

## COUNCIL MINUTES

May 19, 2022

The City Council of the City of Mesa met in a Study Session in the lower-level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on May 19, 2022, at 7:37 a.m.

### COUNCIL PRESENT

John Giles  
Jennifer Duff  
Mark Freeman  
Francisco Heredia  
David Luna  
Julie Spilsbury

### COUNCIL ABSENT

Kevin Thompson

### OFFICERS PRESENT

Christopher Brady  
Holly Moseley  
Jim Smith

Mayor Giles conducted a roll call.

Mayor Giles excused Councilmember Thompson from the entire meeting.

1-a. Hear a presentation, discuss, and provide direction on general obligation bond items for the 2022 election, including proposed public safety projects.

City Engineer Beth Huning displayed a PowerPoint presentation on the Public Safety projects.  
**(See Attachment 1)**

Ms. Huning stated there are seven proposed projects for Public Safety and a potential bond election this fall. She mentioned Fire Station 205 requires some upgrades and rebuilding, which is estimated at \$16.8 million. (See Pages 2 and 3 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Huning commented the new Fire Station 223 is adjacent to the water plant located on McDowell and Lindsay. She mentioned the new fire station is a good match as the data indicates there is a need for fire stations on the north side of Mesa. She added Fire Station 224 is readily available to build and aligns with the heat map. (See Pages 4 and 5 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Huning discussed the Public Safety Training Facility and some of the recent improvements, including the renovated drive track, and the burn building that is near completion. She highlighted current renovations and stated the training facility is a busy facility with limited parking and insufficient space. She noted there is a proposal in the bond election for two buildings in front of the auditorium, primarily for administrative classrooms, recruit training, and additional parking. (See Page 6 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Huning mentioned the police evidence facility was discussed in the 2018 Bond; however, due to inflation and the growing needs of Mesa's community, there was not sufficient funding. She

commented the department has included additional funding for this bond program of approximately \$11.3 million. (See Page 7 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Huning indicated the Police Headquarters was constructed in 1974 and requires major renovations, such as all floors, the electrical service entrance, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system (HVAC). (See Page 8 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Huning presented a summary of the projects included in the bond along with their estimated costs. She noted the ongoing need for fire replacement apparatus and explained the projects represent substantial financial investments for the City, which is the reason for utilizing a bond. (See Page 9 of Attachment 1)

In response to a question from Councilmember Luna, City Manager Christopher Brady stated that an evaluation of the need for electric vehicles would be conducted, but the first vehicle must be acquired and its operation examined. He advised given the long lead time on the apparatus, the City must determine what best fits Mesa's needs and if satisfactory, then the City will consider the apparatus in the future.

In response to multiple inquiries from Councilmember Spilsbury, Ms. Huning stated discussions are ongoing regarding the rebuild of Fire Station 205; and if approved by the voters, the City will obtain an architect and evaluate different options for the site. She stated there are federal restrictions on the land, and firefighters will be relocated temporarily during the rebuild. She added the City owns the land above the new parking.

In response to multiple questions from Councilmember Spilsbury, Mr. Brady stated any funds remaining from the 2018 Bond are obligated for the completion of projects specified in the bond. He mentioned the construction of a fire station normally takes approximately four years to complete.

In response to a question posed by Councilmember Heredia regarding the cost for residents, Mr. Brady stated the secondary property tax will increase by approximately \$45 annually.

In response to a question from Councilmember Freeman regarding the first electric fire truck in the United States, Assistant Fire Chief James Johnson stated the City of Los Angeles, California received the first Rosenbauer electric fire truck last week. He mentioned Mesa has signed a contract and is expected to receive their first electric fire truck by December.

Mayor Giles explained the COM will have the first domestically manufactured electric fire truck.

Mayor Giles thanked staff for the presentation.

1-b. Hear a presentation, discuss, and provide direction on a proposed citywide diversity initiative, "Together Mesa".

