

**Ridgecrest City Council
Successor Redevelopment Agency
Financing Authority
Housing Authority
AGENDA**

August 16, 2023
Regular Session 6:00 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL

Eric A. Bruen, Mayor

Solomon P. Rajaratnam, Mayor Pro-Tem

Kyle Blades, Vice Mayor

L. Scott Hayman, Council Member

John 'Skip' Gorman, Council Member

Ron Strand, City Manager

Keith Lemieux, City Attorney
Martin Koczanowicz, City Attorney



**City Hall, Council Chambers
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest CA 93555**

Ricca Charlton, CMC
City Clerk
rcharlon@ridgecrest-ca.gov
(760) 499-5002

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you are a disabled person and you need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in the meeting, please contact Ricca Charlton at (760) 499-5002. Requests must be made as early as possible and at least one full business day before the start of the meeting.

Watch meetings on-line:

All of our meetings are streamed live at <https://ridgecrest-ca.gov/369/Watch> or on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/cityofridgecrest/live> and are also available for playback after the meeting.

Call in for public comments:

To participate with verbal comments, *please call (760) 499-5010*. This phone line will allow only one caller at a time, so if the line is busy, please continue to dial. We will be allowing a 20-30 second delay between callers to give time for media delays and callers to dial in. If you wish to comment on multiple items you will need to call in as each item is presented.

*Agendas are available on the City Website
<https://www.ridgecrest-ca.gov/council-agendas>*

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

**RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL
SUCCESSOR REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
FINANCING AUTHORITY
HOUSING AUTHORITY**

AGENDA

Wednesday, August 16, 2023

Regular Session – 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

- Roll call

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

REGULAR SESSION

- Pledge Of Allegiance
- Invocation

PRESENTATION

Measure V Annual Report

Measure V Committee Members

PUBLIC COMMENT OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA - Persons wishing to address the Council on matters that are within the Council’s jurisdiction and DO NOT ALREADY APPEAR ON THE AGENDA, may do so at this time.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS/DIRECTION

CONSENT CALENDAR – All Matters Listed Under The Consent Calendar Are To Be Considered Routine And Enacted By One Motion Unless Pulled By A Council Member Or A Member Of The Public.

1. Proposed Action To Approve Draft Minutes Of The Ridgecrest City Council Regular Meeting Dated August 2, 2023 **Charlon**
2. Approve Of Staff’s Use Of Placer.ai Analytical Software To Assist In Economic Development Activities To Improve The Quality Of Life Within The Ridgecrest Community **Strand**
3. Request for Sponsorship of the Petroglyph Rock Art Festival Nov. 4-5, 2023 **Charlon**
4. Proposed Approval Of Increased Appropriations To The Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget For The Design, Bid And Construction Services For The New Sgt. Pinney Memorial Pool Aquatic Complex **Strand**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

City Organization and Services Committee (‘City Org’)

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Skip Gorman

Meeting: 1st Thursday each month at 5:30 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

- **Report from 8/3/23**

Economic Development Committee

Members: Kyle Blades and Solomon Rajaratnam

Meeting: 1st Monday of the month @ 5:15 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

➤ **Report from 8/7/23**

Finance Committee

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Scott Hayman

Meeting: 2nd Tuesday each month at 5:30 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

➤ **Report from 8/8/23**

Ridgecrest Area Convention and Visitor Bureau (RACVB)

Members: Solomon Rajaratnam and Megan McKenzie (staff)

Meeting: 4th Wednesday each month at 9:00 a.m.

Location: California Welcome Center

➤ **Next meeting 8/23/23**

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Solomon Rajaratnam and Kyle Blades

Meeting: 4th Thursday each month at 5:00 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

➤ **Next meeting 8/24/23**

Parks, Recreation, and Quality of Life Committee

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Skip Gorman

Meeting: 1st Tuesday each month at 5:30 p.m.

