



**FOCUS ON THE
FUTURE**
CITY COUNCIL RETREAT
2024

January 29, 2024

www.cityofpaloalto.org

AGENDA



- 5:30 pm** **Roll Call & Welcome from Mayor**
- 5:40 Discuss 2023 City Council Priorities & Objectives
- 6:00 Key Inputs: Community & Council Feedback
- 6:20 Public Comment
- 7:00 BREAK
- 7:10 Selection of 2024 Priorities & Strategies to Achieve Priorities
- 9:30 BREAK
- 9:40 Discuss City Council Norms for 2024
- 10:10 Retreat Debrief, Take Away and Next Steps
- 10:30 Adjournment



TO ENSURE A PRODUCTIVE DAY

We allow time for **candid** and **honest** feedback

We seek to hear **ideas and perspectives** of residents in our public comments before deliberations

We will adhere to schedule and allow the facilitator to move the conversation along

City Council



**Greer
Stone**
Mayor

**Ed
Lauing**
*Vice
Mayor*

**Pat
Burt**
*Council
Member*

**Lydia
Kou**
*Council
Member*

**Julie
Lythcott-
Haims**
*Council
Member*

**Greg
Tanaka**
*Council
Member*


**Vicki
Veenker**
*Council
Member*



COUNCIL PRIORITIES OVERVIEW

- Since 1986, this Council has established Policy Priorities
- Policy anticipates between 1 - 3 Council identified topics will receive, unusual and significant attention. Topics may remain priorities for up to 3 years
- At the recommendation of the Policy & Services Committee and with Council approval, this session recommends continuing the 2023 priorities and focusing on strategies to accomplish the goal(s) within them.

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CITY OF
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ALTO**

INTRODUCTION TO ANNUAL GOAL PROCESS

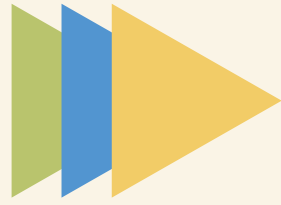
PROGRESS OF 2023 PRIORITIES & OBJECTIVES

JANUARY 29, 2024

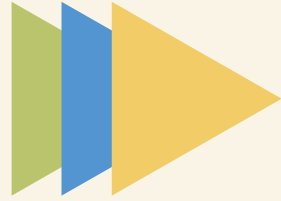
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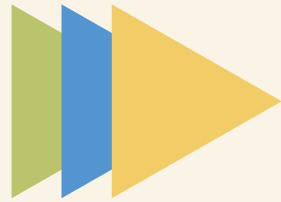
2023 COUNCIL PRIORITIES



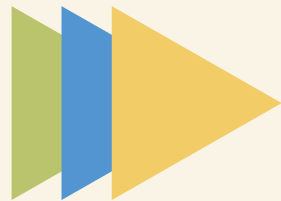
Community Health & Safety




Economic Recovery & Transition



Climate Change & Natural
Environment- Protection &
Adaptation



Housing for Social & Economic
Balance



CITY OF
PALO ALTO
YEAR IN REVIEW

2023 Council Priorities & Objectives Status

ECONOMIC RECOVERY & TRANSITION (ER&T)

<i>Support Economic Recovery and Business Transition</i>	
a	Adopt a comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
b	Implement or upgrade electronic plan review software without interruption to the permitting process (ERT 9)
c	Implement recommendations in Building and Permit Review Report conducted by the City Auditor***
d	Begin stakeholder engagement and implementation of new business tax (Measure K)
<i>Focus on Commercial Corridors, Downtown and California Ave</i>	
e	Begin implementation of next phase of parklet regulations to the community
f	Evaluate opportunities for New Parking Facilities in the University Ave Downtown and direct next steps (ERT 10)
g	Align Business Improvement District (BID) priorities and investments to the Comprehensive ED Strategy(ERT1)***
h	Select consultant to conduct a study that informs the development of a permanent car-free streets ordinance (ERT 6 & 7)
i	Approve concept plan for University Ave streetscape and provide direction on capital project funding (ERT 5)
j	Extend temporary closure for car free streets (ERT 6 & 7)
k	Provide direction on citywide retail zoning code changes including retail preservation and neighborhood commercial district specific regulations and CUP thresholds (ERT 4, 12, 13)***

Key: Dark = Complete; Medium = On Track; Light = Behind/Not started/Drop

2023 Council Priorities & Objectives Status

CLIMATE CHANGE & THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT (CC&NE)

