

# Visalia City Council Action Agenda

For the regular meeting of: MONDAY, March 2, 2009

Location: City Hall Council Chambers, 707 W. Acequia, Visalia CA 93291

Mayor: Jesus J. Gamboa - *present*  
Vice Mayor: Bob Link - *present*  
Council Member: Greg Collins - *present*  
Council Member: Donald K. Landers - *present*  
Council Member: Amy Shuklian - *present*

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All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. If anyone desires discussion on any item on the Consent Calendar, please contact the City Clerk who will then request that Council make the item part of the regular agenda.

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## Track 1

**5:00 p.m.**

### **INTRODUCTION: Police Department Employees of the Year**

Detective Brian Young, VPD Officer of the Year  
Detective Osvaldo Dominguez, VPD Latino Officer of the Year  
Reserve Officer Jim Jolly, VPD Reserve Officer of the Year  
Administrative Technician Shawna Kneeland, Civilian Employee of the Year  
Communications Operator Betty Shewey, Communications Operator of the Year

Police Chief Bob Carden introduced each of the above Police Department Employees.

## Track 2

### **WORK SESSION AND ACTION ITEMS (as described)**

#### **Public Comment on Work Session and Closed Session Items -**

1. Presentation on Census 2010 including update from Census Bureau Representative Dolores Gallegos, presentation of a proclamation, and report on City of Visalia's preparation for community outreach for the 2010 Census.

Item 1 -  
Information  
only - no  
action taken

Nancy Loliva, Community Relations Manager, introduced Dolores Gallegos who reviewed information with the Council about the upcoming 10 year census in 2010 and stressed the importance of an accurate and complete count. Ms. Gallegos responded to council questions about the census.

## Track 3

2. Presentation/update on California High Speed Train by representatives of High Speed Rail Authority

Item 2 -  
Information  
only - no  
action taken

Michael Olmos, Assistant City Manager, introduced Eric VonBerg - URS, Thomas Tracy - CA High Speed Rail Authority, Robert Schaevitz - URS, and Cheryl Lane - URS public outreach team. Mr. Schaevitz updated the Council on the development of the 800 mile High Speed Train system since the passage of Proposition IA. The need for the high-speed trains, the route, and the economic benefits were reviewed as well as potential sites for a train station in the Visalia/Hanford area. Council expressed their interest for a stop located in Visalia. A public scoping meeting will be held on March 24, 2009 from 3-7 p.m. at the Visalia Convention Center to present information to citizens.

*The time listed for each work session item is an estimate of the time the Council will address that portion of the agenda. Members of the public should be aware that the estimated times may vary. Any items not completed prior to Closed Session may be continued to the evening session at the discretion of the Council.*

## **ITEMS OF INTEREST**

### **CLOSED SESSION**

**6:00 p.m. (Or, immediately following Work Session)**

3. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation  
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9: two potential cases
4. Conference with Labor Negotiators (GC 54957.6)  
Agency Designated Representatives: Eric Frost, Steve Salomon, Janice Avila  
Employee Organization: All Employee Groups
5. a. Conference with Real Property Negotiators (G.C. §54956.8)  
Property: 1616 North Shirk  
Under Negotiation: To be discussed: price, terms and conditions for inclusion in a potential purchase.  
Negotiating Parties: Steve Salomon, Andrew Benelli, Phil Kneeland
- b. Conference with Real Property Negotiators (GC 54956.8)  
Property: (APN 085-010-096)  
Negotiators: Steve Salomon, Mike Olmos, Sam Sciacca  
Under Negotiation: Terms and conditions of potential lease agreement

Track 4

## **REGULAR SESSION**

**7:00 p.m.**

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**INVOCATION** – Pastor Chad Stuart, Visalia Seventh Day Adventist Church

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION:** Present Proclamation for American Red Cross Month

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| Tim Fosberg received the Proclamation on behalf of the American Red Cross and announced two events the Red Cross has this month – Save a Family Week March 16-21 and the Real Heroes breakfast on March 25 <sup>th</sup> . |
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**CITIZENS REQUESTS** - This is the time for members of the public to comment on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Visalia City Council. This is also the public's opportunity to request that a Consent Calendar item be removed from that section and made a regular agenda item for discussion purposes. Comments related to Regular or Public Hearing Items listed on this agenda will be heard at the time the item is discussed or at the time the Public Hearing is opened for comment. The Council Members ask that you keep your comments brief and positive. Creative criticism, presented with appropriate courtesy, is welcome. The Council cannot legally discuss or

take official action on citizen request items that are introduced tonight. In fairness to all who wish to speak tonight, each speaker from the public will be allowed three minutes (speaker timing lights mounted on the lectern will notify you with a flashing red light when your time has expired). Please begin your comments by stating and spelling your name and providing your street name and city.

None

Track 5

6. INFORMATION ITEMS - (No action required) Receive Planning Commission Action Agenda for the meeting of February 23, 2009

#### **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA/ITEMS TO BE PULLED FOR DISCUSSION**

Council Member Landers requested item 7e be pulled from the Consent calendar and discussed separately.

GC/DL 5-0  
Balance of  
Consent  
Calendar  
approved as  
recommended

7. CONSENT CALENDAR - Consent Calendar items are considered routine and will be enacted by a single vote of the Council with no discussion. For a Consent Calendar item to be discussed, or voted upon individually, it must be removed at the request of the Council.

