

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

October 20, 2021
Regular Session 6:00 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL

Eric A. Bruen, Mayor

L. Scott Hayman, Mayor Pro Tem

Solomon P. Rajaratnam, Vice Mayor

Kyle Blades, Council Member

Peggy Breeden, 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 Charlon, City Clerk
(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 Charlon 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.

Documents and material relating to open session agenda items that are provided to the full City Council prior to a regular meeting will be available for public inspection and copying at City Hall.

City Council agendas and corresponding writings of open session items are available for public inspection at the following locations:

1. City of Ridgecrest City Hall, 100 W. California Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555
2. City of Ridgecrest official website at <http://www.ridgecrest-ca.gov>

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

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

AGENDA

Wednesday, October 20, 2021

Regular Session – 6:00 p.m.

City of Ridgecrest Council meetings are OPEN to public attendance. Although Chambers are OPEN, public participation is still *encouraged* via live streaming, call-in or via written correspondence.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

REGULAR SESSION

- Pledge Of Allegiance
- Invocation

PRESENTATIONS

1. Life Saving Award

Police Dept.

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

2. Approve Draft Minutes Of The Ridgecrest City Council Dated October 6, 2021

Charlon

DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

3. Proposed Approval Of Increased Appropriations To The Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget To Hire California Consulting Inc.

Wegener

4. Discussion Regarding The Board Of The Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority (IWVGA)

Hayman

PUBLIC HEARING

5. Conduct A Public Hearing And Adopt A Resolution Recommending Community Development Block Grant CARES Act (CDBG-CV) Funding Use In The Amount Of \$67,219.00 And Project Description To The Kern County Board Of Supervisors For The City Of Ridgecrest

Wegener

6. A Public Hearing And Resolution Approval Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest, Ridgecrest, California, Summarily Vacating A Portion Of The East Right-Of-Way Of S. Downs Street Between Wasp Avenue And 165 Feet +/- North Of The Center Line Of Wildrose Avenue

Reed

COMMITTEE REPORTS

***Committee Meeting dates are subject to change and will be announced on the City website*

Finance Committee

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Scott Hayman

Meeting: 3rd Monday each month at 5:00 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

➤ **Report from 10/12/21 Special Meeting**

Economic Development Committee

Members: Kyle Blades and Solomon Rajaratnam

Meeting: 2nd Wednesday of the Month @ 5:00 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

➤ **10/13/21 - Cancelled**

City Organization and Services Committee ('City Org')

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Peggy Breeden

Meeting: 1st Monday each month at 5:15 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

➤ **Report from 10/7/21**

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Peggy Breeden and Kyle Blades

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

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

➤ **Report from 10/19/21 Special Meeting**

Ridgecrest Area Convention and Visitors Bureau (RACVB)

Members: Solomon Rajaratnam and Megan McKenzie (staff)

Meeting: 3rd Wednesday of the Month, 9:00 a.m.

Location: Kerr McGee Center Meeting Rooms

➤ **Report from 10/20/21**

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

CITY MANAGER REPORT

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

City of Ridgecrest Public Meeting Protocol In Response to Coronavirus (COVID-19)

City of Ridgecrest Council meetings are OPEN to public attendance. Although Chambers are OPEN, public participation is still *encouraged* via live streaming, call-in or via written correspondence.

TO PARTICIPATE please call, email, or send mail to the contact info provided below:

The public may use one of the following alternatives for participating in person:

- **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.

- **Submit written comments:**

We encourage submittal of written comments supporting, opposing, or otherwise commenting on an agenda item, for distribution to the City Council prior to the meeting. Send emails to rcharlon@ridgecrest-ca.gov; written correspondence may be sent to Ricca Charlon, City Clerk, 100 W. California Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555. Please specify to which agenda item your comment relates. All communication, whether it is a formal letter or an online informal email, is read by the City Council.

Please click on the link below to access the City Council Agenda, Minutes and Video web page. <https://ridgecrest-ca.gov/212/City-Council>

If you have any questions please contact us.

Ricca Charlon, City Clerk
Phone: (760) 499-5002

****Revised February 24, 2021***

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

SUBJECT:

Proposed Action To Approve Draft Minutes Of The Ridgecrest City Council Dated October 6, 2021

PRESENTED BY:

Ricca Charlon, City Clerk

SUMMARY:

Draft Minutes of the City Council / Successor Redevelopment Agency / Housing Authority / Financing Authority Regular Meeting Dated October 6, 2021

FISCAL IMPACT: None

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve minutes

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION: Action as requested

Submitted by: Ricca Charlon

Action Date: Oct 20, 2021

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

DRAFT Minutes

October 6, 2021

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.

CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Present: Mayor Eric A. Bruen; Mayor Pro Tem L. Scott Hayman; Vice Mayor Solomon P. Rajaratnam; Council Members Kyle Blades and Peggy Breeden

Council Absent: None

Staff Present: City Manager Strand; City Attorney Koczanowicz (via phone); City Clerk Charlon (via WebEx)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- **Blades-Breeden: 5 Ayes**

NOTE: The vote is displayed in bold below each item. For example, **Blades-Rajaratnam** denotes Council Member Blades made the motion and Vice Mayor Rajaratnam seconded the motion.

REGULAR SESSION

PRESENTATIONS

1. Proclamation – Ridgecrest Community Garden 1 Year Anniversary

Council

PUBLIC COMMENT OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Comments heard from R. Kicinski, T. Wiknich, H. Potter

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEF Fair Oct 22-24, 2021; Demo Derby Oct 24, 2021; Clean-up day Oct 23, 2021 8a-12p; Movie in Freedom Park Oct 29, 2021; Oct 16, 2021 Inyokern Airport to honor George Bertrand

CONSENT CALENDAR

2. Approve Draft Minutes Of The Ridgecrest City Council dated September 15, 2021 **Charlon Rajaratnam** – change IWVGA to IWVWD; change to finance replenishment fee not extraction fee – motion made with these amendments
 - **Blades-Rajaratnam: 5 Ayes**

DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

3. A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council To Appropriate A Portion Of The American Rescue Plan Act Funds **Freese**
Comments heard from T. Wiknich, K. Russell
 - **Breeden-Rajaratnam: 5 Ayes**
4. Discussion Regarding The Board Of The Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority (IWVGA) **Hayman**
Comments heard from T. Wiknich, R. Kicinski, K. Russell, Unknown Speaker

5. A Resolution Approving A Memorandum Of Understandings Between The City Of Ridgecrest And United Food & Commercial Workers Union 8 Golden State (UFCW) **Strand**
 - **Hayman-Blades: 5 Ayes**
 - *City Clerk left call due to technical difficulties, continued to watch via YouTube for minute transcription

6. A Resolution To Approve The Professional Service Agreement With The Firm Willdan Engineering In The Amount of \$69,903 To Provide Design and Construction Management Services For The Crosswalk Upgrades Project, HSIP Grant Project And Authorize The City Manager, Ron Strand, To Sign The Agreement **Reed**
 - **Rajaratnam-Blades: 5 Ayes**

7. A Resolution To Approve The Professional Service Agreement With The Firm Willdan Engineering In The Amount of \$92,383 To Provide Design and Construction Management Services For City Wide Arterial Flashing Stop Signs and Advanced Pavement Markings Project, HSIP Grant Project; And Authorize The City Manager, Ron Strand, To Sign The Agreement **Reed**
 - **Rajaratnam-Breeden: 5 Ayes**

8. A Resolution To Approve The Professional Service Agreement With The Firm Willdan Engineering In The Amount of \$58,100 To Provide Design and Construction Management Services For China Lake Boulevard Adaptive Traffic Signal Upgrades Project, HSIP Grant Project; And Authorize The City Manager, Ron Strand, To Sign The Agreement **Culp**
 - **Blades-Hayman: 5 Ayes**

9. Proposed Action To Approve A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Summarily Vacating A Drainage And Utility Easement Within A Portion Of Former W. Park View Avenue, Located Westerly Of S. China Lake Boulevard **Culp**

Public Hearing opened at 8:20 p.m.

No public comments

Public Hearing closed at 8:25 p.m.

- **Blades-Rajaratnam: 5 Ayes**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

***Committee Meeting dates are subject to change and will be announced on the City website*

Finance Committee

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Scott Hayman

Meeting: 3rd Monday each month at 5:00 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

- **9/20/21 – Meeting Canceled**

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Peggy Breeden and Kyle Blades

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

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

- **Report from 9/23/21 – Discussed SCE Option E lighting, Argus/Balsam 4 way stop (not possible), ADA transition plan, patch paving standards, lighting for Pearson Park, waste water plant update/visit**

Parks, Recreation, and Quality of Life Committee

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Scott Hayman

Meeting: 1st Tuesday each month at 5:00 p.m.