Location: Kerr McGee Center Meeting Rooms

➤ **Next meeting 9/5/23**

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

CITY MANAGER REPORT

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

Ridgecrest City Council
Successor Redevelopment Agency
Financing Authority
Housing Authority
STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Proposed Action To Approve Draft Minutes Of The Ridgecrest City Council Regular Meeting Dated August 2, 2023

PRESENTED BY: Ricca Charlon, City Clerk

SUMMARY:

Draft Minutes of the City Council / Successor Redevelopment Agency / Housing Authority / Financing Authority Regular Meeting Dated August 2, 2023

FISCAL IMPACT: None

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve minutes

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION: Action as requested

Submitted by: Ricca Charlon

Action Date: August 16, 2023

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

**RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL
SUCCESSOR REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
FINANCING AUTHORITY
HOUSING AUTHORITY**

DRAFT MINUTES

Wednesday, August 2, 2023

**Closed Session – 5:00 p.m.
Regular Session – 6:00 p.m.**

This meeting was recorded and will be on file in the Office of the City Clerk for a certain period of time from date of approval by the Ridgecrest City Successor Agency/Financing Authority/Housing Authority. Meetings are recorded solely for the purpose of preparation of minutes.

ROLL CALL – 5:00 p.m.

Council Present: Mayor Eric A. Bruen; Mayor Pro-Tem Solomon P. Rajaratnam; Council Member Skip Gorman
Absent: Council Member L. Scott Hayman; Vice Mayor Kyle Blades
Staff Present: City Attorney M. Koczanowicz; City Manager Strand; City Clerk Charlon; Captain Dampier; PW Director/Deputy City Manager Reed; Parks & Rec Director Wegener; Finance Director Cheri Freese

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*Motion To Approve - **Rajaratnam - Gorman: 3 Ayes; 2 absent***

NOTE: The vote is displayed in bold below each item. For example, **Blades-Rajaratnam** denotes Council Member Blades made the motion and Council Member Rajaratnam seconded the motion. Ayes, Noes, Absents, Abstentions follow.

***Blades came in prior to public comment**

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION - None

CLOSED SESSION *Hayman came in at 6:08

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – Potential Litigation - Gov. Code § 54959.9(b) - Three Cases

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - Existing litigation – Gov. Code § 54956.9

Todd v. Dilda & City of Ridgecrest Kern County Sup Court Case # BCV-23-101356 TCS

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – Potential Litigation – Gov. Code § 54959.9(c) - One Case

REGULAR SESSION – 6:00 p.m.

ATTORNEY REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION – Denials unanimously agreed for McCormick and Watkins cases– attorney to send denials

PRESENTATION

Placer.ai

Strand

Public comments unknown speaker; J. Weston; M. Sinnott; M. Neel; unknown speaker; S. Rajtora; T. Wiknich; L. Lewis

PUBLIC COMMENT OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA – M. Sinnott; T. Wiknich; S. Rajtora; M. Neel; L. Lewis; unknown speaker

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS/DIRECTION – Direction given to bring Placer.ai back to council as an agenda item before approval

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Proposed Action To Approve Draft Minutes Of The Ridgecrest City Council Regular Meeting Dated July 19, 2023 **Charlon**
2. A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Approving The Hiring Of A Retired Annuitant As Interim Police Chief For A Limited Duration Under Government Code Sections 7522.56(C) And 21221(G) **Strand**
3. A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Reenacting And Adopting A Position Description For Fleet Mechanic I Into The Classification Plan **Reed**
4. A Resolution Of The City Of Ridgecrest Designating An ADA Coordinator And Adopting Procedures In Compliance With The Americans With Disabilities Act **Reed**
5. Authorization For The City Manager, To Sign The Notice Of Completion; The City Clerk To File Said Notice Of Completion; And City Staff To Release Retention In The Amount Of Seventy- Four Thousand Five Hundred Eighty-Four Dollars And One Cent (\$74,584.01) To The Contractor, Bowman Asphalt, Thirty (30) Days After Recordation For The Franklin Ave. Street Improvement Project **Reed**
6. Proposed Approval Of Increased Appropriations To The Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget For Gas Tax Fund-Streets Utilities Electric **Reed**

*Motion To Approve Consent Calendar - **Rajaratnam - Blades: 5 Ayes***

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ridgecrest Area Convention and Visitor Bureau (RACVB)

Members: Solomon Rajaratnam and Megan McKenzie (staff)

Meeting: 4th Wednesday each month at 9:00 a.m.