- a) Authorization to read ordinances by title only.
- b) Approve the FY08 State Homeland Security Grant Program to the Visalia Fire Department in the amount of \$59,135.
- c) Authorization to accept federal funds from a grant being sought by the Tulare County Office of Education that would provide the Visalia Police Department up to \$466,098 over a four year period for the purpose of reducing/preventing school violence in the City of Visalia.
- d) Authorization to record the final parcel map of Tentative Parcel Map 2005-20, located at 400 West Mineral King Avenue. (APN: 094-312-001, 002, 003, 004, 005, 010, 017 & 094-311-015, 016, 017, 018).
- e) Authorization to award the contract to construct Parking Lot No. 45 at 409 E. Murray Avenue (located between Bridge Street and Santa Fe Street) to Serna Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$81,375.44.

DL/AS 5-0  
Item 7e  
approved as  
submitted

Council Member Landers asked about the pervious concrete material and the concern of oil seepage. Chris Young, Assistant Community Development Director, said the product is recommended by the EPA and is not a concern. Young also reviewed a number of "green" features of the project.

- f) Second reading and adoption of Ordinance for Zoning Text Amendment No. 2008-12: A request by Copeland Properties to amend Zoning Ordinance Section 17.18.050 by amending Line 709 to conditionally allow drug store/pharmacy retail in the C-R (Regional Commercial Zone). **Ordinance No. 2009-02 Required.**
- g) Authorize the application for a State of California Land and Water Conservation Fund grant in the amount of \$100,000 to construct a ten foot wide asphalt path along Modoc Ditch between the St. John's River Trail and Court Street in the northeast part of the City. **Resolution 2009-07 required.**

h) Authorization for leasehold improvements to be done by The Creative Center to install fencing around City property located at Bridge and Race Streets.

**Track 6**

DL/AS 5-0  
Item 8  
approved as  
submitted

8. Award contract for the purchase of twelve (12) new marked Police patrol vehicles to the Gropetti Automotive Group in the amount of \$498,221, and award contract for an additional four (4) new marked Police patrol vehicles to the Wondries Fleet Group in the amount of \$166,272 from in-stock inventory.

Police Chief Carden reviewed the need to replace 16 patrol vehicles and alternatives that have been reviewed that could postpone the purchase due to the economic situation. It is recommended to be most cost effective to purchase the vehicles now. Council member Collins discussed the advantages of using flex fuel vehicles and questioned what type of vehicle other communities are using for patrol vehicles. Mike Morgantini, Fleet Manager, addressed hybrid usage for patrol vehicles and indicated the city will continue to check on the viability of using hybrids.

Item 9 -  
No action  
taken

9. ***This public hearing is rescheduled to April 6, 2009.*** Public Hearing – a) General Plan Amendment No. 2008-11: A request by Visalia Unified School District to amend the 129,000 Population Urban Development Boundary to include the project site, and to change the General Plan land use designation on 160 acres from Urban Reserve to Public Institutional. b) Annexation No. 2007-03 (Akers-Riggin NW): A request by Visalia Unified School District to annex land and right-of-way totaling approximately 160 acres into the City limits of Visalia. c) Detachment of property from County Service Area No. 1. The site is located on the northwest corner of Akers Street and Riggin Avenue. APN: 077-100-097, 098.

**Track 7**

BL/AS 4-1  
Collins = No  
Item 10  
approved as  
submitted

10. Authorize staff to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to conduct a Downtown Traffic Circulation Study.

Chris Young, Assistant Community Development Director, reviewed the request to issue an RFP. The suggestion to roll the study into the General Plan Update Circulation Element was discussed as well as the timeframe for completing. Chris Young and Michael Olmos, Assistant City Manager responded to Council questions. The following members of the public spoke in support of the study: William Martin, Chairman PBID; Kelly Hauert, CEO Downtown Alliance; Adam Ennis, City of Visalia Civil Engineer.

8:07 - 8:12 pm  
break

**Track 8**

Item 11  
GC/JG 2/3  
Hybrid Plan  
Motion failed  
(Shuklian,  
Link &  
Landers =  
No)

11. Continued discussion on the scope of Visalia's General Plan Update and direction for staff to develop a scope of work for the update.

Michael Olmos, Assistant City Manager, reviewed the council's options to authorize any of three approaches for the General Plan update including a comprehensive, focused, or hybrid approach. Council discussed the three alternatives. The following persons spoke in favor of a comprehensive update: Glen Morris, Chamber of Commerce; Bob Keenan, HBA; Darlene Mata; Steven Peck, Mangano Homes; Jim Claybough, Visalia EDC; and Vincent Salinas, Planning Commission.

AS/BL 3/2  
Comprehensive  
Plan  
Motion  
passed  
(Gamboa &  
Collins = No)

**REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION - None**

**REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION MATTERS FINALIZED BETWEEN COUNCIL MEETINGS - None**

Adjournment

At 9:05 p.m. Mayor Gamboa adjourned the open meeting and the Council returned to Closed Session at 9:15 p.m. to complete the closed session items listed on the agenda. The closed session was adjourned at 9:53 pm.

**Upcoming Council Meetings**

- Monday, March 16, 2009, Work Session 4:00 p.m. Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 707 W. Acequia, Visalia
- Thursday, March 19, 2009, 5:00 p.m. Joint Meeting with the Board of Supervisors, Convention Center, 303 E. Acequia, Visalia
- Monday, March 30, 2009, 5:00 p.m. Joint Meeting with the Parks & Recreation Commission, Convention Center, 303 E. Acequia.

*Note: Meeting dates/times are subject to change, check posted agenda for correct details.*

*In compliance with the American Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in meetings call (559) 713-4512 48-hours in advance of the meeting. For Hearing-Impaired - Call (559) 713-4900 (TDD) 48-hours in advance of the scheduled meeting time to request signing services.*

*Any written materials relating to an item on this agenda submitted to the Council after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Office of the City Clerk, 425 E. Oak Street, Visalia, CA 93291, during normal business hours.*

Submitted by Donjia Huffmon, Chief Deputy City Clerk