

LOCATION:

El Monte City Hall – East
City Council Chambers
11333 Valley Boulevard
El Monte, CA 91731

**DATE AND TIME:**

Wednesday,
March 11, 2026
6:00 p.m.

CONCURRENT SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL MONTE

MEETING JOINTLY AND REGULARLY WITH THE EL MONTE HOUSING AUTHORITY; EL MONTE PUBLIC FINANCING AUTHORITY; EL MONTE WATER AUTHORITY; EL MONTE PARKING AUTHORITY; SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE FORMER EL MONTE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY; HOUSING SUCCESSOR AGENCY; AND, FROM TIME TO TIME, SUCH OTHER BODIES OF THE CITY WHOSE MEMBERSHIP IS COMPOSED EXCLUSIVELY OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILMEMBERS/AUTHORITY MEMBERS:

Jessica Ancona, Mayor

- ♦ *Viviana Longoria, Mayor Pro Tem* ♦ *Marisol Cortez, Councilmember*
- ♦ *Sheila Crippen-Thomas, Councilmember* ♦ *Cindy Galvan, Councilmember*
- ♦ *Martin Herrera, Councilmember* ♦ *Dr. Julia Ruedas, Councilmember*

This meeting is a Special Meeting within the meaning of Government Code Section 54956 and as such public comment is limited to the item(s) of business appearing on the Special Meeting agenda only.

Members of the public may address the City Council (i) on agendaized closed session items of business prior to the City Council going into closed session; (ii) on items of business listed under the heading Public Hearings when the public hearing on the item the speaker wishes to speak on is opened; and/or (iii) on all other items appearing on the Special Meeting agenda. **The City Council shall be under no obligation to entertain comments from persons who (i) submit a speaker card after the City Council closes the applicable commenting period.** With this in mind, speakers are strongly encouraged to submit cards as early as possible to avoid missing the opportunity to speak. Speaker cards should be submitted to the City Clerk or the Sergeant at Arms (a uniformed El Monte Police Officer) before the City Council's approval of the agenda, if possible.

The City Council shall be under no obligation to respond to or deliberate upon any specific questions or comments posed by a speaker or take action on any issue raised by a speaker beyond such action as the City Council may be lawfully authorized to take on an agendaized matter pursuant to the Brown Act (Govt. Code Section 54950 et seq.) ("Brown Act") Members of the City Council may provide brief clarifying responses to any comment made or questions posed. Persons who wish to address the City Council are

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asked to state their name and address for the record. *Speakers may not lend any portion of their speaking time to other persons or borrow additional time from other persons.* All comments or queries presented by a speaker shall be addressed to the City Council as a body and not to any specific member thereof. No questions shall be posed to any member of the City Council except through the presiding official of the meeting, the Mayor and/or Chair. The City Council may not engage in any sort of prolonged discussion or deliberation with any speaker or group of speakers on matters that are not listed on this agenda, nor may the City Council take action on any non-agendized items of business, except as specifically authorized under the Brown Act.

Enforcement of Decorum: The Chief of Police, or such member, or members of the Police Department as the Chief of Police may designate, shall serve as the Sergeant-at-Arms of any City Council meeting. In accordance with Government Code Section 54957.95 as adopted under SB 1000, the Sergeant-at-Arms shall carry out all orders and instructions given by the presiding official for the purpose of maintaining order and decorum at the meeting. While members of the public are free to level criticism of City policies and the action(s) or proposed action(s) of the City Council or its members, members of the public may not engage in behavior that is disruptive to the orderly conduct of the proceedings, including, but not limited to, conduct that prevents other members of the public from being heard when it is their opportunity to speak or which prevents members of the audience from hearing or seeing the proceedings; speaking off topic or speaking beyond the speakers allotted time limit. Members of the public may not threaten any person with physical harm or act in a manner that may reasonably be interpreted as an imminent threat of physical harm. All persons participating in the meeting must adhere to the City's policy barring harassment based upon a person's race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, medical condition, marital status, gender, sexual orientation, or age.