Location: California Welcome Center

➤ **Report from 7/26/23**

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Solomon Rajaratnam and Kyle Blades

Meeting: 4th Thursday each month at 5:00 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

➤ **Report from 7/27/23**

Parks, Recreation, and Quality of Life Committee

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Skip Gorman

Meeting: 1st Tuesday each month at 5:30 p.m.

Location: Kerr McGee Center Meeting Rooms

➤ **Report from 8/1/23**

City Organization and Services Committee ('City Org')

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Skip Gorman

Meeting: 1st Thursday each month at 5:30 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

➤ **Next meeting 8/3/23**

Economic Development Committee

Members: Kyle Blades and Solomon Rajaratnam
Meeting: 1st Monday of the month @ 5:15 p.m.
Location: City Hall Council Chambers
➤ **Next meeting 8/7/23**

Finance Committee

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Scott Hayman
Meeting: 2nd Tuesday each month at 5:30 p.m.
Location: City Hall Council Chambers
➤ **Next meeting 8/8/23**

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

CITY MANAGER REPORT

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

*placer.ai

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT - 8:35 p.m.

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

**Ridgecrest City Council
Successor Redevelopment Agency
Financing Authority
Housing Authority
STAFF REPORT**

SUBJECT: Approve Of Staff's Use Of Placer.ai Analytical Software To Assist In Economic Development Activities To Improve The Quality Of Life Within The Ridgecrest Community

PRESENTED BY: Ron Strand, City Manager

SUMMARY:

Staff is interested in using Placer.ai software to assist in the economic development activities in an effort to improve the quality of life within our community. Placer.ai is an advanced location analytics platform describing physical locations, the people and businesses that interact with them, and the markets they inhabit. Placer.ai empowers local governments to analyze consumer behavior, understand market trends, and optimize critical business decisions, in such areas as:

Retail Recruitment

- Discover retail demand
- Reveal leakage
- Target best fit retailers
- Drive revenue

Event Analysis

- Optimize Marketing
- Increase Sponsors and Vendors
- Measure Performance
- Reveal economic impact

Marketing & Reports

- Optimize marketing to reach target audiences
- Expand marketing based on new insights
- Receive monthly reports on visitation trends
- Share reports with stakeholders, and the public

Travel and Tourism

- Discover visitation to any destination, attraction, convention center, etc
- Discover demographic profile of visitors
- Discover origin market and visitor journey
- Gain insights into economic impacts
- Look at Competitor Locations

Placer.ai has been discussed at the Economic Development Committee twice and the City Council budget meeting in May. On August 2, 2023, Placer.ai made a presentation at City Council allowing City Council and the community to ask questions regarding the use of Placer.ai. City Council requested staff bring this resolution back to City Council for a vote on staff's use of the analytical software for economic development purposes.

