

## MINUTES

### CITY OF UNION CITY SPECIAL MEETING AND WORK SESSION Tuesday, August 1, 2006, 7:00 P.M.

#### COUNCIL CHAMBERS 34009 ALVARADO NILES ROAD

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Green called the meeting to order at 7:12 pm
- 1.a Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Green led the flag salute
- 1.b Roll Call: Present: Councilmembers Dutra-Vernaci, Fernandez, Navarro,  
Mayor Green  
Absent: Vice Mayor Valle
- II. PROCLAMATION**
- 2.a A proclamation in recognition of a visit of the HangZhou Youth & Children's Activity Center Delegation to the City of Union City, July 17 – August 2, 2006
- Mayor Green read the proclamation in its entirety; Council presented the proclamation and a key to the City to the HangZhou delegation and welcomed everyone that visited.
- Meiling Zhou, Principal of the Union City's United Youth Enrichment School, thanked the host families, teachers, City Council and the City of Union City; presented a book made of silk to the City Council, and expressed how much she loved Union City and the City Council.
- Mayor Green accepted their gift on behalf of the City Council and stated they are looking forward to their next visit to the United States and especially to Union City. Mayor Green thanked the host families and everyone for their hospitality.
- III. WORK SESSION**
- 3.a Transit Alternatives Study
- Transit Manager Lee presented the staff report, explained the purpose of the study and stated staff is looking for direction from Council. He also introduced Nathan Landau of AC Transit should Council have any questions.
- Bonnie Nelson of Nelson Nygaard presented an overview of the Briefing Book "*Union City Transit Alternatives Study.*" Bonnie Nelson and staff responded to Councilmember's questions relating to demographics, increased ridership, modified routes to other areas, modified schedules for summer, incentive programs, and route maps in other languages.
- Sarajit Cheema requested extending routes 3 and 4 to Fremont, more stops on Mission Boulevard, and wanted the transit map in different languages.

Ram Singh stated he would like the transit service extended to other areas such as Fremont, service running the whole week, and focus on the centers, seniors, and churches. He thinks UC Transit is a good idea but noted it is not reaching the population.

Pritam Singh requested Council consider cost and time as two important factors for ridership and stated he would like to reinforce the statements of the previous two speakers.

Daljit Kaur (Sarabjit Cheema translated) asked Council for a pedestrian crossing on Alvarado and bus service to Sikh Temple everyday.

A resident of Hayward, Raj Deep, suggested the idea of reduced fares, transferable fares between Fremont, service to Newark, and servicing seniors as a way for increased ridership.

Charlie Cheema of Livermore informed Council he's the president of a senior organization of about 8,000, stated most of the members are in situations like himself, and requested Council's help for additional bus service.

Kenneth Ryan stated he is a retired senior who depends on the bus service Union City provides. He also questioned noticing of this meeting and suggested Council consider the time of the meeting so everyone could attend. He urged Council to add in the concept of driver pay, think of the future, look into Paratransit service that is already going to Fremont, and to think about a spine service (on-call service with a 2 hour window) like the one in Durango, Colorado which is about the same size as Union City.

Barry Ferrier spoke of BART parking problems, busses running during peak hours, having a consistent starting time, and suggested 1A and 1B be a single express system. He mentioned in reference to the Dumbarton Express, Transit should have schedules available in the City Hall lobby.

Sarbjit Cheema recalled the use of bus passes used in India as a student, which she explained worked out well and suggested Union City do the same, but not during peak hours since busses are usually full. She stated she wanted to stress the importance of teenagers getting into the habit of using the bus system.

Bonnie Nelson reported they will be developing alternatives through the summer and will return to Council in September.

Council discussion included streamlining ways of getting people from the west side to Bart, considering half fare days, appreciation days, youth passes, routes to other outside areas such as south Hayward and north Fremont as well as border areas such as Quarry Lakes, summer flexibility routes, smaller busses in the neighborhood areas, maps translated in different languages, and the Transit Schedule broadcasted on the City's cable channel on a regular basis.

Mayor Green spoke about the need for a greater distribution on the bus system, and suggested starting the meeting one hour earlier at the next meeting.

#### **IV. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mayor Green adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cassie Castain  
Administrative Assistant