Location: Kerr McGee Center Meeting Rooms

- **Report from 10/5/21 – Discussed SPP grant – still waiting on answer, Clean CA grant, KMCC fully open, Tree lighting-Dec, movie night-Oct 29**

City Organization and Services Committee ('City Org')

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Peggy Breeden

Meeting: 1st Monday each month at 5:15 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

- **No September meeting**

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

Bruen - Quad States – Sept. 24 – new Executive director contract, environmental concerns

Blades – KernCOG – RSTP was awarded to us – Phase II of Ward Ave.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Potential loss of Kern County local courthouse

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Nerissa QOL presentation

Breeden – Bruen – change/modernization of logo

Bruen – Discussion of changing name of E. Las Flores between China Lake and French – to City Org.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Hayman – COVID concerns/school mandates and potential job loss with Ridgecrest citizens

Blades – right to choice on getting vaccinated and the over reach of government mandates

Bruen – Communication – Zen City – increase in transparency. Reminder – it's a choice to be happy!

ADJOURNMENT – 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ricca Charlon, CMC
City Clerk

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

SUBJECT: Proposed Approval Of Increased Appropriations To The Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget To Hire California Consulting Inc.

PRESENTED BY: Nerissa Wegener, Interim Parks and Recreation

SUMMARY:

The City of Ridgecrest Parks and Recreation Department is asking City Council to approve a \$25,000 increase from the general fund reserve to account number 100.63.6300.5103.301 for Professional Services. This was not a budgeted expense for the Fiscal Year 2022. These funds will be used to Hire California Consulting Inc. to write the City of Ridgecrest's grant application for the Clean California Local Grant Program as well as to hire a design consultant to draw an engineered concept plan in preparation to submit the grant application.

The Clean California Local Grant Program will provide us with the opportunity to improve and renovate a high use area within our community designated as a disadvantaged community area. The Leroy Jackson Sports Complex is our only park located within this area designation.

The maximum allocation for this Grant is \$5 million dollars with no minimum allocation. The total amount being funded through this program is \$296 million dollars with local match components ranging from 0% - 50% of the project costs. The goal for this Grant is to assist in community litter abatement and beautification projects as well as community litter abatement events and/or education programs.

The projects that the City of Ridgecrest Parks and Recreation staff are looking to achieve for our community include but are not limited to shade structures, shade trees, walking path completion, proper waste collection, lighting, seating, play equipment, bathrooms, removal of grass in front of tennis courts, fitness pad and additional drinking fountains at Leroy Jackson Sports Complex. While community input is required for the grant the above items and location have been brought to the Quality of Life Committees attention in a previous meeting during public comment. All of the above projects fall within the Grants eligible project criteria.

The benefit of hiring California Consulting Inc. is improved chance of allocation so we can provide a high use facility with an overdue renovation and provide the community with items they feel are needed to improve their quality of life. As this grant is a competitive grant program having the assistance of California Consulting Inc. would be beneficial to our application.

FISCAL IMPACT: \$25,000 from unallocated General Fund

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval of increased appropriations as requested

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION: Action as requested

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RESOLUTION NO. 21-Xx

A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL APPROVING INCREASED APPROPRIATIONS IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET TO HIRE CALIFORNIA CONSULTING INC.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Ridgecrest has duly adopted its annual budget per resolution; and,

WHEREAS, resolution 21-30 spells out the circumstances whereby total fund appropriations may be and can be increased; and,

WHEREAS, certain increases in annual appropriations and estimated revenues to the budget require City Council Resolution prior to implementation; and,

WHEREAS, The City of Ridgecrest Parks and Recreation Department is asking council to approve a \$25,000 increase to account number 100.63.6300.5103.301 for Professional Services; and,

WHEREAS, this was not a budgeted expense for the Fiscal Year 2022; and,

WHEREAS, these funds will be used to hire California Consulting Inc., and to hire a design consultant to draw an engineered concept plan to prepare City of Ridgecrest's grant application for the Clean California Local Grant Program; and,

WHEREAS; the Clean California Local Grant Program would provide City of Ridgecrest with the opportunity to improve and renovate a high use area; and,

WHEREAS, the goal set forth by California Department of Transportation for the Clean California Local Grant is to assist in community litter abatement and beautification projects as well as community litter abatement events and/or education programs; and,

WHEREAS, the possible projects Parks and Recreation Department staff are looking to achieve for the community include but are not limited to shade structures, shade trees, walking path completion, proper waste collection, lighting, seating, play equipment, bathrooms, removal of grass in front of tennis courts, fitness pad and additional drinking fountains at Leroy Jackson Sports Complex; and,

WHEREAS, all of the above projects have been brought to the Quality of Life Committees attention in previous meetings during public comment and fall within the grants eligible project criteria; and,

WHEREAS, the benefit of hiring California Consulting Inc. is improved chance of allocation so City of Ridgecrest Parks and Recreation Department can provide a high use facility with an overdue renovation and provide the community with items they feel are needed to improve their quality of life.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Ridgecrest does hereby authorize the Finance Director to make the following adjustment in the FY22 budget: Transfer \$25,000 from unallocated General Fund to expenditure account number 100.63.6300.5103.301 for Professional Services.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED, this 20th day of October 2021 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Eric A. Bruen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ricca Charlon
City Clerk

