



5:30 p.m.

SPECIAL MEETING – EMERGENCY OPERATIONS TRAINING

The Council received an emergency operations training per adopted Albany Emergency Operations Plan 2018.

7:30 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Barnes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members Barnes, Maass, and Pilch, Vice Mayor Nason, Mayor McQuaid

Absent: None

3. CEREMONIAL MATTERS

3-1. Mayor's Statement – Thousand Oaks Shooting

Mayor McQuaid read the following statement:

Only a few days after the horrific shooting in Pittsburgh, another mass shooting occurred in Thousand Oaks, California. I couldn't write a Mayor's statement right away as I felt there was nothing left to say. I have written far too many of these in my two years as Mayor.

I heard a news anchor comment, "if you weren't actively doing something to prevent this violence, don't say you are sorry, don't send thoughts, don't send prayers - you don't really care," and this really resonated with me. I thought, "what can we do?"

A week ago Sunday, I attended the kickoff rally for United Against Hate Week. Listening to the speakers, young and not so young, I felt a spark of hope. The students from Berkeley High School sharing information about their green dot anti-bullying program; Singh Kaleka, a member of the Oak Creek, Wisconsin, Sikh Temple whose father was murdered during the 2012 attack, speaking together with Arno Michaelis, a former neo Nazi, about how together they sent the message that love can overcome hate; the beautiful poetry by Samuel Getachew, Oakland's Junior Poet Laureate; the wisdom of Reverend Buford talking about human rights, all came together with the Bay Area community to remind us that together we can stand up against hate.

We must build a culture of peace and understanding; a culture of respect. This comes from our daily interactions with each other, conversations with family, friends and coworkers. It comes from smiling at or speaking a kind word to a stranger. It comes from civil discourse, an ability to disagree without being disagreeable. It comes from taking care of one another. This must be a lifelong commitment from each one of us to recognize our shared humanity, to reach out and to help those in need and to stand up to those facing hate.



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Just as we don't know what tragedies are prevented by strong firearms legislation, we will probably never know if our positive interactions will prevent a tragedy. Who knows if the next shooter, unknown to anyone, will find hope and help among friends or through a stranger's kindness? Who knows if kindness can really overcome alienation, anger, and loneliness? But isn't it worth the effort to find out, to try?

3-2. Mayor's Statement – California Wildfires

Mayor McQuaid read the following statement:

The City of Albany sends our heartfelt condolences to all those who have lost family, friends, homes, or businesses in the ongoing wildland fires ravaging California. This disaster strikes close to home as a member of our fire department lost his home as did several City recent retirees.

A strike team from the Albany Fire Department has joined other brave men and women on the fire lines in Northern California. We send all of them our gratitude for a job well done and wish them a speedy and safe return to Albany and to their homes wherever they may be. I understand they're back safely.

Albany is not immune to the risk of wildland fire or other disasters. The City is committed to both short and long-term disaster preparedness, and we recognize the heightened concern of our residents at this time. We have recently updated our Emergency Operations Plans as well as Hazardous Mitigation Plans to increase our ability to both plan for and respond to emergencies, and we will continue to share information about these plans and their implementation. We are committed to strengthening our ability to respond and increasing our capacity to support our community in the event of any disaster.

The Fire Department website has good information on disaster preparedness, if you go to the website, to the Fire Department page <https://www.albanyca.org/departments/fire-department/disaster-preparedness>.

The next Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) will begin in the spring of 2019. Completion of this class not only helps you prepare your family, it also strengthens our City's ability to become more resilient during and after a disaster. I recently attended the final exam of the current CERT class, which included victims dripping "blood" and with "impaled objects" strategically placed. This amazing group of community members will be ready and able to help in the event of a disaster, and I hope more of you decide to take future classes. Thank you all for your commitment to this community.

Each of us has a role to play in keeping our City safe and to care for each other before, during, and after a disaster. Let's work together to ensure we have the tools and knowledge necessary for this Herculean task.



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3-3. Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Graduation

Mayor McQuaid thanked participants and their families for dedicating time to the classes and CERT Instructor Michael Raab for teaching CERT classes because disaster preparedness is a matter of survival during and immediately following an event and into the future. CERT volunteers' training and service will make the difference in how the City comes through a crisis. CERT volunteers will respond to their families and their neighborhoods by providing first aid, fighting fires, and rescuing people. Mayor McQuaid, Fire Chief Lance Calkins, and CERT Instructor/Program Manager Raab presented graduates with certificates and pins.

4. REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION, IF ANY

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

5-1. Minutes, November 5, 2018

Staff recommendation: Approve

5-2. Ratification of Payrolls - Payroll Period: 11/09/2018; Net Payroll: \$303,841.05; Taxes, Benefits, Withholdings: \$299,115.80; Total: \$602,956.85

Staff recommendation: Ratify

5-3. Ratification of Bills, Claims and Demands - Ratification of bills, claims and demands against the City of Albany in the amount of \$79,655.31 (11/2/18), \$167,030.30 (11/9/18)

Staff recommendation: Ratify

5-4. Letter of Opposition – Federal Communications Commission's Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FNPRM)

Mayor McQuaid recommendation: that the Council note and file the letter as submitted

5-5. Resolution No. 2018-133, Accepting donation from Donald Morris to the Police Department

Staff recommendation: that the Council adopt Resolution No. 2018-133, accepting the donation funds from Donald and Lynn Morris to the Police Department in the amount of \$1,000 and authorize the City Manager to execute necessary documents on behalf of the City to confirm receipt of the bequest

5-6. Amendment to the County of Alameda and the City of Albany 2011 Emergency Medical Services First Responder Advanced Life Support and Ambulance Agreement

Staff recommendation: that the Council adopt Resolution No. 2018-134 approving a rate increase that equals the private ambulance transport rates



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Mayor McQuaid asked if anyone wishes to remove an item from the consent calendar. Mayor McQuaid removed Item 5-5.

Item 5-5: Mayor McQuaid thanked Donald and Lynn Morris for their generous donation to the Albany Police Department.

MOTION:

Moved by Council Member Pilch, seconded by Vice Mayor Nason, to approve the consent calendar.

AYES: Council Members Barnes, Maass, and Pilch, Vice Mayor Nason, Mayor McQuaid

NOES: None

The motion carries and is so ordered.

6. GOOD OF THE CITY/PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor McQuaid opened the Good of the City.

The following persons spoke: Brian Beall, Brian Parsley, Jeremiah, Tom Thomas, Janet Linn, Deepak Sharma.

A summary of the comments is as follows: congratulations to Mayor McQuaid and Vice Mayor Nason on their re-election, and a recommendation for Council Member Pilch to be the next Mayor; a suggestion for the Council to consider the City paying candidate's filing fee in exchange for the candidate adhering to the campaign finance limit of \$6,000 or allowing a Candidate to exceed the \$6,000 limit and pay the filing fee; appreciation for the strike team deployed to the Camp Fire, crossing signs on San Pablo, and school crossing guards; a request for additional police patrols and possibly additional closed-circuit cameras along Pierce Street near Gateview because of vehicle break-ins.

7. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS ON STATE/REGIONAL LOCAL MEETINGS ATTENDED AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF FUTURE MEETINGS/CITY MANAGER REPORT/COMMENTS

Council Member Maass reported he attended a JPA meeting regarding a clubhouse for the soccer fields and amending the JPA agreement; a Housing Authority of Alameda County meeting where he learned rental rates in Alameda County have decreased 10 percent; a Waste Management Board meeting to set priorities; the Alameda County Transportation Commission's Programs and Projects Committee meeting regarding the bikeway between the Lake Merritt BART station and Fremont; and the Mayor's conference.

Council Member Pilch reported he attended the United Against Hate Week film; an East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) meeting; and the Mayor's conference.

Mayor McQuaid reported she attended the United Against Hate Week rally and film; a Chamber mixer; and an art opening at Belmont Village. Vice Mayor Nason and Mayor McQuaid attended the League of Women Voters' panel on housing and the Mayor's conference.

City Manager Nicole Almaguer reported members of the public can register to receive Alameda County emergency alerts through the City's website. Water bottle filling stations have been installed in Memorial and Terrace Parks, and the remaining stations will be installed over the next



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few months. A CERT community meeting is scheduled for November 27. Sand to fill sandbags are available for residents at Ocean View Park. Residents needing assistance with filling sandbags should contact the Neighborhood Services Coordinator. The next rent review workshop is scheduled for December 11. The City has retained Annemarie Heineman as part-time Neighborhood Services Coordinator beginning December 4.

