

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
OCTOBER 16, 2018**

Mayor Cardenas called the meeting to order at 6:040 p. m. Roll call was taken. There were no public presentations.

Councilmembers Present: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Rodriquez

Councilmembers Absent: Kazarian

City Staff Present: City Manager Davis, Public Works Supervisor/Fire Chief  
Lopez City Attorney Wolfe, Deputy City Clerk Burrola

**Fowler Community Landscapes Plan Workshop - Tree Fresno**

Lee Ayres, of Tree Fresno, along with Bruce O'Neal, retired Planning Consultant, now member of the Tree Fresno Board and Richard Vaillancour; Landscape Architect presented an overview of the grant to supplement the background and agenda for tonight's City Council workshop. Fresno COG has awarded a \$150,000 sustainable infrastructure Plan (SIP) grant to Tree Fresno, for which the City of Fowler served as the COG Member Sponsor. The grant will fund the preparation of a Community Landscape Plan for the City of Fowler. He invited City Council to discuss landscape issues and provide input on the landscaping and how it can have a significant role for the City. The Grant application has three major objectives: to optimize the tree canopy, leverage a CARB funded collaboration with Caltrans to research the mitigation for near-road pollution with trees on Freeway 99 and to help achieve the Fresno COG SIP grant overarching objectives for eight areas. The Scope of work has seven objectives including increase the tree canopy, increase the sense of community and beauty with implementation of tree collections for each district, major corridor, and major entrance. Mr. Ayres asked Council about the main entrances to the City that could be a focus of landscape improvements. The Council discussed Merced Street and Highway 99, and Merced Street and Golden State Boulevard as being featured entrances to town. Mayor Pro-Tem Parra asked if the irrigation is included with the planning of the landscaping project. Mr. Ayres said if a Cal Fire grant is used then it will include irrigation. Richard Vaillancour, Landscape Architect answered questions from the Council regarding the landscaping of trees. He mentioned he is working with an arborist to identify the right type of trees for the right place. He said he wants to create a sense of identity for parts of the City to readily define the areas well known to the community.

Cuauhtémoc Acosta, Fresno resident spoke about water issues and said he has developed a way of conserving water. Mayor Cardenas suggested to Mr. Acosta that he meet with Public Works Supervisor Lopez to implement the idea for the City.

Mr. Ayres said they are forming a citizen's advisory committee in which a few people from the master gardeners have been recruited. The plan requires and funds the conduction of community engagement events, one in December and one in January. A small tree will be provided free to show appreciation for attending and to promote planting trees. A time line was presented to the Council of the scope of work.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Hammer made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Parra. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m.