

COUNCIL MINUTES

February 22, 2021

David Luna* Julie Spilsbury* Kevin Thompson*

The City Council of the City of Mesa met in a Regular Council Meeting via a virtual format streamed into the lower-level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on February 22, 2021 at 5:45 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT	COUNCIL ABSENT	OFFICERS PRESENT
John Giles Jennifer Duff* Mark Freeman* Francisco Heredia*	None	Christopher Brady Dee Ann Mickelsen Jim Smith

(*Council participated in the meeting through the use of video conference equipment.)

Mayor's Welcome.

Mayor Giles conducted a roll call.

Invocation by Mark Anderson with Unification Church of Arizona.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Giles.

Awards, Recognitions and Announcements.

There were no awards, recognitions or announcements.

1. Appointment of Joseph Lisitano as City Auditor.

It was moved by Councilmember Luna, seconded by Councilmember Thompson, that Joseph Lisitano be appointed as City Auditor.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Giles-Duff-Freeman-Heredia-Luna-Spilsbury-Thompson NAYS – None

Carried unanimously.

Mayor Giles congratulated City Auditor Joseph Listiano on his appointment as the City Auditor and stated his appreciation for the hard work he continues to provide to the City.

2. Appointment and swearing-in of Stephanie Olohan as City Magistrate.

It was moved by Councilmember Spilsbury, seconded by Councilmember Luna, that Ms. Olohan be appointed as City Auditor.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Giles-Duff-Freeman-Heredia-Luna-Spilsbury-Thompson NAYS – None

Carried unanimously.

Stephanie Olohan was sworn in as City Magistrate by Mayor Giles.

Mayor Giles congratulated City Magistrate Stephanie Olohan and shared she previously had served as the presiding judge of the Carefree and Cave Creek consolidated court and has been a judge pro tempore for the City of Mesa for the past six years.

3. Appointment and swearing-in of Stephen Umpleby as City Magistrate.

It was moved by Councilmember Thompson, seconded by Vice Mayor Duff, that Mr. Umpleby be appointed as City Magistrate.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Giles-Duff-Freeman-Heredia-Luna-Spilsbury-Thompson NAYS – None

Carried unanimously.

Stephen Umpleby was sworn in as City Magistrate by Mayor Giles.

Mayor Giles congratulated City Magistrate Stephen Umpleby and pointed out he has been an Assistant City Prosecutor for the City of Mesa since 2018.

4. Take action on all consent agenda items.

All items listed with an asterisk (*) will be considered as a group by the City Council and will be enacted with one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Councilmember or citizen requests, in which event the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered as a separate item. If a citizen wants an item removed from the consent agenda, a blue card must be completed and given to the City Clerk prior to the Council's vote on the consent agenda.

It was moved by Councilmember Freeman, seconded by Councilmember Thompson, that the consent agenda items be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Giles-Duff-Freeman-Heredia-Luna-Spilsbury-Thompson NAYS – None

Carried unanimously.

*5. Approval of minutes of previous meetings as written.

Minutes from the January 21, February 4, February 11, 2021 Study Sessions and the February 8, 2021 Regular Council meeting.

6. Take action on the following liquor license applications:

*6-a. Palace Nail Lounge by Jimmy

A nail salon is requesting a new Series 07 Beer and Wine Bar License for Jimmy Nguyen, sole proprietor, 1940 West Rio Salado Parkway, Suite 101-102. This is an ownership transfer; therefore, the existing license held by Phoenix Blue Sky LLC will revert to the State for modification. (District 1)

*6-b. Family Dollar Store #23914

A general merchandise retailer is requesting a new Series 10 Beer and Wine Store License for Family Dollar Inc., 255 East Southern Avenue, Suite 9; Ralphael Sean Piche, agent. There is no existing license at this location. **(District 4)**

7. Take action on the following contracts:

*7-a. Ratification of the Emergency Purchase of Antigen Rapid Tests. (Citywide)

The City purchased 2,000 COVID-19 antigen tests on 12/29/2020. Antigen tests were needed as soon as possible to test Mesa Fire and Medical and Police upon their return to work after the holidays.

