













March 24, 2026, Santa Monica City Council Meeting - Santa Monica Neighbors



 PRIORITY TABLE

Item	Topic	What It Does	Cost to City	Priority	Why It Matters
11.C	Realignment Plan	Massive bundled policy package (parking, policing, dining, labor, housing, events)	≥ \$3M + grants + unknown ongoing costs	 RED	Biggest policy + fiscal impact; bundled decisions reduce transparency
4.M	City Attorney Appointment	Appoint permanent City Attorney (5-year contract)	\$395,352/year (budgeted)	 RED	Shapes legal strategy, transparency, litigation posture
4.E	City Yards Project	7th contract increase for major infrastructure project	+\$2.07M (Total ~ \$100.7M)	 RED	Large capital growth; accountability on cost escalation
4.I	Bus Fleet (Cummins)	Engine + electric propulsion overhaul	Up to \$6.15M	 YELLOW	Reliability vs long-term fleet strategy
4.J	Parking/Bike Enforcement	Citation system + automated enforcement	+\$120K (Total ~\$13.5M)	 YELLOW	Enforcement expansion + long-term contract size
4.L	AI Plan Check	AI-assisted building review system	Up to \$528K	 YELLOW	Speed vs accountability, accuracy, bias risks
4.K	Pier Lease	Lease restaurant/experience space on Pier	Revenue generating (terms unclear)	 YELLOW	Public asset use + lease transparency
4.N	Victorian Lease	Assign lease + accept \$278K back rent	Recovers \$278K	 YELLOW	Public asset + community impact
4.C	Financial Report	Annual audit (ACFR)	No new cost	 YELLOW	Fiscal transparency
4.D	Fleet Maintenance	Vehicle repair/upfitting	\$2.82M	 GREEN	Operational
4.H	Medical Testing	Employee health services	~\$3.6M	 GREEN	Risk management
4.F 4.G	Emergency Declarations	Fires + Homelessness	Ongoing (not specified)	 YELLOW	Emergency powers require scrutiny