[Instruction regarding accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act can be found on the last page of this Agenda.](#)

1. CALL TO ORDER:

2. ROLL CALL FOR CITY COUNCIL AND AUTHORITY BODIES:

Jessica Ancona, Mayor/Chair
Viviana Longoria, Mayor Pro Tem/Authority Member
Marisol Cortez, Councilmember/Authority Member
Sheila Crippen-Thomas, Councilmember/Authority Member
Cindy Galvan, Councilmember/Authority Member
Martin Herrera, Councilmember/Authority Member
Dr. Julia Ruedas, Councilmember/Authority Member

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:



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4. INVOCATION: City Council

5. FLAG SALUTE: City Council

6. SPECIAL MEETING PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING AGENDIZED MATTERS ONLY:

As provided under **Government Code Section 54954.3**, this time has been set aside for persons in the audience to provide comment or make inquiries on matters appearing on this **Special Meeting agenda only**. Although no person is required to provide their name and address as a condition to attending a meeting, persons who wish to address the body are asked to state their name and address. Each speaker will be limited to three (3) continuous minutes. Speakers may not lend any portion of their speaking time to other persons or borrow additional time from other persons. All comments or queries presented by a speaker shall be addressed to the body as a whole and not to any specific member thereof. No questions shall be posed to any member of the body except through the presiding official of the meeting, members of the body are under no obligation to respond to questions posed by speakers but may provide brief clarifying responses to any comment made or questions posed. The body may not engage in any sort of prolonged discussion or deliberation with any speaker or group of speakers on matters that are not listed on this Special Meeting agenda.

Enforcement of Decorum: The Chief of Police of the City of El Monte, or such member, or members of the Police Department as the Chief of Police may designate, shall serve as the Sergeant-at-Arms of the meeting. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall carry out all orders and instructions given by the presiding official for the purpose of maintaining order and decorum at the meeting. While members of the public are free to level criticism of policies and the action(s) or proposed action(s) of the body or its members, members of the public may not engage in behavior that is disruptive to the orderly conduct of the proceedings, including, but not limited to, conduct that prevents other members of the public from being heard when it is their opportunity to speak or which prevents members of the audience from hearing or seeing the proceedings.

Members of the public may not threaten any person with physical harm or act in a manner that may reasonably be interpreted as an imminent threat of physical harm. All persons attending the meeting must adhere to policies barring harassment based upon a person's race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, medical condition, marital status, gender, sexual orientation or age.

7. REGULAR AGENDA:

7.1 Discussion and Direction to Staff Regarding the Study of Data Center Development and Community Impacts Within the City of El Monte.



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8. ADJOURNMENT:

The next Regular Meeting of the City Council will be held on **March 25, 2026** at 6:00 p.m. This Agenda will be posted on the City's website, www.ci.el-monte.ca.us, and physically posted no less than 72 hours prior to the start of the subject regular meeting. Although it is the City's practice and desire to electronically post a copy of this Agenda along with supporting material as part of its website posting, the size or formatting of certain supporting materials may render their website posting infeasible. Nevertheless, all supporting materials related to any item on this Agenda, that is made available to the members of the council may be inspected by members of the public at the City Clerk's Office located at 11333 Valley Boulevard, El Monte, Monday through Thursday, 7:00 am – 5:30 pm. For more information, please call the City Clerk's Office at 626-580-2016.

All public meetings and events sponsored or conducted by the City of El Monte are held in sites accessible to persons with disabilities. Requests for accommodations may be made by calling the office of the City Clerk at (626) 580-2016 at least three (3) working days prior to the event, if possible. This Agenda and copies of documents distributed at the meeting are available in alternative formats upon request.

Posted: March 10, 2026 at 5:40 p.m.