The Mesa Fire and Medical Department and Purchasing recommend ratifying the purchase with AllerCyte, at \$47,987.60. This purchase is funded by the Mesa CARES Program.

*7-b. Purchase of Fire Apparatus (Four Replacement Pumpers) for the Mesa Fire and Medical Department. (Citywide)

The four replacement pumpers are part of MFMD's ongoing apparatus replacement schedule and will be used as emergency response frontline units. The four apparatus that are being replaced are reserves and have met established replacement criteria and will be sold by a sealed bid process or traded-in as part of the City's fire apparatus purchase agreement with Pierce Manufacturing.

The City entered into a five-year fire apparatus Master Purchase Agreement with Pierce Manufacturing in 2014 and a three-year renewal in 2019. Staff is studying purchase options including apparatus brands for future purchases.

The Mesa Fire and Medical Department and Purchasing recommend awarding this purchase to Pierce Manufacturing Inc., through their designated local dealer, Hughes Fire Equipment Inc., at \$3,238,433.74. This purchase is funded by 2018 Public Safety Bonds.

*7-c. Three-Year Term Contract with Two Years of Renewal Options for Landscape Maintenance Services for City Facilities (Secured Sites) for the Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities Department. (Citywide)

This contract will establish landscape maintenance services for all applicable City facilities within the Secured Sites Zone which encompasses 22 City facilities.

An evaluation committee recommends awarding the contract to the highest scored proposal from Brightview Landscape Services, Inc., at \$251,000 annually (includes a 20% contingency), with an annual increase allowance of up to 5%, or the adjusted Consumer Price Index.

*7-d. Three-Year Term Contract with Two Years of Renewal Options for Landscape Maintenance Services for City Facilities (Zone 5) for the Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities Department. **(Citywide)**

This contract will establish landscape maintenance services for all applicable City facilities within Zone 5, which encompasses 22 City facilities.

An evaluation committee recommends awarding the contract to the highest scored proposal from Mariposa Landscape Arizona, Inc., at \$347,444 annually (includes a 20% contingency), with an annual increase allowance of up to 5%, or the adjusted Consumer Price Index.

*7-e. Three-Year Term Contract with Two Years of Renewal Options for Landscape Maintenance Services for City Facilities (Zone 6) for the Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities Department. **(Citywide)**

This contract will establish landscape maintenance services for all applicable City facilities within Zone 6, which encompasses 24 City facilities.

An evaluation committee recommends awarding the contract to the highest scored proposal from Mariposa Landscape Arizona, Inc., at \$419,764 annually (includes a 20% contingency), with an annual increase allowance of up to 5%, or the adjusted Consumer Price Index.

*7-f. Three-Year Term Contract with Two Years of Renewal Options for Landscape Maintenance Services for City Facilities (Zone 7) for the Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities Department. **(Citywide)**

This contract will establish landscape maintenance services for all applicable City facilities within Zone 7, which encompasses 14 City facilities.

An evaluation committee recommends awarding the contract to the highest scored proposal from Brightview Landscape Services, Inc., at \$221,350 annually (includes a 20% contingency), with an annual increase allowance of up to 5%, or the adjusted Consumer Price Index.

*7-g. Purchase of Application Delivery Controllers Software and Support (Upgrade/Replacement) for the Department of Innovation and Technology. (Citywide)

Application delivery controllers (ADC) balance the network traffic to City hosted websites and application services both on premise and in the cloud. They also provide secure access to websites and applications for employees, retirees, and customers. The ADC software licenses will retire current hardware ADC's, while increasing the capacity of existing software ADC's, and allow for ADC services in the City's cloud environment.

Department of Innovation and Technology (DoIT) and Purchasing recommend authorizing the purchase using the National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance cooperative contract and lowest quoted vendor, Sentinel Technologies, Inc., at \$89,491.67, based on estimated requirements. This purchase is funded by DoIT Lifecycle Program Budget.

*7-h. 44-Month Term Contract with Five Years of Renewal Options for Kenwood Radio Equipment for the Water Resources Department. (Citywide)

This contract will provide replacement Kenwood radios as needed for Water Resources - Wastewater collection crews.

