



ORLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, April 21, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Barr at 6:01 PM.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Councilmembers JC Tolle, John McDermott, Vice Mayor Alex Enriquez and Mayor Terrie Barr

Councilmembers Absent: None

Staff Present: Acting City Manager Janet Wackerman, City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke, City Attorney Scott Drexel

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION - None

MEETING ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 6:03 PM

CLOSED SESSION ENDED AND RECONVENED TO REGULAR SESSION AT 6:30 PM

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION - *Mayor Barr announced that the Council met with the City Staff and City Attorney Scott Drexel in Closed Session to discuss public employment: City Manager, as noted on the Closed Session agenda, Mayor Barr shared that there was no reportable action.*

PUBLIC HEARING

A. 4th Public Hearing: Requesting Public Input Regarding the Composition of Potential Council Election Districts

Douglas Johnson of National Demographics Corporation presented via Zoom an overview of the City's transition from at-large to by-district elections following the Council's adoption of a Resolution of Intent on December 2, 2025. This was the fourth of five required public hearings.

Mr. Johnson reviewed the requirements of California Elections Code Section 10010 and stated the purpose of the hearing was to receive input on communities of interest to inform draft district maps. He noted no public-submitted maps had been received and that the four maps presented were prepared by the City's demographer.

Mr. Johnson recommended the Council provide direction on a four-district system with a citywide mayor or a five-district system with a rotating mayor.

Mayor Barr opened the public hearing at 6:40 p.m.

County resident Jake Hackett shared he is the gentleman who brought the districting process forward to Council and provided comments regarding districting, expressing support for the five-district model with a rotating mayor. He noted that the current system has been effective and stated a preference for Map 501.

Orland resident Janet Jonte also expressed support for the five-district model with a rotating mayor, stating that five districts provide better democratic representation.

Orland resident Earl Megginson requested clarification regarding the differences between a four-district system with an elected mayor and a five-district system with a mayor selected from among the councilmembers.

Orland resident Dennis Hoffman stated his support for the five-district model, noting that a rotating mayor allows each councilmember the opportunity to serve in a leadership role.

County resident Susie Smith inquired whether the Mayor receives additional compensation compared to other Councilmembers.

Orland resident Ron Lane stated that if the current system is functioning well, it should not be changed, and expressed support for the five-district model.

Orland resident Carolyn Denton shared concerns regarding recent Council discussions about hiring contractors to select paint colors for the water tank, demographers to develop districts for the City and contractors to access the ADA upgrades at the Carnegie building. Ms. Denton questioned why the City would choose 4 districts over 5.

Mayor Barr closed the public hearing at 6:56 p.m.

City Attorney Scott Drexel explained the process the Council would need to follow if it chose to delay or postpone the districting decision and outlined the potential risks associated with postponement.

Councilmember Tolle shared the results of an online survey he conducted regarding districting, noting his support for a five-district model while also expressing a desire to receive additional public input.

Vice Mayor Enriquez stated he was leaning toward a five-district model and indicated there was no clear reason to delay the process, expressing his preference to move forward.

Councilmember McDermott expressed support for the five-district model.

Mayor Barr stated she was open to either a four- or five-district model, indicating she would support the option preferred by the community. She also expressed concern regarding the possibility of a district seat not attracting candidates.

ACTION: Councilmember McDermott moved, seconded by Councilmember Tolle, to approve a five-voting district. Motion carried by a roll call vote 4-0.

AYES: Councilmembers McDermott, Tolle, Vice Mayor Enriquez and Mayor Barr

NOES: None

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Lane spoke regarding the burn notice included with water bills and expressed concerns related to potential code enforcement implications associated with the notice.

Ms. Smith provided an update on the Glenn County Draft Drought Resilience Plan, noting that the public comment period closes on April 30.

Ms. Jonte commented that she observed a lack of representation from the City of Orland from the drought task force meeting and recommended Council choose a representative.

Mr. Hackett expressed interest in the City establishing an advisory group that would allow Orland residents living in the County to participate. He also raised concerns regarding ADA accessibility at Carnegie.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Warrant List (Payable Obligations)
- B. Approve City Council Minutes from April 7, 2026
- C. Receive and File Planning Commission Minutes from February 26, 2026

ACTION: Vice Mayor Enriquez moved, seconded by Councilmember Tolle, to approve the consent calendar as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.

PUBLIC HEARING CONTINUED

B. Westside Annexation:

- 1. Request to Annex (Annex#2026-01)** proposal to annex approximately 37 acres of land located in the unincorporated area of Glenn County

2. Prezone for Annexation (PR#2026-01) rezoning for to the “C-H” (*Highway Service Commercial*) zoning district

City Planner Lisa Lozier presented a staff report regarding the proposed West Orland Annexation Project.