8. PRESENTATION

9. PUBLIC HEARING

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

11. NEW BUSINESS

11-1. Encroachment Permit for Bus Stop/Parklet at 1116 Solano Ave. (Mr. Dewie's Cashew Creamery)

Traffic & Safety Commission recommendation: that the Council direct staff to issue the encroachment permit for 1116 Solano Ave. (Mr. Dewie's Cashew Creamer)

Staff recommendation: that the Council adopt Resolution No. 2018-135 directing staff to issue the encroachment permit for a new bus stop/parklet at 1116 Solano Avenue

Planning Manager Anne Hersch presented the staff report. The City Council approved an encroachment permit application for AC Transit to relocate the 72 route bus stop to the north side of San Pablo and Solano and the 18 route bus stop to the south side of Solano Avenue at Kains Avenue. Relocating the 18 route bus stop will result in the loss of four on-street parking spaces whether or not a parklet is approved. The applicant is proposing to construct a bus stop/parklet in the public right-of-way and has been working with a licensed landscape architect, who has experience designing and building parklets. The parklet design includes a bus stop component with sail shades, benches, and planters and a café seating component open to the sidewalk with a planter buffer on the street side. The design is conceptual and will likely be refined. The trash cans will be relocated, and bicycle racks will be installed. The existing café seating will remain. The project is consistent with AC Transit's guidelines for bus stops. The project will be privately financed in its entirety. Maintenance of the bus stop/parklet will be the responsibility of the applicant. The 18 bus stops every 15 minutes for a duration of approximately 15 seconds. The subject bus stop will be in-lane, meaning the bus will obstruct traffic; however, the in-lane stop provides a safer and more expeditious stop. Four stops in an hour is not expected to significantly impact vehicle backup.

The Traffic & Safety Commission reviewed the project on October 25 and voted 4-0 to forward a recommendation to the Council to direct staff to issue an encroachment permit. The Police Department recommended the benches have arms to prevent people from lying on them. The Fire Department has not provided comments regarding the project, but staff does not expect significant comments from the Fire Department. With Council approval of the encroachment permit, the applicant will have to formally file for a building permit plan check. The building permit and the encroachment permit could be issued concurrently. The curb will be painted red in early



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2019 for relocation of the bus stop. Should the applicant cease support for the parklet, another business could assume responsibility for the parklet or the parklet could be removed.

The following persons spoke: Brian Beall, Preston Jordan, Jeremiah, Brian Parsley.

A summary of the comments is as follows: support for the parklet; suggestions for bike racks to be located within view of tables and for the bus component entryway to be shifted away from the light standard/clock; support for bollards, non-metal benches, fixed tables and chairs, and improved safety for tree wells; a suggestion for staff to observe traffic flow and bus movement through the bus stop prior to building the parklet.

A summary of Council comments is as follows: people with mobility issues may have difficulty navigating the fixtures in the bulb-out; in the winter, the parklet will not be sunny; the design should prevent rat infestation; bollards may be necessary; support for some type of shelter for bus passengers; a maintenance agreement should specify the party responsible for the cost of removing the parklet; planter corners and bench seats should be curved; seating should not block the sidewalk; the agreement should provide the City with the greatest possible control of the parklet; the parklet should be cohesive with the streetscape; the agreement should require the parklet to be built to a standard such that the City can maintain the parklet if the business changes or ceases to operate; parklets around the City should be similar but reflect the street on which each is located.

MOTION:

Moved by Council Member Pilch, seconded by Council Member Maass, to adopt Resolution No. 2018-135 directing staff to issue the encroachment permit for a new bus stop/parklet at 1116 Solano Avenue.

AYES: Council Members Barnes, Maass, and Pilch, Vice Mayor Nason, Mayor McQuaid

NOES: None

The motion carries and is so ordered.

11-2. Solano Avenue Complete Streets Planning Project – Status Update and Possible Back-In Angle Parking Demonstration

Traffic & Safety Commission recommendation: that the Council endorse a demonstration of back-in angle parking and charge the Traffic & Safety Commission to oversee the details of a demonstration project

Staff recommendation: that the Council provide direction on back-in angle parking. If the Council would like to authorize a demonstration project, staff recommends that it be under a separate contract and separate timeline from the Solano Avenue Complete Streets Plan planning process.

