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BEIJING

China's Xi warns Trump over Taiwan



Chinese President Xi Jinping, left, shakes hands with U.S. President Donald Trump at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on Thursday. Trump said Xi would make a reciprocal visit to the White House on Sept. 24. **KENNY HOLSTON — AP**

Summit shows how far apart both remain on thorny issues

By Will Weissert and Aamer Madhani
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIJING — China's Xi Jinping warned President Donald Trump on Thursday that their two countries could clash over Taiwan if the issue is not handled properly, an unusually harsh admonition that stood in contrast to the American leader's praise for his counterpart.

The exchange at a highly anticipated summit in Beijing underscored just how far apart Trump and Xi still are on thorny issues, including the war in Iran, trade disputes and Washington's relations with Taiwan, which is self-ruled but which China claims as part of its territory.

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Xi waits to welcome Trump at the Great Hall of the People on Thursday in Beijing. The White House said the trip could lead to announcements on trade. **MARK SCHIEFELBEIN — AP**

CALIFORNIA

Governor candidates debate with voting begun

Becerra draws the most fire as polls show ex-HHS boss ahead

By Linh Tat
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In what may have been their final televised matchup before the June 2 primary election, the leading candidates for California governor made their closing pitches to voters in what has been a murky race.

Election Day is just a little more than two weeks away, and early voting is already underway. Thursday's debate, broadcast live from San Francisco, offered one of the last opportunities for many voters to hear directly from the candidates as they seek to secure their place in the general election.

For 90 minutes, the seven top candidates for governor debated a range of issues, including affordability, housing, public safety, climate, education and healthcare. And like the previous debates, there were also moments of heated exchanges.

The candidates who appeared on stage included

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RECOVERY

Wildfire survivors question outlay of \$2.5B in relief aid

State says funds are designated to reimburse feds for FEMA payouts

By Camelia Heins and Steve Scauzillo
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA NEWS GROUP

A coalition of fire survivors and community advocates on Thursday urged transparency and accountability for the spending of a \$2.5 billion statewide wildfire relief package, which state officials said is being used to reimburse the federal government for Federal Emergency Management Agency payments.

The coalition, from Eaton Fire Residents United, A Resilient Tomorrow, National Day Laborer Organizing Network and L.A. Voice, pointed to the funding package introduced by Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel, D-Encino, and state Sen. Scott Weiner,

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WHITTIER

Council will ask voters to OK city elections shift to November

Public comment protocol changes, 12-year term limits will also be on future ballots

By Anissa Rivera
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The Whittier City Council handed its staff a three-pronged to-do list at its meeting Tuesday, directing them to prepare the necessary ballot measures to align its municipal elections with the November federal and state races.

The five-member council approved the motion in a unanimous vote, but not before discussing the merits of asking voters to align Whittier's municipal elections, held last on April 14, with either the primaries in June or in November.

Mayor Pro Tem Mary Ann Pacheco and Councilmember Vicky Santana preferred to align with the statewide primary, the dates of which change; while Councilmembers Cathy Warner and Aida Macedo favored the November general elections.

Mayor James Becerra delivered the deciding vote on directing staff to write an ordinance changing municipal elections to November.

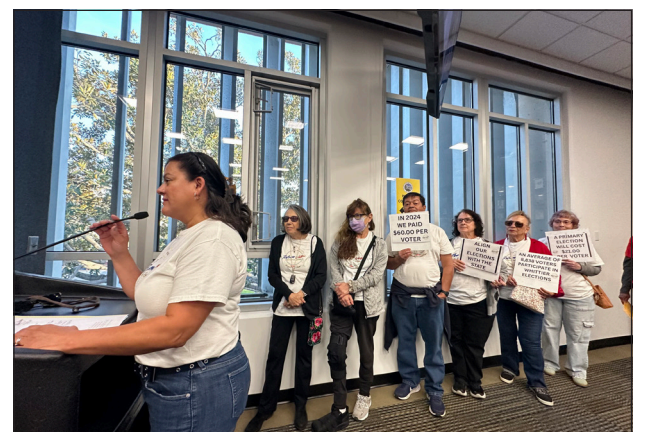
"I will just say as a point of discussion, I'm more concerned about voter turnout and less concerned about giving the incumbent or the challenger an advantage or not," Becerra said, acknowledging

points his colleagues made during discussion. "That's a legitimate concern, but at this point I'm going to be focused on increasing the turnout. That's going to color my decision."

The governing body also directed staff to return with recommendations about revising protocols on public comment at City Council meetings and decided on further study of the city budget before its adoption in June.

Members of Reform Whittier, the grassroots group that endorsed Becerra, Macedo and Santana, spoke during

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Stephanie Vallejo of Reform Whittier speaks Tuesday before the City Council. The group has pressed Whittier to realign its municipal elections. **COURTESY OF LORENZO GÓMEZ**

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