Diversity and Special Project Manager Andrea Alicoate introduced Communications Director Ana Pereira and displayed a PowerPoint presentation. (**See Attachment 2**)

Ms. Alicoate reviewed the diversity initiative for Together Mesa. She mentioned Mesa is a community that has a rich diversity of cultures, people, perspectives, and ideals. She stated Mesa's new diversity initiative is designed to celebrate and amplify those voices within the

community, as well as tie in the efforts made by the City throughout the years. (See Page 2 of Attachment 2)

Ms. Alicoate shared a video that encapsulates the message of Together Mesa, celebrating the people and the communities that make up the City. (See Page 3 of Attachment 2)

Ms. Alicoate discussed the vision for Together Mesa, which is to reflect the community. She reviewed the goals of ensuring that programs and resources are accessible and available to everyone; the key message reflecting Mesa's diverse community; and strengthening connections with the public to be able to encourage new communities. She explained that the South Pacific Island Festival had their annual launch this year, and the COM connected them with Downtown Mesa to assist in the process to ensure a great kickoff event. (See Page 4 of Attachment 2)

Ms. Alicoate reviewed the three approaches being used to communicate with Mesa's diverse community and embrace inclusion. She emphasized the City is committed to building relationships and ensuring that residents are aware that Mesa is available to everyone. (See Page 5 of Attachment 2)

Ms. Pereira summarized Mesa's social media and communication strategies that support Mesa's diverse community. She mentioned the Public Information and Communications department works with all City departments to create messages that resonate and celebrate the community. She stated approximately 30% of Mesa's population identifies as Latino, and the department maintains strong relationships with the City's multicultural media partners to develop multicultural and multilingual communications. She commented in July, metrics will be used to track Spanish language public relations to determine needs to be improved. (See Page 6 of Attachment 2)

Ms. Alicoate highlighted some of the efforts in programs and education throughout the City. She mentioned the Human Relations Advisory Board has a new program, which is a YouTube channel featuring individual perspectives throughout the community and serving as an educational tool for different identities, cultural norms, and other elements that may be celebrated and honored by the community. She commented the Diversity Office oversees civil rights compliance, the non-discrimination ordinance, Americans with Disabilities Act, as well as providing education and assistance to business owners and individuals to ensure that information is communicated to the community. She explained that the City highlights their Spanish bilingual staff members who make themselves more accessible to the community. (See Page 7 of Attachment 2)

Ms. Alicoate discussed the City's internal employee engagement program, which supports employee resource groups such as the Mesa Hispanic Network and the National Forum for Black Public Administrators National Chapter. She commented the best educators and resources are the City's own employees by giving them the platform to create programming within their workplace culture to elevate Mesa's inclusive environment. She explained a cultural celebration was organized last year as an employee appreciation event and was an open invitation for all employees to attend and celebrate Hispanic Heritage month. (See Page 8 of Attachment 2)

Ms. Alicoate emphasized the City supports all community celebrations which highlight and reflect heritage months and days of significance, as well as local stories and histories. She invited the public to visit [www.mesaaz.gov/togetherness](http://www.mesaaz.gov/togetherness) to learn more and use #togetherness. (See Pages 9 and 10 of Attachment 2)

In response to a question posed by Councilmember Luna, Ms. Alicoate stated that the department is working closely with Human Resources to ensure that diversity, equity, and inclusion are

integrated into the training for employees, and will continue to offer more cultural awareness education in the future.

In response to an inquiry from Councilmember Heredia regarding assistance for residents and small businesses, Ms. Alicoate explained that two new groups have been formed to assist each department in providing education; and the City has many tools readily available, including language and interpretation contracts. She commented the diversity communication group helps to address significant messages, determine multiple methods of communicating to target different communities, as well as identify issues.

Ms. Pereira added the City is committed to bringing awareness campaigns on a variety of topics. She commented one of the most recent campaigns is the Dog Days of Summer, which educates residents on how to take care of their pets during the summer. She commented, part of Mesa's efforts includes translating graphics and videos. She mentioned in addition to working with Spanish language media, there are videos with subtitles so information can reach Mesa's Spanish-speaking residents. She pointed out the Economic Development department offers classes in Spanish to business owners.

