

# NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

## ATASCADERO CITY COUNCIL

Friday, February 21, 2025, 6:00 P.M.  
Saturday, February 22, 2025, 9:00 A.M.

City Hall – Council Chambers  
6500 Palma Avenue, Atascadero  
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# Goal Setting Workshop MINUTES

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2025, 6:00 P.M.

Mayor Bourbeau called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

#### **ROLL CALL:**

- Present: Council Members Funk, Peek, Mayor Pro Tem Dariz, and Mayor Bourbeau
- Absent: Council Member Newsom
- Others Present: None
- Staff Present: City Manager Jim Lewis, Deputy City Manager/City Clerk Lara Christensen, Administrative Services Director/City Treasurer Jeri Rangel, Community Development Director Phil Dunsmore, Community Services and Promotions Director Terrie Banish, Fire Chief Casey Bryson, Police Chief Dan Suttles, Public Works Director Nick DeBar, Deputy City Manager – IT Luke Knight, and Deputy Director of Economic & Community Development Loreli Cappel

#### **COUNCIL WORKSHOP – STRATEGIC PLANNING**

*Council Member Newsom arrived at 6:01 p.m.*

#### **1. Welcome, Opening Comments, Exercise**

After brief introductions and an overview of the meeting, City Manager Lewis led the Council

and staff through an exercise to identify expectations for the Workshop and to identify areas of accomplishment and excitement both past in the future.

## 2. Public Comment

The following members of the public were present and gave comment throughout the meeting:  
Geoff Auslen

## 3. Attributes of High Performing Cities/Councils

City Manager Lewis led the Council and staff through a self-assessment exercise to identify what Council Members and staff are doing well and how that aligns with the attributes of high performing cities/councils. A copy of the article “Attributes of Exceptional Councils” was provided to the Council (Exhibit A).

***Mayor Bourbeau recessed the meeting at 7:24 p.m.***

***Mayor Bourbeau reconvened the meeting with all present at 7:31 p.m.***

## 4. Review of Council Norms

Deputy City Manager/City Clerk Christensen reviewed the Council Norms. Following discussion, the Council provided direction on changes to the Norms to be brought back for adoption at a future meeting.

## 5. Staff Supporting City Council

Deputy City Manager/City Clerk Christensen briefed the City Council on staff support for the Council including travel arrangements, Council calendars, and communications with staff. Deputy City Manager – IT Luke Knight briefed the Council on upcoming technology upgrades and use of technology by the Council. City Manager Lewis led the Council through a discussion on scheduling for Closed Session Meetings and Special Meetings/Study Sessions.

## ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Bourbeau adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m. to Saturday, February 22, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. to continue the Goal Setting Workshop.

## **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2025, 9:00 A.M.**

Mayor Bourbeau called the meeting to order at 9:01 am

## ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Funk, Newsom, Peek, Mayor Pro Tem Dariz, and Mayor Bourbeau

Absent: None

Others Present: None

Staff Present: City Manager Jim Lewis, City Attorney Dave Fleishman, Deputy City Manager/City Clerk Lara Christensen, Administrative Services Director/City Treasurer Jeri Rangel, Community Development Director Phil Dunsmore, Community Services and Promotions Director Terrie Banish, Fire Chief Casey Bryson, Police Chief Dan Suttles, Public Works Director Nick DeBar, Deputy City Manager – IT Luke Knight, Deputy Director of Economic & Community Development Loreli Cappel, and Human Resources Manager Rachel Hunter

## **COUNCIL WORKSHOP – STRATEGIC PLANNING**

### **1. Welcome**

City Manager Lewis gave a brief welcome and overview of the day.

Human Resources Manager Hunter provided an update on staffing and the implementation of the City’s Mission Statement.

### **2. Public Comment**

The following members of the public were present and gave comment throughout the meeting: Geoff Auslen, Jacque Fields, Josh Cross and Megan Souza.

### **3. Goal Setting Exercise**

City Manager Lewis gave a brief overview of the process and led the Council through an exercise to review the 2023-2025 Strategic Priorities and establish the 2025-2027 Strategic Priorities.

The Council made the following changes to the 2023-2025 Strategic Priorities, establishing the 2025-2027 Strategic Priorities:

#### **Strategic Priority: Economic and Community Vibrancy**

Key Focus Areas:

- *Downtown Vibrancy Viability*
- *Activation of Underutilized Sites and Nodes*
- *Business Support and Jobs/Housing Balance*
- *Neighborhood Compatibility and Wellness*

#### **Strategic Priority: Fiscal and Infrastructure Efficiency & Sustainability**

Key Focus Areas:

- *Asset Management/Replacement/Modernization*
- *Smart and Responsible Financial Strategies*
- *Transparency and Accountability*

#### **Strategic Priority: Ensuring Public Safety and Providing Exceptional City Services**

Key Focus Areas:

- *Staff and Facilities*

- *Unhoused Population*
- *Flourishing Community*

**Mayor Bourbeau recessed the meeting at 10:00 a.m.**

**Mayor Bourbeau reconvened the meeting with all present at 10:10 a.m**

**4. Discussion Topics**

**a. Entertainment Zone Update**

Deputy Director of Economic & Community Development Loreli Cappel led the Council through a discussion on the process for establishment of an Entertainment Zone. The City Council discussed the pros and cons and requested staff monitor the implementation of Entertainment Zones in other jurisdictions for possible future discussion.

**b. Noticing for Non-Development Items**

The City Council discussed expanding notification for projects that impact land use of a property and directed staff to bring back an amendment to the Zoning Code at a future meeting.

**c. Protocol for Issuance of Proclamations**

The City Council discussed the issuance of Proclamations and there was Council consensus to continue with the current policy.

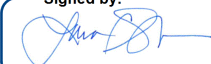
**d. Consideration of Commercial Cannabis**

The City Council discussed the potential for commercial cannabis opportunities in the City and directed staff to bring the issue back at a future meeting for further discussion and public input.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

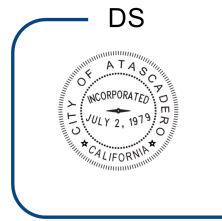
Mayor Bourbeau adjourned the meeting at 12:54 p.m. to the next Regular Session on Tuesday, February 25, 2025.

**MINUTES PREPARED BY:**

Signed by:  


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Lara K. Christensen  
Deputy City Manager / City Clerk



**APPROVED: 3/11/2025**