

1. March 16 City Council Meeting Agenda

Documents:

[AGENDA - 03-16-26.PDF](#)



CITY OF LA VERNE

COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Tim Hepburn, Mayor

Wendy Lau, Council Member
Steven Frank Johnson, Council Member

Rick Crosby, Council Member
Meshal "Kash" Kashifalghita, Mayor Pro Tem

Monday, March 16, 2026
Closed Session at 5:30 PM
Regular Meeting at 6:30 PM
La Verne City Hall - Council Chambers,
3660 D Street, La Verne, CA 91750

In compliance with the American Disabilities Act, any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation to participate in a meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at (909) 596-8726 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Regular Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month.

Individuals can email their comments to the City Clerk's Office at cityclerk@LaVerneCA.gov up to noon on the day of the meeting. Those comments will be shared with City Council in advance of the City Council meeting and included as part of the permanent record. **Please be advised that public comments submitted by emails or any other format to the City are public records that will be made available for public viewing.**

Individuals who wish to share their comments with Council during the meeting may do so in a variety of ways:

- Attend the City Council Meeting in person and fill out a comment card or raise your hand to request to comment on the current agenda item(s).
- Participate via Zoom, by visiting www.LaVerneCA.gov/zoom where you will be automatically redirected to the meeting or call into the meeting via phone **1-669-900-6833** and enter **ID 885 9546 3822** when prompted. Public comments via Zoom may be accepted for the agenda items listed within the **Consent Calendar, Public Hearing** and **Discussion Calendar** sections of the agenda. Zoom participants who violate decorum protocols will be called to order by the presiding officer and if a violation continues, will be muted by direction of the presiding officer.
- Once items are considered by the City Council, no further public comment on that matter will be accepted. A time limit of 3-minutes is set for all public comments.

Council Meeting Decorum: Per the City's Rules for Decorum, all Speakers and Members of the Audience are to conduct themselves with decorum and not engage in willful conduct which interrupts the meeting or with the orderly conduct of the meeting.

CLOSED SESSION AGENDA - 5:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Council Member Steven F. Johnson, Council Member Wendy Lau, Council Member Rick Crosby, Mayor Pro Tem Meshal "Kash" Kashifalghita, and Mayor Tim Hepburn.

CLOSED SESSION TOPIC

Conference with Labor Negotiators, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6:

Negotiators: City Manager, Assistant City Manager, and City Attorney.

Employee Organization(s): La Verne City Employees Association, La Verne Firefighters Association, La Verne Fire Middle Management Association, La Verne Police Middle Management Association, and all Unrepresented Employees.

The City Council will recess and reconvene at 6:30 PM for the regularly scheduled City Council meeting.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING - 6:30 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - RONALD LEWIS, AIR FORCE, TECHNICAL SERGEANT (E-6)

ROLL CALL

Council Member Steven F. Johnson, Council Member Wendy Lau, Council Member Rick Crosby, Mayor Pro Tem Meshal "Kash" Kashifalghita, and Mayor Tim Hepburn.

PRESENTATIONS

Bonita High School Girls' Water Polo 2026 - The Bonita Girl's Water Polo team finished the 2026 season with an overall record of 26-6 and were the undefeated League Champions in the Palomares League. The team advanced to the CIF playoffs where they had the number 3 seed and after 4 rounds of play, BHS girls water polo fell 16-15 in overtime to the eventual Division 2 champion La Serna High School in the Semi-Final game. The team was coached by Dillon Unsoeld and assisted by John Ashby and Cody Lehotsky.

Natalie Rosen
McKenzie Allred
Isla Romero
Eva Hanke
Joy Peoples

Maddie Rosen
Charlotte Cruz
Rosanna Jimenez
Jocilyn Ortega
Abbie Noyes

Ava Wu
Giselle Rappa
Sophia Quezada
Juliet Perez

Peyton Ashby
Kennedy O'Connell
Vivianna Velasquez
Charlotte Scholefield

Red Cross Month Proclamation - American Red Cross Month recognizes the everyday heroes who support their communities through the American Red Cross. The San Gabriel Pomona Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross provided essential aid during the natural disasters, providing meals, overnight shelter, comfort kits, recovery assistance through local resource centers, and more.

Recognition and Presentation of "Pride of La Verne Awards" - Annually, the City Council presents the "Jack Huntington Award" and the "Jim Scranton Award" to recognize volunteers who have made outstanding contributions and performed exemplary service to the City and the community. Each recipient receives an individual Pride of La Verne plaque and their names are placed on perpetual plaques displayed in City Hall.