FISCAL IMPACT: Annual cost of \$19K

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval for staff use of Placer.ai

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Action as requested

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

RESOLUTION NO. 23-XX

A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL TO APPROVE STAFF'S USE OF PLACER.AI ANALYTICAL SOFTWARE TO ASSIST IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE WITHIN THE RIDGECREST COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, staff is interested in using Placer.ai analytical software to assist in the economic development activities in an effort to improve the quality of life within our community; and,

WHEREAS, Placer.ai is an advanced location analytics platform describing physical locations, the people and businesses that interact with them, and the markets they inhabit; and,

WHEREAS, Placer.ai empowers local governments to analyze consumer behavior, understand market trends, and optimize critical business decisions, in such areas as retail recruitment, event analysis, marketing reports and travel and tourism; and,

WHEREAS, Placer.ai has been discussed at the Economic Development Committee twice and the City Council budget meeting in May; and,

WHEREAS, on August 2, 2023, Placer.ai made a presentation at City Council allowing City Council and the community to ask questions regarding the use of Placer.ai; and,

WHEREAS, City Council requested staff bring this resolution back to City Council for a vote on staff's use of the analytical software for economic development purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City Council approves staff's use of the Placer.ai analytical software for economic development purposes.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED, this 16th day of August 2023, by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Eric A. Bruen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ricca Charlon, CMC
City Clerk

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

**Ridgecrest City Council
Successor Redevelopment Agency
Financing Authority
Housing Authority
STAFF REPORT**

SUBJECT: Request for Sponsorship of the Petroglyph Rock Art Festival

PRESENTED BY:

Ricca Charlon, City Clerk

SUMMARY:

The Petroglyph Rock Art Festival will be held November 4-5, 2023. Business leaders from the Ridgecrest community are planning the Petroglyph Rock Art Festival to highlight the rock art in the area and to brand the Ridgecrest area as the rock art capital of North America. With the Petroglyphs in Little Petroglyph Canyon, the area is widely known for having some of the finest Petroglyphs in North America and Little Petroglyph Canyon is designated as a national historic landmark.

The festival has been established as an annual event and is a tremendous draw to bring tourists to the Ridgecrest area to stay in our hotels, eat in our restaurants and shop at local businesses. Once tourists have been to Ridgecrest, we envision many of them coming back again because there is much to see within a short drive of the Ridgecrest area.

The Petroglyph Education Foundation has been actively raising donations to fund the event and this year has made a request for the City of Ridgecrest to sponsor the event through in-kind services including traffic and crowd control.

FISCAL IMPACT: In-kind contributions to be determined

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve a resolution authorizing in-kind services

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Action as requested

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

RESOLUTION NO. 23-Xx

A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTING THE 2023 PETROGLYPH FESTIVAL AS A SIGNATURE EVENT OF THE CITY AND AUTHORIZE IN KIND SERVICE TO SUPPORT THE EVENT

WHEREAS, the City recognizes and acknowledges the importance of public events that serve to enrich the civic, charitable, cultural, economic, athletic, and education of the community; and,

WHEREAS, the City encourages support of public events that provide the community and visitors these enrichments; and,

WHEREAS, the City desires to support the 2023 Petroglyph Festival as a signature event and the allocating of in-kind services to assist with costs associated with holding a signature event in the community; and,

WHEREAS, the City can benefit from a successful signature event, with increased revenues from tourism.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Ridgecrest does hereby:

1. Declare that the 2023 Petroglyph Festival is a Signature Event for the City of Ridgecrest; and,
2. Commit to providing in-kind services in an amount to be determined.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 16th day of August, 2023 by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:

Eric A. Bruen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ricca Charlon, CMC
City Clerk

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

**Ridgecrest City Council
Successor Redevelopment Agency
Financing Authority
Housing Authority
STAFF REPORT**

SUBJECT: Proposed Approval Of Increased Appropriations To The Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget For The Design, Bid And Construction Services For The New Sgt. Pinney Memorial Pool Aquatic Complex

PRESENTED BY: Ron Strand, City Manager

SUMMARY: In November 2022, the citizens of Ridgecrest approved Measure P enabling the funding to rebuild the Sgt. Pinney Memorial Pool, which was closed in 2017.

In February 2023, the City hired consultants Aquatic Design Group and Flewelling & Moody Architects to assist in receiving public input through Town Hall format meetings to assist in the design, features and programs of a new Sgt. Pinney Memorial Pool Aquatic Complex for the community. Prior to hiring the consultants, the City conducted several public meetings and community surveys to prioritize local funding needs for City services. According to public input, a new pool was one of the top priorities of the community.

