

CITY OF RIALTO

THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF NEIGHBORHOOD BEAUTIFICATION & COMMISSION

The regularly scheduled Neighborhood Beautification & Historical Preservation Commission meeting of the City of Rialto was held in the City of Rialto City Council Chambers located at 150 South Palm Avenue, Rialto, California 92376, on October 8, 2025.

This meeting was called by the presiding officer of the City of Rialto Neighborhood Beautification & Historical Preservation Commission in accordance with the provisions of **Government Code §54956** of the State of California.

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CALL TO ORDER

Chair Brenda Parker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

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ROLL CALL

Roll Call was taken by Administrative Analyst, Kim Dame.

Present:

Chair Brenda Parker
Vice-Chair Ivan Ramirez
Commissioner Cliff Houser, Jr.
Commissioner Joe Lyons
Commissioner Lisa Bartley
Commissioner Roberto Solis, Jr.
Commissioner Salvator Torres

Absent:

None.

Staff Present:

Principal Planner, Daniel Casey Administrative Analyst, Kim Dame

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ORAL COMMUNICATION

Chair Parker asked if there were any oral communications from the public not on the agenda. Ms. Dame stated there were none.

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COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

As this was the first meeting of the Neighborhood Beautification & Historical Preservation Commission, there were no previous Meeting Minutes.

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DISCUSSION ITEMS

The first item presented was Overview of Rialto Municipal Code Chapter 2.27 Neighborhood Beautification and Historical Preservation Commission.

Principal Planner Daniel Casey made the presentation.

- Focus for this meeting: Beautification (Historic Preservation to be covered in the next meeting).
- Duties broken into three areas:

1. Community Growth & Development

- Recommend strategies on property maintenance, landscaping, and recognition of property owners.
- Possible programs: Yard of the Month, Holiday Decoration awards, "Most Improved Yard."
- Oversight of public and private landscaping, including medians, parks, commercial, and residential developments.

2. Community Wellness

- Promote civic engagement, public facility access, food and housing strategies, and physical health initiatives.
- Possible programs: Community roundtables/workshops with residents and businesses.

3. Veterans

- Identify needs, support veteran services, and advocate for veterans.
- Possible programs: Roundtables, memorial planning, community engagement.

Landscaping Review & Compliance

- New development landscaping reviewed by planning division; public landscaping reviewed by public works.
- Maintenance is mostly **reactive**, driven by complaints or staff observation.
- Commission can identify issues and request code enforcement action.
- Commission may also recommend changes to existing codes.

Underground Utilities Program

- Beautification commission advises on undergrounding utility lines for aesthetic purposes.
- Waivers may require commission input.

Commission Role in Projects

• Commission can propose projects such as murals or other beautification efforts beyond formal programs.

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COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Solis:

- Motivated to standardize city processes, including maintenance, landscaping, and signage for parks, streets, and businesses.
- Suggested reviewing broken signs and updating related codes for clarity.
- Interested in pollution prevention and reducing exposure, enhancing the city trail, and exploring e-charging opportunities.
- Plans to propose projects such as signage improvements and trail enhancements.

Commissioner Torres:

- Focused on learning about available resources and understanding the commission's budget and financial limitations.
- No additional comments: expects questions to be addressed in future meetings.

Commissioner Ramirez:

- Wants information on existing city programs to build on prior efforts.
- Supports beautification awards and possibly advertising them via social media.
- Recommends gathering public input through surveys or other engagement methods due to city size.

Commissioner Houser:

- Emphasized community awareness and engagement.
- Suggested seminars or displays to involve residents in beautification efforts.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Bartley:

- Focused on curb appeal and neighborhood-level improvements.
- Interested in personally participating in beautification projects within the city.

Commissioner Lyons:

- Highlighted city communication channels, including the PEG cable channel and city magazine, for sharing commission work.
- Expressed interest in veteran-related initiatives.

Commissioner Parker:

- Advocates for updating city codes, some of which date back to the 1960s–1970s, to align with 2025 standards.
- Suggests planning division provide a set of codes the commission is responsible for to review and prioritize.
- Recommends dividing the city into quarters to focus on specific areas systematically for beautification and community engagement.
- Emphasizes the importance of seeing and understanding areas firsthand and engaging with residents before making decisions.
- Supports veterans' programs; notes some initiatives in Rialto have gone dormant since COVID.
- Suggests evaluating needs of unhoused individuals and possibly creating a task force to address veteran and homelessness issues.
- Highlights Rialto Health Services as a key organization helping veterans with service-connected disability claims; stresses personal connection and gratitude for their impact.

Actionable Next Steps:

- Staff to provide commissioners with a digital list of codes and responsibilities.
- Commissioners to select **five specific items** to prioritize for discussion and potential action at the next meeting.
- Potential to use visual aids, photos, or presentations at meetings, submitted to staff at least 24 hours in advance.

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COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTOR
COMMENTS

The next meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Ramirez made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Houser.

The Regular Neighborhood Beautification and Historical Preservation Commission meeting on Wednesday, October 8, 2025, adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

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| Minutes prepared by Kim Dame Administrative Analysi |
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| Brenda Parker |
| Chair, Neighborhood Beautification & Historical Preservation Commission |