

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
JULY 5, 2005**

Mayor Simonian called the meeting to order in the Council Chambers at 5:36 p. m.

Councilmembers present: Simonian, Shaw, Aguayo, & Nagata. Councilmember Cardenas arrived at 6:12 p. m.

City/Agency Staff present: City Manager Elias, City Clerk Davis, Finance Director Wong, Community Development Director Deaver, Police Chief Jamgochian, City Attorney Wolfe, Planning Consultant O'Neal

**DISCUSSION ON THE HIGHWAY BEAUTIFICATION OVERLAY DISTRICT**

City Manager Elias explained that the the Highway 99 Beautification Committee was asking the cities of Kingsburg, Selma, Fowler, Fresno and Fresno County to adopt the Highway Beautification Overlay District (OD). The OD sets forth sign and landscaped buffer requirements and other aesthetic considerations for all property within 1,000 feet of the outside boundaries of the State Highway 99 right-of-way. The purpose of the OD is to promote attractive development along Highway 99. Mr. Elias noted that the process of adopting the OD would require changes to the City's zoning ordinance.

The Council reviewed the provisions of the OD, including landscaping, marquee sign, billboard sign and communication tower regulations. City Attorney Wolfe remarked that the OD provides that nonconforming billboard signs must be removed or made to conform within ten years of the effective date of the OD ordinance. City Manager Elias noted that it would not be mandatory for existing businesses to comply with OD policies, however, regulations could be imposed in the future if a business began an expansion project.

After the discussion, the consensus of the Council was to postpone adoption of the OD until representatives from CalTrans and the Council of Governments/Highway 99 Beautification Committee could attend a future meeting to provide further details.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business, Mayor Pro-Tem Shaw made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Aguayo, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:44 p. m.