In March of this year, the City began a series of Town Hall meetings led by City staff and consultants from Aquatic Design Group and Flewelling & Moody Architects. Through those meetings a concept design for the new Sgt. Pinney Memorial Pool Aquatic Complex was developed with an estimated cost of \$12-13M. Recently, Flewelling & Moody Architects submitted a cost estimate to the City for full design, bid and construction services for \$1.2M. There will be an additional cost of \$50K for geotechnical services needed for the full design of the pool complex separate from the work provided by Flewelling & Moody Architects – total funds needed \$1.25M.

Flewelling & Moody Architects' estimated project timeline:
September 2023 – 100% design development
November 2023 – 100% construction documents
Construction begins – Second quarter 2024
Project completion – Summer 2025

When the FY24 budget was submitted, staff did not yet know the estimated cost for the full design of the new Sgt. Pinney Memorial Pool Complex. In FY23, staff budgeted \$500K for the initial design, which \$444K still remains. In FY24, staff budgeted an additional \$250K totaling \$694K in available funds. The project is short \$556K of the needed \$1.25M. Measure P is estimated to have \$4.3M in unallocated funds for FY24. Staff recommends increasing appropriations in the FY24 budget by \$556K to fund the full design of the new Sgt. Pinney Memorial Pool Complex.

Staff requests an increase in appropriations in account 101.62.6202.5101.302 (Professional Services Engineering Services) from \$250K to \$806K.

FISCAL IMPACT: \$556K in unallocated Measure P funds

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval of increased appropriations as requested

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION: Action as requested

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

RESOLUTION NO. 23-XX

A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL APPROVING AN INCREASE IN APPROPRIATIONS TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 BUDGET FOR THE DESIGN, BID AND CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR THE NEW SGT. PINNEY MEMORIAL POOL AQUATIC COMPLEX

WHEREAS, in November 2022, the citizens of Ridgecrest approved Measure P enabling the funding to rebuild the Sgt. Pinney Memorial Pool, which was closed in 2017; and,

WHEREAS, in February 2023, the City hired consultants Aquatic Design Group and Flewelling & Moody Architects to assist in receiving public input through Town Hall format meetings to assist in the design, features and programs of a new Sgt. Pinney Memorial Pool Aquatic Complex for the community. Prior to hiring the consultants, the City conducted several public meetings and community surveys to prioritize local funding needs for City services; and,

WHEREAS, in March of this year, the City began a series of Town Hall meetings led by City staff and consultants from Aquatic Design Group and Flewelling & Moody Architects. Through those meetings a concept design for the new Sgt. Pinney Memorial Pool Aquatic Complex was developed with an estimated cost of \$12-13M; and,

WHEREAS, recently, Flewelling & Moody Architects submitted a cost estimate to the City for full design, bid and construction services for \$1.2M with an additional cost of \$50K for geotechnical services needed for the full design of the pool complex separate from the work provided by Flewelling & Moody Architects – total funds needed \$1.25M; and,

WHEREAS, when the FY24 budget was submitted, staff did not yet know the estimated cost for the full design of the new Sgt. Pinney Memorial Pool Complex. In FY23, staff budgeted \$500K for the initial design, which \$444K still remains. In FY24, staff budgeted an additional \$250K totaling \$694K in available funds. The project is short \$556K of the needed \$1.25M. Measure P is estimated to have \$4.3M in unallocated funds for FY24.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, authorize the Finance Director to increase appropriations in account 101.62.6202.5101.302 (Professional Services Engineering Services) from \$250K to \$806K from unallocated Measure P FY24 funds.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED, this 16th day of August 2023, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

Eric A. Bruen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ricca Charlon, CMC
City Clerk

This Page Intentionally Left Blank