The Water Resources Department and Purchasing recommend authorizing the purchase using the State of Arizona contract with Durham Communications, Inc.; Southwest Radio Sales; and Kelly Communications, Inc., at \$60,000 annually, with an annual increase allowance of up to 5%, or the adjusted Consumer Price Index.

*7-i. Purchase of Leica Land Surveying Equipment (Upgrade/Replacement) for the Engineering Department (Sole Source). **(Citywide)**

This equipment will be used to perform engineering plan reviews for surveying conformance, legal and easement descriptions, topographic surveys for engineering design and support, construction surveying services, regular maintenance and perpetuation of the Citywide benchmark system used for vertical control within the City, for various City Departments. To fulfill these requests, operational, accurate, and functional land surveying equipment is needed.

The Engineering Department and Purchasing recommend authorizing the purchase from the sole source vendor, Surveyors Source, at \$60,053.57.

- *7-j. Authorizing the Mayor to sign an employment contract with the City Auditor.
- *7-k. Authorizing the Mayor to sign an amendment to the employment contract with the City Clerk.
- *7-I. Authorizing the Mayor to sign an amendment to the employment contract with the City Attorney.
- *7-m. Authorizing the Mayor to sign an amendment to the employment contract with the City Manager.

8. Take action on the following resolutions:

- *8-a. Approving and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Development Agreement with Comarch Inc., relating to 3 acres of property located at the northeast corner of Ellsworth Road and Prairie Avenue for the purpose of "opting-in" to the Elliot Road Technology Corridor zoning overlay. (District 6) Resolution No. 11628
- *8-b. Extinguishing three temporary drainage easements located at 10529 East Hampton Avenue to allow for the development of Mera Mesa, an age-restricted, active adult development; requested by the property owner. (District 6) Resolution No. 11629
- *8-c. Vacating two rights-of-way, and extinguishing three public utility easements, a drainage easement, two temporary drainage easements, and a temporary drainage and retention easement located at 5960 East Thomas Road to accommodate the development of a 294-lot residential subdivision called The Reserve at Red Rock; requested by the property owner. (District 5) Resolution No. 11630
- *8-d. Approving and authorizing continued negotiations to acquire certain property along the Signal Butte Road Improvement Project, between Williams Field Road and Germann Road, and in order to avoid unnecessary construction expense and delays, authorizing and directing that fee title, easements, or other interests in, and possession of, certain property be acquired by the City of Mesa through eminent domain as a matter of public necessity. (District 6) Resolution No. 11631
- 9. Introduction of the following ordinances and setting March 1, 2021 as the date of the public hearing on these ordinances:
 - *9-a. **ZON20-00609 (District 1)** 731 North Alma School Road. Located north of University Drive on the east side of Alma School Road (1.2± acres). Rezone from OC to RS-6. This request will allow for a single residence use. Randal L. Courtney, applicant; Randal L. Courtney, owner.

Staff Recommendation: Approval with conditions

<u>P&Z Board Recommendation</u>: Approval with conditions (Vote: 7-0)

*9-b. **ZON20-00491 (District 6)** Within the 5200 to 5300 blocks of South Ellsworth Road (east side), the 5300 through 6200 blocks of the South Crismon Road alignment (east and west sides), the 9800 to 10000 blocks of the East Williams Field Road alignment (north and south sides) and the 10000 to 10200 blocks of East Williams Field Road (north side). Located on the north side of the future State Route 24 freeway alignment between Ellsworth Road to approximately one-quarter mile east of the Crismon Road alignment (465± acres). Major Amendment to the Pacific Proving Grounds North Community Plan, also known as the Cadence Community Plan. This request is to modify sections of the approved Community Plan and Land Use Budget allocations for Development Unit 3 within the Plan. Susan Demmitt, Gammage and Burnham, PLC, applicant; PPGN-Williams, LLLP, owner.

Staff Recommendation: Approval with conditions

<u>P&Z Board Recommendation</u>: Approval with conditions (Vote: 7-0)

*9-c. **ZON20-00562 (District 6)** Within the 5300 block of South Power Road (east side). Located south of Ray Road and east of Power Road (2.4± acres). Modification of an existing PAD; and Site Plan Review. This request will allow for the development of a hotel. Taylor Earl, Earl and Curley, applicant; Mesa Hotel Partners, LLC, owner.

