

San Diego Documenters

POWERED BY **INewsSource**

Coronado City Council

Documenter name: Thomas Vedder

Agency: City of Coronado- City Council, Committees, and Commissions

Date: Oct. 15, 2024

[See more about this meeting at Documenters.org](#)

Summary

Here's what you need to know

- The Coronado City Council discussed several capital improvement projects using surplus funds from the Port, in Tidelands Park, Ferry Landing, and Glorietta Bay Park. An initial priority list was sent to the port commissioner and will subsequently be presented to the Port Board for approval and implementation.
- The council considered implementing new rules surrounding E-bike usage in response to a number of concerns shared by community members. No new rules or laws were adopted at this meeting but changes could come in the near future once staff reviews the recommendations made.
- Several consent items were passed such as extending an emergency declaration for an invasive species of algae found in the Coronado tidelands as well as updates on the city calendar and city projects currently underway. None of the items on the consent agenda came up for individual discussion and were voted through unanimously.

Immediate Actions

- Agenda Item 1 and 2: Approval of the regular minutes for September 17th and October 1st. Unanimous, Motion by council member Casey Tanaka, Second by council member Carrie Downey
- Consent Agenda Items 4-8: All items listed in the consent agenda are to be considered routine and therefore are voted on in one motion unless a council member or a member of the public requests an individual discussion or vote on one of the agenda items. Unanimous, motion by Tanaka, Seconded by Downey
 - Approval of reading by title and waiver of reading in full of ordinances on this agenda review and approve that the [warrants](#) are all correct, just, and conform to the approved budget for the fiscal year 2024-25.
 - [Resolution](#) to extend a local emergency declaration due to the discovery of Caulerpa Prolifera in the Coronado Cays (additional funding for fighting an invasive species of algae that could pose threats to wildlife found in the Coronado tidelands).
 - [Quarterly City Projects Progress Report](#).
 - 2025 major and moderate special event requests.
- Port of San Diego Balanced Capital Program Projects
 - The City council voted to allocate surplus funds from the Port to prioritize the bathrooms at Tidelands and Glorietta Bay, turf replacement at Ferry Landing, and the exercise area at Tidelands. After planning these projects, the rest of the money will be spent on Glorietta Bay. Passes 4-1 with Downey voting against. Motion by council member John Duncan, seconded by Mayor Richard Bailey
- E-Bikes Policy Considerations
 - Council approves unanimously to consider recommendations to ban all e-bikes on City sidewalks, implement AB2234, work with School district staff to implement rules for students as well as coordinate educational classes through the existing bike rodeo program, and consider the recommendations provided by the Mobility Commission E-Bike Task Force. Council rejects considering raising municipal fines for E-bike violations. Motion by Tanaka, seconded by Duncan

Accessibility Issues

- None

Follow-Up Questions

- How do citizens ensure oversight in investments in their community when most of

the funds and the work are organized by outside organizations such as the Port Commission?

Notes

Meeting Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order at 4:17 by Mayor Richard Bailey.
- The agenda for this meeting may be viewed by clicking [here](#), while a video and/or audio recording of the meeting may be found by clicking [here](#) and [here](#), respectively.
 - **All timestamps below were taken from the Video recording.**

Commissioners, Councilmembers, or Committee Members in Attendance:

- Mayor Richard Bailey
- Council member Mike Donovan
- Council member Carrie Downey
- Council member John Duncan
- Council Member Casey Tanaka

Staff Present:

- Tina Friend City Manager
- Johana Canlas City Attorney
- Kelsea Holian City Clerk
- Frank Urtasun Port Commissioner

Agenda Item # 1: [Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 17, 2024](#), 0:50

- Presentation:
 - N/A
- Public comments:
 - *None*
- Commission, Council, or Committee comments:
 - *None*
- Commission, Council, or Committee action:
 - *Passed Unanimously, Motion by Tanaka, seconded by Downey 1:04*

Agenda Item # 2: [Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 1, 2024](#)

- Presentation:

- N/A
- Public comments:
 - None
- Commission, Council, or Committee comments:
 - None
- Commission, Council, or Committee action:
 - *Passed Unanimously Motion by Tanaka, Seconded by Downey 1:04*

Agenda Item #3: UPDATE AND REPORT FROM PORT COMMISSIONER FRANK

URTASUN 1:10

- Presentation:
 - 8th floor mooring near Tidelands Park has been cleared of debris, abandoned boats, and unhoused people. The Port's environmental staff has come in and the water is clear for now.
 - Ferry Landing Commercial Center is still in negotiations between the Lessee and the Port. No announced construction date
 - Restaurant Pad next to Ferry Landing has a separate lease, currently a vacant parcel and the proposed plan to renovate is currently under review by the Coastal Commission.
 - 4:05 Downey Asks about the change to the plan for the restaurant development to preserve the waterfront view for the public after hearing a response from citizens.
 - There will remain 10 spots open for short-term parking
 - 5:55 Possible remodel of the Loews Coronado Bay Hotel. The Port Commissioner has a meeting with the investment group next week. No new hotel rooms but possible conversion of some of the spaces into conference centers and meeting rooms
 - Negotiations over Grand Caribe continue. They are currently being held up over a CEQA review. A port buyout of the property is happening so there will be no development on the land.
 - South Caribe Island Erosion is being mitigated through technology like Ecoconcrete. Staff at the port are currently evaluating the best options.
 - Duncan (10:19) clarifies that the Cottages At the Kays proposed development that is being bought out by the Port is currently stalled because the current leaseholder has not signed the paperwork or paid the money necessary.
- Public comments:
 - none
- Commission, Council, or Committee comments:
 - n/a

- Commission, Council, or Committee action:
 - *No Vote*

Consent Calendar Items: Agenda Items 4-8 are Consent Calendar Items meaning that they are considered to be routine and will be acted upon with one motion. There will be no separate discussion of agenda items unless a member of the City Council or the public so requests. All Agenda items in the Consent Calendar were approved unanimously Motion by Tanaka, Seconded by Downey **(10:47)**

Agenda Item #4: Approval of reading by title and waiver of reading in full of ordinances on this agenda

Agenda Item #5: Review and approve that the [warrants](#), as certified by the city/agency treasurer, are all correct, just, and conform to the approved budget for the fiscal year 2024-25

Agenda Item #6: [Resolution](#) to extend a local emergency declaration due to the discovery of Caulerpa Prolifera in the Coronado Cays

- Presentation:
 - [Staff Report:](#)

Agenda Item # 7: [Quarterly city projects progress report](#)

- Presentation:
 - [Staff Report:](#)

Agenda Item #8: 2025 MAJOR AND MODERATE SPECIAL EVENT REQUESTS

- Presentation:
 - [Staff Report:](#)
 - [Letters of Intent:](#)
 - [Calendar:](#)

Non-Agenda Public Comments: (11:20)

- Brad Gerbel (11:26): Says he is upset at how Laura Wilkinson Siton has portrayed herself while running for Coronado City Council and alleges that she did not disclose that she was on the board of a Cannabis Company and her position on marijuana laws in Coronado. Alleges that a federal super PAC has invested \$10,000 in Coronado elections and is run by a man who used to work for Wilkinson's Husband.
- Caroline Reynolds from Coronado Cab (15:06): Voices support for how Coronado

has managed Uber and Lyft and their support of the taxi industry

- Several members of Girl Scout Troop 66203 (17:23): Speakson E-Bike safety and advocating for the adoption of a sidewalk ban for e-bikes(similar to the one in Carlsbad) as well as AB2234 (Boerner’s Law). They hosted an educational booth for the community as part of their Bronze Award project centered around how they can make their community an even better place.
- Todd Little, Executive Director of [Discover Coronado](#) (21:20): In June, the three-year plan adopted by the group to promote business and tourism in Coronado will expire. Little says a new plan is being developed to address the new challenges that didn’t even really exist when the plan was first adopted. He says the new plan will focus on water quality, cost of labor, and the construction of the new convention center in San Diego
- Matt Bettencourt of the AWS1 James Buriak Foundation (23:13): The organization will have its annual memorial run on Saturday Morning at Tidelands Park. The foundation was created after the accidental death of James Buriak aboard a Navy ship and aims to support military families who have lost a loved one in a military accident.

