourned at 1:48 p.m.