Ms. Lozier explained that the City entered into a contract with De Novo Planning Group to prepare the annexation application and supporting CEQA documentation for submittal to Glenn County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo).

Ms. Lozier explained that the proposed project includes the annexation of approximately 37 acres located west of the existing City limits within the City’s Sphere of Influence. The annexation involves four parcels and includes rezoning of the site to Highway Service Commercial (C-H). No specific development plans or discretionary approvals are being requested at this time, and any future development is anticipated to be commercial in nature and consistent with the C-H zoning designation.

Ms. Lozier noted that the project site is currently used for agricultural purposes, with some existing agricultural and residential structures. Surrounding land uses include agricultural, rural residential, commercial, and light industrial uses. She also highlighted the proximity of Interstate 5 and nearby commercial uses.

Ms. Lozier stated the City’s General Plan designates the site for a mix of commercial, light industrial/commercial, and low-density residential uses, while the County designates the site as Residential Estate and Highway/Visitor Commercial. Approval of the project would include rezoning to Highway Service Commercial and annexation, subject to review and approval by LAFCo.

Ms. Lozier further explained that the City is acting as the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and that the project qualifies for a CEQA exemption pursuant to Section 15183, as it is consistent with the City’s General Plan and applicable zoning.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on April 9, 2026, and unanimously determined the request is consistent with the General Plan and Zoning Code. The Commission recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution to file the application with Glenn County LAFCo, approve the ordinance rezoning the parcel to the Commercial Highway zoning district, and find the annexation exempt from CEQA.

Mayor Barr opened the public hearing at 7:34 p.m.

Ron Lane, Economic Development Chair, spoke in favor of the annexation, noting it would bring new business opportunities to the City.

Mr. Hoffman stated that the City would benefit from the annexation and highlighted that City services are already in place on that side of the freeway.

Orland resident Daniel Louder expressed support for the annexation and shared enthusiasm for future business growth.

Mr. Hackett inquired whether any specific projects are currently proposed for the area.

Ms. Smith expressed concerns regarding water usage and the age of the General Plan, noting she is not opposed to growth but wanted to raise these considerations.

Mayor Barr closed the public hearing at 7:44 p.m.

Councilmembers discussed the annexation, expressed appreciation to the Planning Commission for its review of the proposed project, and asked questions regarding responsibilities for road maintenance. The Council agreed that the annexation would remove a barrier for new businesses and would be beneficial to the community.

Mr. Drexel explained that the Ordinance would need to be introduced today and the rezoning and second reading of the Ordinance would come back at a future meeting.

ACTION: Councilmember McDermott moved, seconded by Councilmember Tolle, to waive further reading and introduce ordinance 2026-02, an Ordinance of the City Council assigning

the rezoning of the parcel with the C-H, Commercial Highway zoning district. Motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

City Council Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Mayor Barr reviewed the current list of Councilmember appointments to Boards and Commissions and announced the reassignment of positions previously held by Matt Romano following his departure from the Council. The appointments are as follows:

Arts Commission – Vice Mayor Enriquez
Orland Unit Water Users – Mayor Barr
Code Enforcement – Vice Mayor Enriquez
LAFCo – Mayor Barr (Councilmember Tolle, Alternate)
Airport Commission – Councilmember McDermott
Glenn Groundwater/Drought Task Force – Mayor Barr
Golden State Risk Management – Vice Mayor Enriquez
Ambulance Ad Hoc – Councilmember McDermott

ACTION: Vice Mayor Enriquez moved, seconded by Councilmember McDermott, to appoint the current Councilmembers as outlined. Motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.

City Manager Verbal Report

Ms. Wackerman noted that due to a lack of interest from the Council in participating in the parade, a parade entry will not be submitted.

Ms. Wackerman also reported that a computer/meter error affected the current water bills. Ms. Schmitke confirmed that all issues have since been resolved and emphasized that residents are encouraged to contact City Hall directly rather than posting on Facebook, so concerns can be addressed promptly.

City Council Communications and Reports

Vice Mayor Enriquez:

- Nothing to report.

Mayor Barr:

- Expressed concerns regarding City-owned properties with overgrown grass that need to be addressed.

Councilmember McDermott:

- Raised concerns about flooding on Highway 32 and noted issues with Caltrans not maintaining its right-of-way.
- Reviewed the process for weed abatement and code enforcement.
- Reported attending a Fire Department meeting and noted the Chief will be out for approximately one week.
- Stated he is looking forward to the upcoming ambulance report.

Councilmember Tolle:

- Nothing to report.

MEETING ADJOURNED 8:30 PM

Jennifer Schmitke, City Clerk

Terrie Barr, Mayor