



**CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH  
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**

**JULY 29, 2025  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 100 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE, NEWPORT BEACH, CA 92660**

**SPECIAL MEETING - 3:00 P.M.**

**Joe Stapleton, Mayor  
Lauren Kleiman, Mayor Pro Tem  
Michelle Barto, Councilmember  
Noah Blom, Councilmember  
Robyn Grant, Councilmember  
Sara J. Weber, Councilmember  
Erik Weigand, Councilmember**

**Grace K. Leung, City Manager  
Aaron Harp, City Attorney  
Molly Perry, Interim City Clerk**

**LEVINE ACT**

Under the Levine Act, Section 84308 of the Government Code, a party to a proceeding before the City involving a contract (other than competitively bid, labor, or personal employment contracts), franchise, license, permit, or other entitlement for use, is required to disclose on the record of the proceeding any contribution in an amount of more than \$500 made within the preceding 12 months by the party or the party's agent to any elected or appointed officer of the City. If you have made a qualifying contribution, please ensure to make this disclosure on the record.

**NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**

The agenda was prepared by the City Clerk's Office located at 100 Civic Center Drive, Bay E, 2nd Floor. If you have any questions, please contact City Clerk staff at 949-644-3005. Agendas, minutes and staff reports are also available on the City's website: <http://www.newportbeachca.gov/agendas>.

The Newport Beach City Council is subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act. Among other things, the Brown Act requires that the City Council special meeting agenda be posted at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

The City Council of Newport Beach welcomes and encourages community participation. Public comments are generally limited to three minutes per person to allow everyone to speak. Written comments are encouraged as well.

The City of Newport Beach's goal is to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in all respects. If, as an attendee or a participant at this meeting, you will need special assistance beyond what is normally provided, we will attempt to accommodate you in every reasonable manner. Please contact Leilani Brown, City Clerk, prior to the meeting to inform us of your particular needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible (949-644-3005 or [cityclerk@newportbeachca.gov](mailto:cityclerk@newportbeachca.gov)).

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**I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

**II. ROLL CALL**

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*Public comments are invited on agenda items generally considered to be within the subject matter jurisdiction of the City Council. Speakers must limit comments to three minutes. Before speaking, please state your name for the record.*

**IV. CLOSED SESSION - Council Chambers Conference Room**

**A. PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT - PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT**

**(Government Code § 54957): 1 matter**

**Title:** City Clerk.

[Written Comments](#)

**B. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS**

**(Government Code § 54957.6): 1 matter**

**Agency Designated Representatives:** Mayor Joe Stapleton and Mayor Pro Tem  
Lauren Kleiman.

**Unrepresented Employee:** City Clerk.

[Written Comments](#)

**V. CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

**PLEASE TURN CELL PHONES OFF OR SET IN SILENT MODE.**

## July 29, 2025, City Council Agenda Comments

The following comments on an item on the Newport Beach City Council [agenda](#) are submitted by:

Jim Mosher ( [jimmosher@yahoo.com](mailto:jimmosher@yahoo.com) ), 2210 Private Road, Newport Beach 92660 (949-548-6229)

### ***Item IV.A. PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT - PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT (City Clerk)***

Our City Charter, in [Section 603](#), is very clear about the powers and duties of the City Clerk, but does not provide the guidance it does for the City Manager regarding how the appointment must be made.

Given that lack of clear requirements, I am pleased to see someone authorized a [listing](#) of the City Clerk vacancy on GovernmentJobs.com, including a [recruitment brochure](#) published by Alliance Resource Consulting (the City's current on-call executive recruitment firm under contact [C-7393-2](#)).

The brochure anticipated "first-round interviews" for the position on June 18, 2025. I don't know if that first round of interviews occurred. But since this is the first announcement of a meeting of the full council to consider the appointment, if they did occur, and any Council members participated, it must have been three or less.

Regarding the present meeting, I hope:

1. That the number of applications received will be publicly revealed.
2. That the full Council will interview the applicants who seem qualified, and not rely on the opinions of the recruitment firm or the Council members who may have participated in the first round of interviews (assuming it has happened).

I have no strong feelings about what the Council should be looking for in a City Clerk, other than it be someone who puts service to the public foremost.

In that connection, it seems strange that the present Clerk's office does not have a terminal for the public to view documents electronically, as it did at the old City Hall.

I hope the new Clerk will be able, as former Clerk Leilani Brown was, to assemble the Council agenda materials into a single, bookmarked downloadable file (the online posting of the July 22 agenda, available at the time of the meeting, consisted of more than 90 separate files).

And I hope the new Clerk will be able to work with the City's Laserfiche vendor and the IT Division to improve ease of public access to the commendably vast collection of documents it maintains online. In particular, it would be an improvement for the public to be able to search within the results of a previous search, and also if the documents could be archived in a format that maintains page-by-page accessibility without having to disable the hyperlinks that may appear on those pages.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The [Planning Division](#) uses Laserfiche to archive documents with active links, but, frustratingly, they are embedded in a PDF that can be accessed only in its entirety, which may involve slowly downloading hundreds of pages even if only a single page is of interest. By contrast, [the Clerk](#) archives documents in a Laserfiche format that can be accessed and linked to a page at a time, but, frustratingly, any links the [original PDF posting](#) contained become inoperable.

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