The "Jack Huntington Award" was named after S. Jack Huntington, who moved to La Verne in 1970. Despite heavy professional obligations and time commitments to the U.S. Naval Reserve, Jack became actively involved in the community as a volunteer. He was active in various local

organizations, including the La Verne Jaycees, Little League and the Youth Basketball program. Jack also served as a City of La Verne Commissioner for more than 15 years, completing two terms on the Parks & Recreation Commission as well as two terms on the Planning Commission. Jack Huntington was a citizen volunteer who exemplified the “Pride of La Verne” through selfless service to the community. This year, the City Council has nominated Raymond Swain.

Raymond Swain has been a dedicated member of the La Verne community since moving to the city in 1989. Over the years, he has generously contributed his time and leadership to numerous local and regional organizations. Raymond volunteered for four years with Boy Scouts of America Troop 411, attending weekday meetings and participating in overnight camping trips to support youth development. He also spent three years as a parent volunteer with La Verne Little League, regularly attending games and workouts while assisting coaches and encouraging young athletes. For six years, Raymond was active with International Toastmasters, serving as both Club President and Area Governor, where he helped members achieve their communication goals and supported clubs in reaching their membership and growth objectives. In addition, he served as Chairman of the City’s Ad Hoc Water and Sewer Rate Study Committee, providing valuable input on a key community issue. He also served on the City’s Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Steering Committee, providing input on the City’s update to its’ Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. Raymond also dedicated hundreds of hours leading the effort to establish La Verne’s first Firewise community, helping neighbors reduce wildfire risk and strengthen local preparedness. A frequent attendee of City Council meetings, Raymond continues to demonstrate a strong commitment to civic engagement and the well-being of the La Verne community.

The “Jim Scranton Award” was named after long-time resident Jim Scranton who was a member of the Youth Sports Committee since its inception. In 1986, he formed the La Verne Lazars Soccer Club organization which provides youngsters an opportunity to play soccer at a highly competitive level. Jim also spent five years on the City Sports Park Committee, which resulted in the development of 35 acres of sports fields for the community. He also participated in the City women’s soccer program as a coach. Jim is survived by his wife Susan and their children. The Youth Sports Committee recommended that a Pride of La Verne Youth Sports Volunteer Award be named in honor of Jim Scranton. This year’s award recipient is Ray Ortiz.

Ray has been in the region for over 25 years and on the Board for over 10 years. He has coached players in AYSO from their earliest days (6U) to their last days (19U). He has been a positive influence on many players that have come through the region and today can be found helping our referees perform their duties. In the last three years, he has been our referee administrator and has worked tirelessly to bring volunteer referees out on the fields, he has performed the necessary training and mentoring with them so that they could be confident in their duties and enjoy their time on the field. In the past year alone, Ray has invested his time and effort to help over a dozen referees achieve the Intermediate and Advanced referee badge levels. These badge levels allow the referees to officiate with more confidence in the older age groups. Ray was also involved in bring back the Great Western Shootout this past year. Congratulations, Ray!

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

(Any person who wishes to make a brief announcement of a future community event that is open to the public may do so at this time.)

CONSENT CALENDAR

(All items on the Consent Calendar are routine and will be enacted by one motion unless a member of the Council or member of the audience requests separate discussion.)

1. **City Council Minutes of the Closed Session and Regular meeting of March 2, 2026, and the State of the City Special meeting on February 18, 2026.**

Recommendation: That the City Council approve the minutes.

2. **Register of Audited Demands in the amount of \$1,752,325.26, dated 02/26/26.**

Recommendation: That City Council approved the audited demands.

3. **Amendment No. 1 to Agreement with the Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County for Communications and Dispatch Services.** Approve Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement for Communications and Dispatch Services with the Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County to revise the per-incident cost calculation and authorize reimbursement for Tablet Command software subscription licenses following the expiration of grant funding.

Recommendation: That the City Council approve Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement for Communications and Dispatch Services with the Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County and authorize the Mayor to execute the Amendment.

4. **Annual Housing Progress Report 2025.** The City is required by the state to prepare an Annual Progress Report on the status and progress in implementing the Housing Element of the General Plan. This report is required to be presented to the City Council as an informational item to update the City Council on the previous year's Housing Element status. The attachment contains the reportable progress that will be provided to the state.

Recommendation: That the City Council receive and file the Housing Element Annual Progress Report for 2025.

5. **Metro A-Line (formerly Gold Line) Transit Oriented Development Bridge, Grant of Easement Acceptance.** The proposed pedestrian bridge crossing over Arrow Highway providing a connection between the La Verne A-Line Station and the Fairplex Campus will require easements for the portion of the facilities that land on the adjoining properties. Discussions with Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority and Los Angeles Metropolitan Transit Authority (Metro) staff are nearing conclusion.

Recommendation: That the City Council adopt a Resolution accepting the permanent easement from the Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority associated with the Transit Oriented Development Pedestrian Bridge Project, in a form approved by the City Attorney.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

6. **Brethren Hillcrest Gateway Project – General Plan Amendment, Zone Change, and Mitigated Negative Declaration.** Consideration of the Brethren Hillcrest Gateway Project, including a General Plan Amendment, Zone Change, and Mitigated Negative Declaration for redevelopment of the North and South Gateway sites within the Hillcrest continuing care retirement community.