Mayor Giles thanked staff for the presentation.

## 2. Current events summary including meetings and conferences attended.

Mayor Giles –	Deseret News event Gulfstream Facility at Gateway Airport groundbreaking
Vice Mayor Duff –	Deseret News event Real Time Crime Center tour i.d.e.a. Museum – photos for National Museum Day ASU tour Benedictine University graduation Mesa Temple Visitor's Center – Asian family stories Fiesta Substation community meeting
Councilmember Heredia –	Fiesta Substation community meeting Guerrero Elementary School – 6 <sup>th</sup> grade promotion
Councilmember Luna –	ASU tour Intercoastal Electronics tour
Councilmember Freeman –	ASU tour Hermosa Vista School – career path day Christian Central Church - Community Safety Fair

## 3. Scheduling of meetings.

City Manager Christopher Brady stated that the schedule of meetings is as follows:

Monday, June 2, 2022, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

4. Convene an Executive Session

It was moved by Councilmember Luna, seconded by Councilmember Heredia, that the Council adjourn the Study Session at 8:29 a.m. and enter into an Executive Session.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

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

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Thompson

Mayor Giles declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

- 4-a. Discussion or consultation for legal advice with the City Attorney. (A.R.S. §38-431.03A (3)) Discussion or consultation with the City Attorney in order to consider the City's position and instruct the City Attorney regarding the City's position regarding pending or contemplated litigation or in settlement discussions conducted in order to avoid or resolve litigation. (A.R.S. §38-431.03A(4))

1. *Randy Sewell v. Nathan Chisler, et al.*  
United States District Court, Case No. CV-21-02036-DJH-MHB

5. Adjournment.

Without objection the City Council study session adjourned at 8:58 a.m.

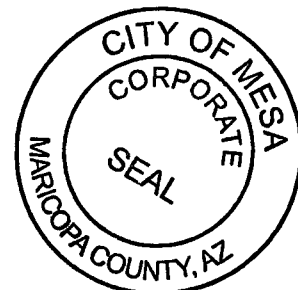
  
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JOHN GILES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

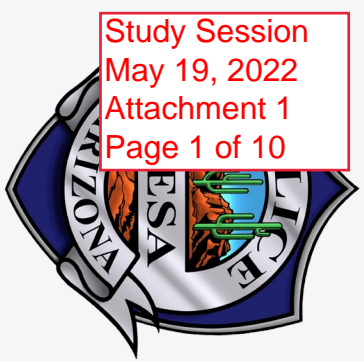
  
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HOLLY MOSELEY, CITY CLERK

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Study Session of the City Council of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of May 2022. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

  
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HOLLY MOSELEY, CITY CLERK



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(Attachments – 2)



# Public Safety Projects

Proposed November 2022 Public Safety Bond Program

Beth Huning – Engineering

May 19, 2022



# Proposed Projects

1. Fire Station 205 - Rebuild
2. Fire Station 223
3. Fire Station 224
4. Public Safety Training Facility Improvements
5. Police Evidence Facility
6. Police Headquarters
7. Fire Apparatus - Replacement





# Fire Station No 205

- 730 S Greenfield/Greenfield Park
- Originally built 1978
- Rebuild
- \$16.8 Million

Greenfield Road

Diamond Avenue





## Fire Station No 223

- Lindsay and McDowell
- 15,000 SF 4-Bay Station
- Apparatus
- \$16.8 Million

Lindsay Road

McDowell Road





# Fire Station No 224

- 80<sup>th</sup> St and Elliot
- 15,000 SF 4-bay station
- Apparatus
- \$16.8 Million

Study-Executive Session  
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Attachment 1  
Page 1 of 10

Elliot Road

80<sup>th</sup> Street







## Public Safety Training Facility Improvements

- 3260 N 40<sup>th</sup> Street
- 57,500 SF Building
- Police/Fire Training Admin, Classrooms
- New Parking
- Site Improvements
- \$41.9 Million