Staff Recommendation: Approval with conditions

<u>P&Z Board Recommendation</u>: Approval with conditions (Vote: 7-0)

*9-d. **ZON20-00769 (District 6)** Within the 8400 to 8800 blocks of East Elliot Road (north side) and within the 3400 to 3600 blocks of South Hawes Road (east side). Located east of Hawes Road and north of Elliot Road (77± acres). Rezone from LI-PAD to LI-PAD; and Site Plan Review. This request will allow for an industrial development. Eric Zitny, Ware Malcomb, applicant; Loop 202 & Elliot Road Parcel #2 LLC, owner.

Staff Recommendation: Approval with conditions

<u>P&Z Board Recommendation</u>: Approval with conditions (Vote: 7-0)

*9-e. **ZON20-00815 (District 3)** Within the 100 block of South Dobson Road (west side). Located south of Main Street on the west side of Dobson Road (2.5± acres). Rezone from GC to GC-BIZ overlay; and Site Plan Review. This request will allow for a commercial development. Rick Daughtery, 3rd Story Architecture, applicant; WJC, LLC, owner.

Staff Recommendation: Approval with conditions

<u>P&Z Board Recommendation</u>: Approval with conditions (Vote: 7-0)

*9-f. **ZON20-00861 (District 6)** The 3600 to 4400 blocks of South Ellsworth Road (east side), the 3600 to 4200 blocks of South Eastmark Parkway (west side), the 9200 to 9600 blocks of East Elliot Road (south side), and the 9200 to 9800 blocks of East Warner Road (north side). Located south of Elliot Road and north of Warner Road between Ellsworth Road and Signal Butte Road (325± acres). Major Amendment to the Eastmark Community Plan. This request is to modify the character descriptions for Development Units 1 and 2 of the Eastmark Community Plan. Jill Hegardt, DMB Associated, Inc., applicant; DMB Mesa Proving Grounds LLC, owner.

Staff Recommendation: Approval with conditions

<u>P&Z Board Recommendation</u>: Approval with conditions (Vote: 7-0)

- *9-g. **ANX20-00665 (District 5)** Annexing property located north of University Drive and west of Ellsworth Road (1.0± acre). Initiated by the applicant, Reese Anderson, Pew and Lake, P.L.C.; for the owners, Vance and Amanda Williams.
- *9-h. See: Items not on the Consent Agenda

Items not on the Consent Agenda.

9-h. Amending Title 6 of the Mesa City Code (Police Regulations) by repealing Chapter 14, entitled "Fair Housing," in its entirety, and adding a new Chapter 14 entitled "Non-Discrimination Code," prohibiting discrimination in public accommodations, employment, and housing on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, veteran's status, marital status, or familial status, with certain exclusions. **(Citywide)**

Ron Williams, a Mesa resident, believes if the City adopted the NDO, it would further the truth that Mesa is a strong community where residents, businesses, and visitors are treated with dignity and respect. He urged Council to support and vote in favor of the proposed NDO.

Bryce Cook, a Mesa resident, spoke in support of the proposed NDO to ensure equal treatment and protection for all Mesa citizens. He stated that no one should have to live in fear because of who they choose to be.

Shane Cooper-Blissett, a Mesa resident, indicated support for the NDO and explained the ordinance is of the utmost importance to ensure that the community is not discriminated against in public spaces, employment, and housing. He added with the proposed NDO, Mesa could see an influx of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning (LGBTQ) citizens that would bring more culture and dollars to the City.

Tamara Staas, a Tempe resident, who teaches for Mesa Public Schools stated she has two son's who are a part of the LGBTQ community and the NDO would help support and protect the LGBTQ community in Mesa. She mentioned many people are concerned with safety, and other cities and towns that have passed an NDO have seen no increase in incidents.

