

CITY OF REDLANDS
MEASURE T CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Special Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2026

Redlands City Council Chambers, 35 Cajon St., Redlands, CA 92373

Committee Members Present:

Ruth Cook, Chairwoman, District 1
Scott Welsh, Vice Chair, District 2
Edward Millican, Secretary, District 3
Melisa Castro, District 2
Suzanne Teele, District 4
Matthew Swenson, Public Safety Bargaining Unit
Eli Salazar, Non-Public Safety Bargaining Unit

Staff:

Danielle Garcia
James Garland
Valerie Abrego

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Cook called the meeting to order at 2:33 pm. All Committee members were present, and the Committee unanimously thanked Valerie Abrego for her tireless work to bring this about.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were present to address the committee.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the June 2, 2025 meeting of this Committee were approved by a unanimous vote of the members present at that meeting. Teele made the motion to approve and Welsh seconded.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Committee members and staff introduced themselves.

B. The Committee then reviewed the FY 2025 Financial Report on Measure T Revenues and Expenditures.

Millican noted that the Report had been sent to members only today, and suggested that this was not enough time for members to review it before the meeting. Garcia agreed that a week ahead would be optimal, and stated that every effort would be made to do this in the future. It was also observed that the Committee will be meeting again on this matter, so no final decisions will be made today.

Garcia explained that the Report compares FY 2025 budgeted Measure T expenditures with actual expenditures, to assure citizens of Redlands that these funds are being spent for the purposes indicated in the tax override election. Chairwoman Cook commented that Redlands voters deserve this assurance.

With regard to funds budgeted for FY 2025 but listed as not spent, Garcia observed that the money would be expended, but in a different FY. Garcia also noted that seemingly unbudgeted spending items in the Report generally have been budgeted and moved into the Measure T category for accounting reasons.

Swenson commented that increases in firefighter paramedics was a promise given in the Measure T election, and that while pre-pandemic staffing levels have been restored there has been no increase beyond that.

With regard to the tree-trimming item under Public Infrastructure, Castro commented that Council District 2 suffers from tree roots damaging sidewalks, plumbing etc. Garcia noted that the city's tree-trimming contract doesn't cover roots. She said she would find out if the Street Tree Committee was the proper place to refer this, and if tree-trimming funds can be used for roots. Teele pointed out that in District 4 the city recently did do work on tree root damage.

Garcia explained the reasons for various Public Safety and Infrastructure expenditures including PD IT hardware and software and the Redlands Bowl upgrades.

Garcia also discussed Quality of Life issues, including the Library, parks, and homeless services. Cook and Welsh noted the need to prevent fraud in social service programs, and Garcia and Garland reviewed the safeguards the city has in place.

- C. The Committee then reviewed the draft FY 2025 Annual Report on Measure T Spending, and discussed the presentation of this item to the City Council.

Garcia pointed out that Measure T revenues comprise a significant portion (16%) of the General Fund revenue of Redlands, and the Annual Report to the Council documents the many significant improvements made possible by Measure T funds.

Teele commented that the citizens of Redlands should be made aware of the contribution Measure T expenditures make to our community, and the Committee discussed various ways of doing this.

Garcia asked the Committee members to review the draft Annual Report and send any edits or corrections to her prior to the next Committee meeting.

- D. The Committee members discussed the proposed Measure T logo. Millican moved to approve the logo and Teele seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- E. The Committee voted to meet 1-3 pm, Wednesday, March 4 to consider the edits and corrections to the Annual Report.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:09 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Edward Millican, Secretary