Recommendation: That the City Council adopt:

1. The resolution titled: "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VERNE, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING AN INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND A MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM FOR PORTIONS OF THE BRETHERN HILLCREST GATEWAY PROJECT AND RECOMMENDING THAT THE CITY COUNCIL ADOPT THE SAME FOR THE GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT (113-25GPA) AND ZONE CHANGE (114-25ZC) PORTIONS OF THE BRETHERN HILLCREST GATEWAY PROJECT."
2. The resolution titled: "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VERNE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING CASE NO. 113-25GPA, A REQUEST BY HILLCREST HOMES TO AMEND THE GENERAL PLAN DESIGNATION OF THE SITES AT AIN: 8381-010-006, AIN: 8381-010-028, AND AIN: 8381-010-033 FROM LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL TO COMMUNITY FACILITY."
3. Introduce by title only and waive further reading of an Ordinance titled: "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VERNE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING CASE NO. 114-25ZC, A REQUEST BY HILLCREST HOMES TO CHANGE THE ZONE DESIGNATION FROM "PR4.5D" TO "INSTITUTIONAL" FOR THE SITES LOCATED AT AIN: 8381-010-028, AIN: 8381-010-033, AIN: 8381-010-006, AND AIN: 8381-012-013."

DISCUSSION CALENDAR

- 7. Adoption of the 2026 Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update and finding of Exemption from Environmental Review.** Adoption of the 2026 Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

Recommendation: That the City Council adopt the 2026 Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update and find that it is exempt from environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15262 (Feasibility and Planning Studies).

- 8. Fiscal Year 26-27 Preliminary Landscape and Lighting Maintenance Districts No. 6, 7, and 8 Budget Outlook.** The City of La Verne has three active Landscape & Lighting Maintenance Districts serving the communities that benefit from ongoing maintenance. Annually, the City is required to consider the budget for each District. Fiscal Year 2026-27 is expected to continue to see increased costs for utilities and operations. Per previous City Council direction, Staff is presenting options to address the maintenance of these districts with an emphasis on cost control.

Recommendation: That the City Council receive and file the update on Landscape and Lighting Maintenance Districts.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

This is the time set aside for anyone wishing to address the City Council on items not listed in any other place on the agenda and within the subject matter jurisdiction of the City Council. Under the provisions of the Brown Act, the legislative body is prohibited from talking or engaging in discussion on any item not appearing on the posted agenda. However, your concerns may be referred to staff or set for discussion later. Please email your public comment to the City Clerk's Office at cityclerk@LaVerneCA.gov. Your public comment will be shared with the City Council and included as part of the permanent record. There is a 3-minute time limit on public comments.

COUNCIL COMMENTS AND CONFERENCE/MEETING REPORTS

Each Council Member may address the Council and public on matters of general information and/or concern. This is also the time for Council Members to report on conferences and/or meetings they have attended per Assembly Bill 1234.

ADJOURNMENT

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE LA VERNE CITY COUNCIL IS SCHEDULED FOR
MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2026.
CLOSED/STUDY SESSION AT 5:30 P.M., REGULAR MEETING AT 6:30 P.M.**

Posting Statement: A true copy of this Agenda was posted on March 10, 2026, on the bulletin board at La Verne City Hall, 3660 D Street, La Verne, and on the City's website at www.LaVerneCA.gov.

RESIDENT INFORMATION

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Wednesday, March 18 - Senior Advisory Committee meeting, La Verne Community Center, 10:00 am

Tuesday, March 24 - Youth & Family Committee meeting, City Hall, 5:00 pm

Saturday, March 28 - Eggcellent Adventure, Heritage Park, 9:00 am

Wednesday, April 1 - Sidewalk Coloring Contest, Mainiero Square, 9:30 am

Monday, April 6 - City Council meeting, City Hall Council Chamber, Closed/Study Session 5:30 pm, Regular meeting 6:30 pm

Tuesday, April 7 - Development Review Committee meeting, City Hall, 9:00 am - 10:00 am

Wednesday, April 8 - Planning Commission meeting, City Hall, 6:30 pm

Saturday, April 11 - Craft Fair, Community Center, 9:00am - 1:00 pm

Monday, April 13 - Senior Movie Matinee, Community Center, 12:30 pm

Wednesday, April 15 - Senior Advisory Committee meeting, Community Center, 10:00 am

Wednesday, April 15 - Parks & Recreation Commission meeting, City Hall, 5:30 pm

Monday, April 20 - City Council meeting, City Hall, Closed/Study Session 5:30 pm, Regular meeting 6:30 pm

Wednesday, April 22 - Transportation & Infrastructure Commission meeting, City Hall, 4:00 pm