Update on Council Directed Actions and Citizen Inquiries. (Informational Item)

No update was provided at the meeting

COUNCIL REPORTS ON INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE AND BOARD ASSIGNMENTS.

No discussion or vote on this item was held.

- [Intra-Agency Activity Report:](#)
- [Councilmember Downey’s Activity Report:](#)

PORT OF SAN DIEGO BALANCED CAPITAL PROGRAM PROJECTS 26:26

- Presentation by Tony Winney, City Staff
 - Port-balanced capital funds are surplus funds contingent on the port budgeting process. Member cities are awarded equal amounts if there are surplus funds in the budget. Coronado has 6 million in the fund and the funds can roll over into the next fiscal year
 - Guided by Port Policy 120 in identifying projects: reflects sound land use and capital improvement planning principles as well as the strategic development, business, and operational goals set by the Board of the Port Commission. Funds cannot be used for revenue-generating projects, and they should focus on improving public access to the tidelands rather than maintenance.
 - Ferry Landing

- Priority is turf replacement overlaying the Transbay Pump Station to reduce damaging water intrusion from irrigation.
- Grand Caribe Park
 - Port is currently doing a soil erosion study that will influence further action. Expected in late spring 2025. Shoreline improvements to the park to stabilize erosion will require significant review by Resource agencies.
- Glorietta Bay Park 31:47
 - The last investment in the park was in 1986. Winney says the park needs new sidewalks, landscaping, a new ADA-inclusive playground area, and the conversion of one building into a public safety and recreational center. The building is currently being used as storage. It may require a new building instead of just renovating the current one
 - The cost is estimated at \$7.4 million, more than the \$6 currently in the fund. Parts of the project at this site can be approved without spending the whole cost all at once
 - Replacement of the restroom
- Tidelands 36:15
 - Improvements needed for landscaping fronting the bay, restrooms in the center of the park, irrigation system, repair of public art pieces, and a new restroom by the skate park
 - Additional exercise stations could be considered as well
 - Estimated cost of \$1.7 million
- Centennial park
 - Improvements needed to the planter seat walls and landscaping facing the bay
- Projects recommended by the City Council will be submitted to the City's Port Commissioner for presentation to the board where it will be reviewed by Port staff to evaluate the estimated costs of the project, the potential availability of grant funding or other matching funds, a timeline for design and construction, and estimated life cycle costs. The City staff will work with the Port throughout the process.
- City Council could: choose to allocate the entire balance to one project, allocate partial funding for various projects around the Coronado Port Tidelands, or defer projects to a later date until additional funding is secured from the Port.
- Staff sees the largest impact by prioritizing Glorietta Bay Park with the full funding balance

- If the council wishes to pursue the distribution of funding, staff recommends:
 - Turf Replacement at Ferry Landing
 - Improvements at Tidelands Park including new restrooms and priority improvements identified by the City Council
 - Support erosion mitigation at Grand Caribe (cost and scope to be determined) “Timeline is an issue” 41:23
 - Improvements at Glorietta Bay Park including new restrooms, a new playground, and priority improvements identified by the City Council.
- [Staff Report:](#)
- [Site Map:](#)
- Council Questions
 - Downey (41:47): Doesn’t want to wait another cycle for more funding. “If we took one item out, whatever it might be, to get it into the amount the port has in the budget, could we proceed that way?” Response by Winney Yes you could
 - “We are sorely lacking.... getting updated restrooms and updated playgrounds” 42:40
 - Duncan 43:12: Do you have any additional color around the budget for Glorietta Bay?
 - Restrooms would cost around \$400,000
 - Playground: \$700,000
 - New shade surfaces and play surfacing: Both \$200,000
 - Estimates of individual items do not have additional costs like labor and design built in. Typically accounts for 30- 40% of a project
 - Duncan 45:20: What happens if we submit a plan over the budget to the port?
 - Frank Urtasun: Projects are brought forward by member cities that may exceed their allocations and that's okay. The port will go out and look for funding or wait until further money is allocated. He added that he doesn’t feel the council should be constrained by that concern.
 - Downey 47:19 She says some of the projects underlined are actually things that the port should already be doing (maintenance). “It seems to me that the Port is not going to look to us to fund those. That is something that the Port, as holder of those leases, is already taking on so I just want to make sure that we don’t need to give you money, that the port has already got those tasked.”
 - Urtasun: You are right. At Tidelands Park we were able to get