Marcie Hutchinson, a Mesa resident, explained the NDO is the City's promise that we are an inclusive, thriving community where all people are welcome in schools, neighborhoods, stores, restaurants, and more without the fear of discrimination based on disability, religious beliefs, ethnicity, race, or gender identity. She strongly urges Council to support the NDO.

Ginger Hamp, a Mesa resident, spoke in support of the ordinance commenting that Mesa needs to state loud and clear that if a business wants the privilege of doing business in Mesa, then discriminating against one employee or person is one too many. She added allowing for leniency illustrates it is acceptable for small businesses to discriminate.

Christiana Hammond, a Mesa resident, stated she is in support of the NDO and is speaking from experience as she is transgender herself, with two young children. She explained aside from taking her children to and from social activities, she tries to not be visible because of being different and that there are not a lot of LGBTQ people that she knows. She noted if the proposed NDO is approved it will make her and the LGBTQ community feel more comfortable and accepted by the community.

Verl Farnsworth, a Mesa resident commented that 99% of US cities do not have non-discrimination ordinances. He asked what criteria led to such a policy, that having a policy in place has not kept businesses from coming to Mesa, that Council has already admitted this is not a big issue in neighboring cities, and that this effort should be abandoned.

Todd Wilson, a Mesa resident stated comments in favor of the NDO have focused on the statutes and the civic virtues of Mesa residents. He explained the law is meant to provide a structure for government and is not a declaration of morals or virtues. He pointed out that in other jurisdictions instead of protecting minorities from unjust discrimination, NDO's have sacrificed the privacy of women. He encouraged Council to focus on a policy that would address issues as they are identified.

Jacob Brown, a Mesa resident commented that he does not believe all people are being protected in this ordinance, and by focusing on compliance and not diversity, Council missed the chance to have an important discussion on making lives better. He stressed the need to value diversity, focus on making jobs, housing, and services available to everyone. He suggested there are significant problems with this ordinance, that it does not provide the proper balance and that a better ordinance should be considered.

Larry Blomquist, a Mesa resident stated the opinion that the NDO is flawed in that gender identity is defined, changing the historical and established definition of gender by replacing biology with psychology. He remarked the consequences of enacting the NDO have not been given sufficient consideration and urged Council to reject this ordinance or strike all references to gender identity.

Cathi Herrod, an attorney with the Center for Arizona Policy stated even with the exclusions, the NDO creates significant problems, including approving one gender to enter gender specific showers, locker rooms, bathrooms etc. of the opposite gender; and the exclusionary language from religious activity is vague and undefined. She urged Council not to pass the ordinance and submit it to the voters.

David Land, a Mesa resident commented that today individuals have the right to be what they want to be and because of this philosophy we are seeing more and more perversion in our nation and now the governing body for the City wants to open a pandoras box of legal problems. He encouraged Council to vote against this ordinance.

Karen Gevaert, a Mesa resident expressed concerns regarding safety and privacy for women and stated the NDO should not be approved.

The following citizens submitted comment cards in support to Agenda Item 9-h, but did not wish to have their comments read:

- Judith Harper, a Mesa resident
- Robert Joned, a Phoenix resident
- Ian Chamberlin, a Mesa resident
- Cheryl Kutcher, a Tucson resident
- Keaton Schlink, a Chandler resident

The following citizens submitted comment cards in opposition to Agenda Item 9-h, but did not wish to have their comments read:

- Kate Bankston, a Mesa resident
- Jessica Gronberg, a Mesa resident

The following citizens submitted comment cards to be read in support of Agenda Item 9-h:

- Dr. Krista Puruhito, a Mesa resident
- Jana McKay, a Mesa resident
- Caryn Martinez, a Mesa resident
- Michelle Dao, a Mesa resident

- Ann Lumm, a Mesa resident
- Mary Martiniak, unknown
- Cynthia Wheeler, a Mesa resident
- Andrea Parks, unknown
- Michael Klein, a Mesa resident
- Jeff Welker, a Mesa resident
- Samantha Hacker, a Mesa resident
- Sheila Ogea, a Mesa resident
- Hermenigilda Luna, a Mesa resident
- Deanna Villanueva-Saucedo, a Mesa resident
- Suzanne Hug, a Mesa resident
- Lisa Winger, a Mesa resident
- Chanel Reed, a Mesa resident
- Lorena Austin, a Mesa resident
- Alfred Chavez, unknown
- Marc Garcia, President and CEO of Visit Mesa
- Phillip Austin, a Mesa resident
- Stefanie Richardson, a Mesa resident