**CITY OF EL MONTE
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Alma Martinez, Rick Olivarez, and Griselda Contreras

FROM: Councilmembers Cortez, Ruedas, and Longoria

DATE:
March 9, 2026

SUBJECT:
Direction to Study the Community Impacts of Data Centers and Request to Place Item on City Council Agenda

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
2026 MAR 10 A 8:29

I. Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to formally document and transmit staff direction to conduct a comprehensive policy and land-use analysis regarding the potential development and operation of data centers within the City of El Monte, including their environmental, infrastructure, economic, and community impacts.

Per our verbal conversation on Friday, March 6, 2026, regarding environmental and community concerns related to the placement of data centers, staff is directed incorporate these considerations into the scope of this analysis.

In addition, this memorandum requests that the City Clerk place an item on an upcoming City Council agenda to initiate a formal study session and provide direction to staff regarding regulatory, environmental, infrastructure, and economic considerations associated with data center development.

II. Background

Across California and nationally, municipalities are experiencing a rapid increase in proposals related to the development of large-scale data centers to support cloud computing, artificial intelligence infrastructure, telecommunications, and digital storage services.

While these facilities can provide economic benefits, including potential tax revenue and infrastructure investment, they also raise significant municipal planning, environmental, and community-impact considerations, including but not limited to:

- High electricity consumption and strain on regional energy infrastructure
- Significant water usage associated with cooling systems
- Potential noise impacts from cooling equipment and generators
- Land use compatibility within existing industrial, commercial, or mixed-use zones

- Traffic impacts related to construction and equipment servicing
- Limited job creation relative to facility size and energy consumption
- Greenhouse gas and sustainability implications
- Public safety and emergency power generator impacts
- Impacts on local utility capacity and long-term infrastructure planning

III. Policy Considerations for the City of El Monte

A proactive evaluation will allow the City to determine whether existing zoning, environmental policies, and infrastructure planning adequately address this emerging land use.

The proposed study would evaluate the following:

Zoning and Land Use Compatibility

- Whether existing industrial zones permit data centers by right or through conditional use permits.
- Appropriate buffers between data centers and residential or mixed-use neighborhoods.

Energy Infrastructure Impacts

- Electrical demand projections and coordination with regional utilities.
- Impacts on grid reliability and local substations.

Water Use and Sustainability

- Cooling technologies and projected water consumption.
- Compliance with regional water conservation goals.

Environmental and Noise Impacts

- Backup generator operations.
- Continuous mechanical noise from cooling systems.

Economic Development Analysis

- Job creation relative to facility footprint.
- Property tax and economic activity benefits.

Best Practices from Other Jurisdictions

- Regulatory frameworks adopted by other California cities.
- Potential development standards or operational requirements.

IV. Requested Council Action

Staff recommends that the City Council consider the following actions:

1. Direct staff to prepare a comprehensive study evaluating the potential impacts of data centers within the City of El Monte.
2. Direct staff to analyze potential regulatory options, including zoning amendments, development standards, conditional use permit requirements, and environmental performance standards.
3. Schedule a City Council study session to review findings and discuss potential policy direction.

V. Agenda Placement

Staff respectfully requests that the City Clerk place this item on a forthcoming City Council agenda for discussion and direction.

The agenda item may be titled:


“Discussion and Direction to Staff Regarding the Study of Data Center Development and Community Impacts within the City of El Monte.”

VI. Conclusion

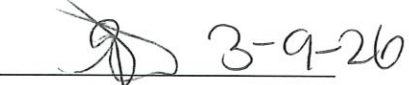
As digital infrastructure continues to expand nationally, cities are increasingly faced with complex decisions regarding the placement and regulation of large-scale data centers. Conducting a proactive analysis will allow the City of El Monte to ensure that any future proposals align with the City’s goals related to sustainability, infrastructure capacity, economic development, and community quality of life.

Staff therefore requests placement of this item on an upcoming City Council agenda to receive policy direction from the City Council.

Date: March 9, 2026


3/9/26
Councilmember, District 3


3-9-26
Councilmember, District 4


3-9-26
Councilmember, District 6