funding for the landscaping from the port. When there are maintenance issues that's really something that the Port handles. One would argue that the erosion shoreline maintenance problem is a maintenance issue. These are capital improvement projects. I'm not saying we are going to approve them today, but let's get them in the pipeline and start working on them.

- Public Comment: 50:27
 - None
- Council Discussion 50:41
 - Tanaka: Favors allocating the whole balance to Glorietta Bay Park and suggests looking at each of the items individually and identifying the priorities within the park. Says, for the time being, we should scale it to around the \$6 million.
 - Duncan: 52:15
 - Prioritize the bathrooms at Glorietta Bay Park and Tidelands Park while also identifying improvements at both parks. If we get another \$2 million in the next year we can finish both of them.
 - Donovan 53:38
 - The turf replacement at Ferry Landing is an easy one for \$200,000. I think it would be a benefit to do it right away. I agree that Glorietta Park is a priority. The one at Grand Caribe seems to be the one we know the least about until we get the results of the study. I don't want to lose sight of that.
 - Downey 55:20
 - I agree that Grand Caribe is a concern but I found out from our port commissioner that port staff is treating it as a maintenance issue. I suggest we take ourselves out of that fight but keep our eye on it to make sure what needs to be done gets done
 - Mirror bathrooms after Spreckels
 - I like getting a package together so it's not complicated. We tell the Port what we want, I like the idea of prioritizing. Let's send them the estimate and then they over at the port will tell us the options.
 - Duncan 58:50
 - I agree with Councilmember Donovan, putting the ferry landing at the top is a good idea... then we could do Glorietta Bay and the Tidelands
 - Downey suggests that the city should consider taking on the ferry landing turf replacement if it is only \$200,000. Then they should undertake it (59:57). "I'm not sure having it have to go through the whole process of the

port makes sense.”

- Bailey 1:01:00
 - \$200,000 adds up over time. If the port is willing to fund this for us and we can get future allocation for some of these other projects then I think that is the way to go
 - Bathrooms at Tidelands are a greater priority than the sidewalks at Glorietta as more of the constituency values new bathrooms
 - The cottage at Glorietta would be a priority to help administer summer camps and rec activities but there are certain things that need to get done first at the other parks
- Downey 1:03:20
 - Says she is not in favor of parceling money out. “If you are giving the oversight of how to do projects to a different agency, you lose a lot of control. She went on to say that it could also increase the cost.”
- Bailey 1:04:30
 - Is the cottage a priority among the parks?
 - Tanaka said the priority is to help our rec department run better
 - Duncan would not put it over the expanded boat ramp to prevent damage. I want to make sure what we spent money on recently is preserved
 - 1:11:57: Bailey wants to prioritize a refurbishment of the small exercise area in Tidelands Park for only a few hundred thousand dollars
- 1:12:54 Donovan wants to support breaking the money down into pieces
- 1:13:48 Bailey begins to build a consensus around their priorities
 - Bathrooms at Tidelands and Glorietta Bay
 - Tanaka would rather direct the funds toward projects that the Port will not fund itself. The restroom issue at Tidelands should be dealt with by the Port. The Glorietta Bay Park project is something that they would not fund and is a priority to the whole region. Does support prioritizing Ferry landing.
 - 1:16:50: Bailey responds, “I think you can make the case, on Glorietta Bay park, raised sidewalks, those are tripping hazards, those should have been done too. Why would we spend grant money to take care of those right now? So I think you can make that case for every item that is on that list.”
 - Duncan (1:17:30) wants the bathrooms as a super-priority

along with the turf replacement at ferry landing. Supports the exercise area at Tidelands after being asked by Mayor Bailey to throw it in.