The speakers offered a series of comments including, but not limited to, the following:

- The NDO should keep employment regulations to one or more employees.
- The new code will help Mesa attract and retain business, tourism, and residents.
- The NDO enhances Mesa's image as a city that cares about its resident's wellbeing.
- The NDO helps protect our residents and sends a message that Mesa is a place that has values and welcomes diversity.
- The ordinance is about equal treatment, not special treatment.
- A Mesa that respects and protects all people is not only the right thing to do, but it is also good for the business of our City.
- Any action the Council can take to help ensure fair and non-discriminatory practices in Mesa is critical and important.
- Supporting the NDO in Mesa would make me prouder to raise my children here.
- Treating people fairly is the foundation of a stable and strong economy and supporting the NDO will help attract quality applicants for hiring and making customers more comfortable spending their dollars locally.
- The adoption of the NDO will highlight the fact that Mesa is a strong, unified community where residents, businesses and visitors are respected.
- Ensuring that equal opportunities will become a reality for all of Mesa's residents.

The following citizens submitted comment cards to be read in opposition of Agenda Item 9-h:

- Sandy Whitley, a Mesa resident
- Christine Accurso, a Gilbert resident
- Matthew Watson, a Mesa resident
- Danny Ray, a Mesa resident
- Christina Malo, a Mesa resident
- Trisha Comish, a Mesa resident
- Kaylin Palmer, a Mesa resident
- Lisa Olson, a Mesa resident

- Nancy Ashcroft, a Mesa resident
- Amelia Griner, a Mesa resident
- Julie Petersen, a Mesa resident
- Stephen Phelan, a Mesa resident
- Dianne Phelan, a Mesa resident
- Nadine Urista, a Mesa resident
- Sharon Phelan, a Mesa resident
- Barbara Barenburg, a Mesa resident

The speakers offered a series of comments including, but not limited to, the following:

- There are many reported cases of sexual assault and abuse by sexual predators on children and women in public restrooms, locker rooms, and women's shelters in cities that prohibit discrimination in public accommodations and housing based on gender identity.
- Women's shelters cannot deny men identifying as a woman.
- The NDO undermines constitutional freedoms of speech and religion.
- Concerns that the NDO will be used to punish and/or marginalize families of faith.
- Instead of adopting the NDO, defend the First Amendment and inalienable rights of all persons.
- The portion of the proposed NDO that needs revision are bathrooms, locker rooms, and dressing room facilities.
- The NDO is unfair to children and could put them in a situation that could cause them danger or harm.
- Demonstrate through local ordinances and codes that all people in the community are valued and cared for.
- This NDO will take away all privacy in boys and girl's bathrooms in schools.
- The NDO opens the doors for child predators, sex offenders, and for child trafficking.
- This is a dangerous ordinance because perception is not reality and laws should not be passed based on perceptions but on facts and sound judgement.
- Violation of privacy

Mayor Giles expressed appreciation for the participation on both sides of the NDO, and that Council will do their best to thoughtfully respond to residents.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Duff, seconded by Councilmember Luna, to introduce the Non-Discrimination Ordinance and set the public hearing as March 1, 2021 with an amendment to the definition of employer by striking the phrase 15 or more employees and inserting the phrase five or more employees.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Giles-Duff-Freeman-Heredia-Luna-Spilsbury NAYS – Thompson

Mayor Giles declared the motion carried by majority vote.

10. Items from citizens present.

Danielle Lopez, a Mesa resident, submitted comments to be read that the City is falling behind in climate action. She stated it is important to the youth of Mesa that the City discusses a climate action plan.

11. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Regular Council Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

JOHN GILES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

DEE ANN MICKELSEN, CITY CLERK

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of the City Council of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 22nd day of February 2021. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

DEE ANN MICKELSEN, CITY CLERK

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