Planning Manager Hersch presented the staff report. The City received a Caltrans grant for the preparation of the Solano Avenue Complete Streets Plan. Staff selected a consultant in January and began planning efforts in March. The plan will focus on serving a wide range of users and will consider street lighting, landscaping, intersection alignment, signal modernization, sidewalk improvements, on-street parking management, bus stops, storm water systems, and public art. Staff has discussed plan objectives with a community advisory group and obtained the group's



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feedback regarding the preliminary details. Staff held a corridor walk and partnered with Flowerland for a demonstration pop-up event. The pop-up garnered quite a bit of input from Albany residents and corridor users. The consultant is preparing a draft plan, and Staff expects to receive a draft after the first of the year. Back-in angle parking has been discussed by the community advisory group, the Planning & Zoning Commission, and the Traffic & Safety Commission and will be included in the plan. The current conceptual plan increases parking by nine spaces. Staff will present the draft plan to the Planning & Zoning Commission and the Traffic & Safety Commission before presenting it to the Council in February. Under the grant, the plan must be approved and adopted by the end of April 2019.

According to the consultant, back-in angle parking is feasible where front-in angle parking exists. Based on the current configuration of Solano Avenue, back-in angle parking could be a part of design and infrastructure upgrades. Back-in angle parking does not require a large infrastructure investment and can be changed because it is basically paint on the street. Bulb-outs could be changed in the future to accommodate back-in angle parking. The Council received two emails regarding back-in angle parking the day of the meeting. Staff has received suggestions for a demonstration of back-in angle parking. The \$14,000 cost of a one-day pop-up demonstration exceeds the remaining funds for the project. If the Council is interested in a demonstration, staff recommends a demonstration project be separate from the Complete Streets project and separate from the Caltrans grant agreement.

The following persons spoke: Harry Chomsky, Preston Jordan, Brian Beall, Peter Campbell, Brian Parsley.

A summary of the comments is as follows: the Council should consider back-in angle parking as a safety improvement for motorists and bicyclists; because most of the cost is fixed, a demonstration project should extend for more than one day; the angle of parking could affect the design of the Complete Streets project; opposition to a demonstration because of the cost of the project and the novelty and difficulty of backing into a parking space.

A summary of Council comments is as follows: existing bulb-outs along Solano may create problems with reversing the angle of parking; loading and unloading goods from a vehicle's trunk may be safer with back-in parking; support for backstops for both front-in and back-in parking; support for a demonstration project extending over several weeks or months; the Complete Streets project may be too advanced to incorporate back-in angle parking; perhaps back-in angle parking can be included in the Strategic Plan; opposition to a demonstration project; support for a longer demonstration project at another location in Albany; most people prefer front-in angle parking; street sweepers cannot remove trash and debris behind backstops; sides of cars are not designed to withstand low-speed impacts, and the cost of repairs are expensive; to improve safety, bicyclists should travel streets other than Solano; the community needs to be educated prior to implementing back-in parking on Solano Avenue; a suggestion for a 6-12-month demonstration project on Portland between Ramona and Carmel so that the community can learn to use back-in parking and staff can obtain input from the business community; a demonstration project would have to include directional signage; support for obtaining data from the community.

City Manager Almaguer reported staff would proceed with the Solano Avenue Complete Streets Planning project as is and incorporate back-in angle parking into the City Council's Strategic Plan discussion.



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12. OTHER BUSINESS, ANNOUNCEMENT OF EVENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

12-1. Upcoming City Events

Albany CERT Community Meeting, Tuesday, November 27, 2018, 7 PM – 8:30 PM,
Albany Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

Sandbag Filling Assistance Day, Saturday, December 1, 2018, 10 AM – 1 PM, Ocean
View Park

12-2. Upcoming City Meetings

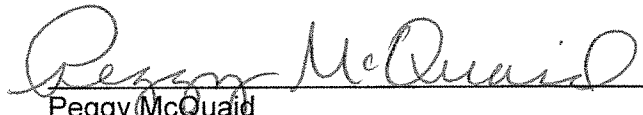
Planning & Zoning Commission, Wednesday, November 28, 7 PM, City Hall Council
Chambers

City Council Meeting, Monday, December 3, 7:30 PM, City Hall Council Chambers

13. ADJOURNMENT

9:53 p.m. There being no further business before the City Council, Mayor McQuaid adjourned the meeting in memory of those who lost their lives in the Chicago shooting, the Thousand Oaks shooting, and California wildfires.

Minutes submitted by Anne Hsu, City Clerk.



Peggy McQuaid
Mayor

Attest:



Anne Hsu, City Clerk