# Police Evidence Facility

- 130 N Robson
- 37,500 SF
- Consolidated evidence facility
- \$10 million included in 2018 Bond
- \$11.3 million additional





# Police Headquarters

- 130 N Robson
- 102,356 SF
- Originally built in 1974, 1988, & 1997
- Full Renovation of all floors
- \$43.4 Million



# Project Summary

Project	Description	Estimated Cost
Fire Station 205	Station Rebuild	\$16.8 M
Fire Station 223	New 4 Bay Station	\$16.8 M
Fire Station 224	New 4 Bay Station	\$16.8 M
Public Safety Training Facility Improvements	Police/Fire Admin, Training, Classrooms, Parking	\$41.9 M
Police Evidence Building	Additional funding	\$11.3 M
Police Headquarters	Full Renovation	\$43.4 M
Fire Replacement Apparatus		\$10.0 M
	Total	\$157 M





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**Thursday, May 19, 2022**

**ANDREA ALICOATE, Diversity & Special Projects Manager**

**ANA PEREIRA, Communications Director**





NEW

# Diversity Initiative

Many communities interweave to give Mesa it's vibrancy. People from different races, places of origin, languages, faiths, and identities come together in their values for family, work, prosperity, and commitment to making Mesa the thriving, growing City it has become.

At the City of Mesa, we value and embrace our community's rich diversity. **TOGETHER MESA** is a new initiative that collects and showcases the voices that make up our community, fostering the awareness and understanding that strengthens us as a community.



To view the Together Mesa video, please select the link below:

<https://youtu.be/dlpoGCETPTE>



VISION

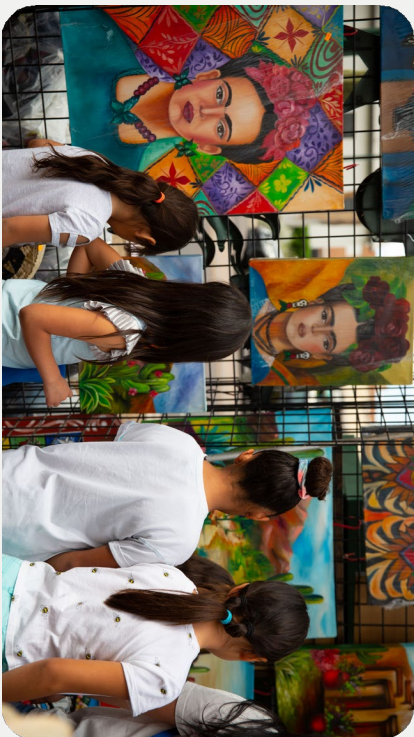
# Reflecting Our Community



01

## Visibility

Increase awareness about City of Mesa services, programs and resources available to all.



02

## Positioning

Ensure key messages are representative of and resonate with Mesa's diverse communities.



03

## Connectivity

Strengthen community engagement and promote inclusive participation.



# APPROACH

01

## Effective Communication

Communications that speaks to our diverse audiences and resonate with our community. We will continue to expand our reach to be accessible and meet the needs of our city.

02

## Meaningful Engagement

We will work with cultural, community and employee groups to build relationships that help to identify and advance diversity, equity, and inclusion through programming opportunities.

03

## Showcasing Perspectives

When we listen to different experiences from our own, we gain a broader perspective of our community. We will strategically work to highlight the many voices that make Mesa special.





STRATEGY

# Social Media & Communications



Storytelling



Communication Style



Multicultural Communications



Tracked Metrics





STRATEGY

# Programs & Education



Community Learning Series



Community Impact



A Tu Servicio en Español



Other Engagement Efforts





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# Internal Employee Engagement



Employee Resource Groups



Cultural Celebration Event



Inclusive Environment



Support Diverse Workforce



STRATEGY

# Supporting Community Celebrations



Heritage Months &  
Days of Significance



Diverse Events & Festivals



Representation at Events



New Community Partnerships





# Questions or Comments?

[www.mesaaz.gov/togethermesa](http://www.mesaaz.gov/togethermesa)

#togethermesa