- Council Action:
 - Motion by Duncan to Prioritize the bathrooms at Tidelands and Glorietta Bay, the turf replacement at Ferry Landing, and the exercise area at Tidelands. After this, then the rest of the money will be spent on Glorietta Bay. Seconded by Bailey 1:21:00
 - Passes 4-1 with Downey voting against.

ELECTRIC BICYCLES (E-BIKES) POLICY CONSIDERATIONS 1:25:20

- [Staff Report:](#) Tony Winnie and Chief Martinez of Coronado PD
 - Ebikes regulated under the California Vehicle Code, must obey most all of the same regulations as non-motorized vehicles, and can not exceed 28mph
 - 3 different classes of E-Bikes: Class 1 and 2 can reach up to 20 mph with only 16 years and older being able to ride class 3 that can reach up to 28mph
 - Recommended strategies Adopted in May centered around targeted enforcement for the safe operation of E-Bikes by the Police Department, education for the public on safe operation, impounding e-bikes for serious offenses, and the establishment of this taskforce
 - Annually about 11 accidents with an uptick in 2024. E-bike operators were the cause of 72% of accidents with adults and adolescents both involved in an equal amount of accidents. 85% of the accidents resulted in either mild or moderate injuries (not requiring immediate medical attention).
 - Chief Martinez on Enforcement 1:34:30
 - 224 contacts by Police (including bicycles), 23 citations issued for e-bikes, and 9 e-bikes impounded between May 2023 and July 2024
 - Some issues around reporting are verbal warnings and officers not properly differentiating between e-bikes and bicycles
 - Education focused on bike rodeos in coordination with CUSD. Bike rodeos this year have stalled because they had a school resource officer assignment change.
- [Recommended Bill Language: Boerner Amendment AB2234](#)
- [Educational Materials:](#)
- Council Questions 1:42:20
 - Downey: What is your opinion on banning e-bikes on all sidewalks in the

city?

- Martinez: As of right now it is banned in the business district, in the neighborhoods it is not going to have that much of an impact. It is mainly a hazard in those high pedestrian traffic areas along the Promenade and Orange Avenue.
- 5 Recommendations posed to council 1:45:51
 - Consider an ordinance prohibiting the use of Motorized Mobility Devices on all City Sidewalks, The Paseo, and the Promenade. Would exempt public agency personnel and those with disability accommodations
 - Consider Increasing Municipal Code fines
 - Implement AB2234 which would restrict those 12 and under from operating class 1 or 2 electric bicycles. Maximum fine of \$25
 - Consider e-bike rules and regulations in tandem with the School District
 - Consider Mobility Commission E-bike Task Force recommendations oriented around education through incentives for children and posting clear regulations around Coronado so that the public is informed about the new rules
 - Concern among the Council about signage clutter in Coronado
- Public Comment 2:04:20
 - Leyla Albertson: expressed concern about missing or damaged signs regarding bicycle use in Coronado.
- Council Discussion 2:05:50
 - Downey suggests that they should focus on two-wheeled bikes rather than three and four-carts because they are more likely to be used by those with a disability.
 - Bailey proposes eliminating the consideration of AB2234 as there are responsible 10 and 11 year olds but the rest of the board rejects his proposal
- Council Action 2:23:05
 - Council approves unanimously to consider recommendations to ban all e-bikes on City sidewalks, implement AB2234, work with School district staff to implement rules for students, and consider the recommendations provided by the Mobility Commission E-Bike Task Force. Motion by Tanaka, seconded by Duncan
 - Council rejects considering raising municipal fines for E-bike violations.

Adjournment:

- **Mayor Bailey adjourned the meeting at 6:41**

If you believe anything in these notes is inaccurate, please email us at documenters@inewssource.org with "Correction Request" in the subject line.