



Special City Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at 6:00 PM

City Hall – 520 East Ocean Blvd. Los Fresnos, TX 78566

<https://cityoflosfresnos.com/meetings>

NOTICE OF SAID MEETING IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE CITY OF LOS FRESNOS PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 551, TITLE 5 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT.

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Flores called the meeting to order 6:01 p.m.

B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Flores gave the invocation and led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

C. VISITORS REMARKS

To speak, you must sign in with the City Secretary prior to the meeting. You have a limit of 5 minutes to speak.

Resident Gordon Cappon addressed the Council regarding the proposed Henderson Road project. He expressed concern over the wording of the agenda item, suggesting it be revised from “possible” to “future” to reflect a stronger commitment to the project. Mr. Cappon emphasized the importance of prioritizing major traffic corridors Highway 100, Whipple Road, and Henderson Road over interior street repairs, noting their higher daily usage by residents, visitors, commercial vehicles, and emergency services. He referenced past delays with roadway and bridge construction projects and urged the City to begin planning for the Henderson Road project promptly to avoid overlapping construction with other major routes, which could result in significant traffic congestion. He concluded by encouraging the Council to proceed with the project in an expeditious manner.

D. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Public hearing to receive comments and related documentation from the public regarding possible improvements and reconstruction of Henderson Road.

Mayor opened the public hearing at 6:05 p.m.

It was noted for the record that a written comment had been submitted by Eliso Ruiz III on behalf of the Ruiz family and placed on file.

Resident James Keillor addressed the Council and expressed concern regarding time limitations for public comment but proceeded with his remarks. He thanked staff for recent progress on drainage and infrastructure coordination related to nearby subdivisions. Mr. Keillor identified several key concerns regarding Henderson Road, including intersection design at Old Alice Road, roadway width, drainage deficiencies, pedestrian safety, maintenance issues and the need for additional easements. He emphasized the importance of addressing long standing infrastructure issues concurrently with the road project to ensure long-term functionality.

Mr. Keillor also discussed proposed design considerations, including wider travel lanes, improved turning radii, designated pedestrian and bicycle areas, and sidewalk connectivity. He highlighted ongoing drainage challenges in the Valencia subdivision and surrounding areas and encouraged continued coordination with developers to mitigate flooding concerns.

Additionally, Mr. Keillor compared the Henderson Road project with the Whipple Road project,

noting differences in timelines, funding availability, and development potential. He presented an estimate of project costs and suggested that future residential growth along Henderson Road could generate sufficient tax revenue to offset project expenses over time. He encouraged the Council to view the project as an investment that would benefit the broader community.

Mr. Keillor concluded by expressing concern regarding the use of the term “possible” in project descriptions, stating it created uncertainty, and urged the Council to move forward with a clear commitment to the project. He offered his assistance and expertise to support planning efforts.

Resident Gladys Hopkins, addressed the Council and stated that while she is not an engineer, she believes improvements to Henderson Road are necessary. She emphasized the importance of initiating the project as soon as possible, acknowledging that completion would take time. Mrs. Hopkins urged the Council to move forward with planning and take the necessary steps to begin progress rather than delay further, stressing the need for action over continued discussion.

Resident George Laughlin addressed the Council and expressed concern that a presentation he submitted, which included photographs of Henderson Road conditions, was not displayed. He described significant roadway deterioration, including potholes and narrow travel lanes that require drivers to deviate from their lanes. Mr. Laughlin referenced past issues with the road’s limited width affecting large vehicles, including emergency apparatus, and noted the need to consider existing utilities, such as gas lines, in future reconstruction efforts. He concurred with previous speakers’ concerns and supported moving forward with improvements to the roadway.

Resident Angela Burton, addressed the Council and expressed concerns regarding safety along Henderson Road, particularly with existing traffic conditions involving school buses, pedestrians, and limited roadway capacity. She noted that increased residential development, including Falcon’s Landing, would significantly increase traffic volumes and further impact safety and accessibility for emergency services. Ms. Burton emphasized the importance of prioritizing improvements to Henderson Road to support continued growth and ensure adequate infrastructure. While acknowledging the challenges associated with City growth and competing needs, she highlighted the potential economic benefits of new development and stressed the need to invest in reliable infrastructure to support that growth.

Mayor Flores provided remarks acknowledging the community’s concerns and expressed appreciation for the public’s input and passion regarding Henderson Road. He noted the roadway’s importance to the community and affirmed that the Council is committed to carefully considering all feedback and addressing safety, traffic, and infrastructure needs. It was emphasized that while improvements will not occur immediately, the City is actively evaluating priorities across all streets based on identified needs and available funding. Mayor Flores stated that Henderson Road would be addressed as part of the City’s broader infrastructure planning process and assured residents that the issue is not being set aside but will be handled in a transparent and methodical manner.

Council member Andrew Gonzales who resides on Henderson Road acknowledged the concerns raised, noting strong support for the project while emphasizing that improvements will require time due to funding constraints and the complexity of coordinating infrastructure elements such as drainage and utility relocation. He stated that the public hearing provides an opportunity to begin addressing preliminary components of the project and to incorporate community feedback into future planning.

Council member Albert Escobedo acknowledged the need to balance Henderson Road improvements with other citywide infrastructure priorities, including roadway conditions and drainage issues. He emphasized reliance on staff and the City Manager for evaluating options, funding availability and project feasibility before proceeding.

Council member Leonel Casanova, speaking as a lifelong resident and local school district employee, expressed appreciation for community participation and emphasized the importance of addressing roadway conditions citywide, including Henderson Road, Whipple Road, and other streets. He highlighted concerns regarding student and pedestrian safety, particularly in areas with poor road conditions and high bus traffic. It was noted that while there is a strong desire to improve these roadways, the City must prioritize projects based on overall needs, including flooding and infrastructure issues across multiple neighborhoods. Mr. Casanova affirmed that public input is valued and will be considered in planning efforts, with the goal of addressing roadway improvements in a timely and responsible manner.

Council member Juan Munoz expressed appreciation to all attendees for their participation and input during the public hearing. He acknowledged the concerns presented and stated that while no excuses would be made regarding current conditions, the City is committed to addressing the issues as soon as feasible.

Mayor Flores closed the public hearing at 6:49 p.m.

E. CLOSED SESSION

1. Deliberation pursuant to Section 551.074, Title 5 of the Texas Government code, the Texas Open Meetings Act regarding the following: the appointment, employment, evaluation and duties of City Manager, Chief of Police, Public Works Director, Librarian, Finance Director, or City Secretary.

Mayor Flores recessed the meeting at 6:49 p.m.

F. OPEN SESSION

1. Pursuant to Section 551.074, Title 5 of the Texas Government code, the Texas Open Meetings Act deliberation and possible action regarding the following:

The appointment, employment, evaluation and duties of City Manager, Chief of Police, Public Works Director, Librarian, Finance Director, or City Secretary.

Mayor Flores opened the meeting at 6:49 p.m.

No action was taken.

G. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Flores adjourned the meeting at 7:12 p.m.