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

SUBJECT:

Discussion Regarding The Board Of The Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority (IWVGA)

PRESENTED BY:

L. Scott Hayman, City Council / IWVGA Representative

SUMMARY:

Report and discussion regarding Board meetings of the IWVGA. Including, Board discussion and consideration of issues of importance requiring action by the IWVGA.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

ACTION REQUESTED: Discuss

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION: Action as requested

Submitted by: Ricca Charlon

Action Date: Oct. 20, 2021

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

SUBJECT: Conduct A Public Hearing And Adopt A Resolution Recommending Community Development Block Grant CARES Act (CDBG-CV) Funding Use In The Amount Of \$67,219.00 And Project Description To The Kern County Board Of Supervisors For The City Of Ridgecrest

PRESENTED BY: Nerissa Wegener, Interim Parks and Recreation Director

SUMMARY:

In response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Securities Act (CARES) was signed into law. The CARES Act provides federal funds issued by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to allow Kern County and the Cooperating Cities (of which Ridgecrest is one) to fund local emergency response to the coronavirus.

The City of Ridgecrest has received notification of a CARES allocation in the amount of \$67,219.00. These special funds are to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19).

The Kern County Board of Supervisors must review the application and project concept from the City on the proposed use of the funds after receiving a signed resolution from the City Council of the City of Ridgecrest.

The City Council of the City of Ridgecrest will conduct a Public Hearing to discuss and consider possible uses of the \$67,219.00. A potential use is the purchase and installation of a Bi-Polar Ionization Air Filtration System in the HVAC units in City Hall, the Kerr McGee Community Center and the Ridgecrest Senior Center

Staff considered other possible projects using the CDBG-CV funding such as Replacing the HVAC unit that services the Ridgecrest Police Department as well as the HVAC unit at the Ridgecrest Senior Center. In reviewing these other projects it was determined that the units were not at the end of their life span as they are less than 10 years old and do not frequently have operating problems.

Public comments will be heard and accepted before approval of the selected project(s).

FISCAL IMPACT: None, the proposed project will be funded through the CDBG-CV CARES program.

ACTION REQUESTED: Open public hearing, discuss, and decide upon project / approval of corresponding resolution.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Action as requested

Submitted by: Nerissa Wegener

Action Date: Oct. 20, 2021

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RESOLUTION NO. 21-Xx

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIDGECREST
RECOMMENDING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT CARES
ACT (CDBG-CV) FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$67,219.00 AND
PROJECT DESCRIPTION TO THE KERN COUNTY BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS**

WHEREAS, In Response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Securities Act (CARE) was signed into law. The CARES Act provides federal funds issued by the development of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to allow Kern County and the Cooperating Cities (of which Ridgecrest is one) to fund local emergency response to the coronavirus; and,

WHEREAS, The City of Ridgecrest has received notification of a CARES allocation in the amount of \$67,219.00. These special funds are to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19); and,

WHEREAS, The City Council of the City of Ridgecrest held a Public Hearing to discuss and consider possible uses of the \$67,219.00 and its potential use in the purchase and installation of a Bi-Polar Ionization Air Filtration System in the HVAC units in City Hall, the Kerr McGee Community Center and the Ridgecrest Senior Center; and,

WHEREAS, it was determined by the City Council to use this funding allocation for the purchase and installation of a Bi-Polar Ionization Air Filtration System in the HVAC units located at City Hall, Kerr McGee Community Center and the Senior Center.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Ridgecrest the following:

1. The approved activity is designed to alleviate existing conditions, those conditions that pose a serious or immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community which are of recent origin or which recently became urgent (i.e. to prevent, prepare for and respond to coronavirus); and,
2. That the above project is approved and recommendation is made to move forward with the above project.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 20th day of October 2021, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Eric Bruen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ricca Charlon
City Clerk

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

SUBJECT:

A Public Hearing And Resolution Approval Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest, Ridgecrest, California, Summarily Vacating A Portion Of The East Right-Of-Way Of S. Downs Street Between Wasp Avenue And 165 Feet +/- North Of The Center Line Of Wildrose Avenue

PRESENTED BY:

Travis Reed, Public Works Director

SUMMARY:

Supporting documents for this item were not ready at the time of agenda posting and will be distributed once available.

FISCAL IMPACT:

ACTION REQUESTED:

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Submitted by: Travis Reed, Public Works Director

Action Date: October 20, 2021

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