Climate Change Protection

l	Implement Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) through purchase of meters/equipment for installation (CCPA7)***
m	Approve consultant to update Bike and Pedestrian Transportation Plan
n	Approve municipal code amendments for advancing S/CAP goals (specifically facilitate photovoltaic, energy storage system, electric vehicle charging station, and heat pump (water/furnace) installations) (CCPA1)
o	Approve S/CAP Update and 3-year workplan (CCPA4)
p	Begin first phase construction for grid modernization and consultant resources to plan for gas transition***
q	Install first 1,000 heat pump water heaters through the advanced pilot program and approve expanded full-scale program***
r	Approve advanced pilot program for whole residential home electrification by the end of 2023 (targeted areas)***
s	Approve commercial rooftop HVAC electrification advanced pilot program***
t	Accept Electric Vehicle Strategic Plan***
u	Accept Reliability and Resiliency Strategic Plan***
v	Review preliminary draft S/CAP study discussing workplan resource needs and project funding opportunities***
2	Engage youth in implementation of climate change initiatives, objectives, and goals
7	Discuss plans for commercial dewatering requirements

Climate Change Adaptation: Flood Protection

w	Advance the San Francisquito Creek Flood Protection capital project (Reach 2) by the end of 2023, through Council's JPA representation and any Council approvals involved.***
x	Secure funding and approve construction for the Newell Bridge replacement project; advocacy with State legislators educating on project funding needs (CHS10)***
5	Determine next steps for sea level rise and adaptation plan*

Natural Environment

y	Approve operations and maintenance agreements with Valley Water purified water facility at LATP Area B (CCPA3)***
z	Adopt appropriate changes to the revised Tree Protection Ordinance***
4	Initiate zoning changes consistent with the Comprehensive Plan regarding creek corridor setbacks
6	Initiate evaluation of strategies to protect natural habitats such as bird safe glass, wildlife protection from light pollution, etc

Key: Dark = Complete;
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2023 Council Priorities & Objectives Status

HOUSING FOR SOCIAL & ECONOMIC BALANCE (HS&EB)

Advance Renter Protection Policies

- aa Approve access to rental units by establishing security deposit limits
- bb Provide protections to renters by considering expansion of the just cause eviction ordinance (HSEB16)
- cc Implement a rental registry to inform future renter protection policies (HSEB15)

Advance Housing Plans

- dd Expand housing opportunities through the initiation of a Downtown Housing Plan: approval of project funding and a consultant contract (HSEB10)***
- ee Advance local and state housing interests through a HCD-compliant Housing Element (HSEB5)***
- ff Advance vision for North Ventura Coordinated Area by adopting a coordinated area plan (HSEB4)***
- gg Create new affordable housing opportunities through funding such as a housing land trust, in particular, CalCHA***
- hh Explore opportunities to regulate short term-rentals with Council committee*
- 8 Construct preliminary schedule for starting new coordinated area plans for San Antonio Road, California Ave, Downtown, and El Camino Real***

Implement Housing Production Policies

- ii Codify permanent standards related to the City local SB9 implementation ordinance (HSEB 14)
- jj Approve adjusted Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) regulations to facilitate production and meet HCD requirements (HSEB9)
- kk Respond to various Grand Jury recommendations related to Housing (HSEB 6, 17, 24)***
- ll Refine implementation of City's SB9 objective development and urban lot split standards (HSEB 14)***
- mm Adopt an ordinance amending the development standards for Stanford-owned housing opportunity sites
- nn Rezone carryover housing opportunity sites for by-right development when developed with 20% lower income affordable housing units***
- oo Adopt an ordinance to implement revised development standards for certain properties located in the GM/ROLM to allow for densities up to 90 units/acre
- 9 Evaluate RHNA housing allocation and encourage housing production that reflects the needs of the community
- 10 Establish an ad hoc committee on housing to review housing policies

Support Unhoused Service Initiatives

- pp Begin construction in partnership with LifeMoves for Palo Alto Homekey project to provide transitional housing and services for unhoused residents (HSEB13)
- qq Develop a citywide strategy to connect unhoused residents to housing and services*

2023 Council Priorities & Objectives Status

Mental & Physical Health and Belonging

rr	Complete reopening libraries to budgeted level (remains below pre-pandemic levels) (CHS5)***
ss	Approval of multi-year agreement for provisions of animal shelter services (CHS1)***
tt	Expand and enhance community special events with focus on inclusion (linked to activities in ERT)
uu	Approve agreement with PAUSD on long term use of the Cubberley property (CHS2)***
vv	Evaluate Recreation Wellness Center Feasibility (CHS14)***
11	Evaluate increasing HSRAP funding during the FY 2024 budget process**
12	Facilitate a location for La Comida in North Palo Alto
13	Increase support and funding for youth mental health*

Invest in Reliable Safety Infrastructure and Systems

ww	Support visible police presence by ensuring stable staffing (recruiting and retention) through hiring ahead program (CHS6)***
xx	Support a diverse community through extension of the Psychiatric Emergency Response Team (PERT) program services to the community through affirmation of continued City financial support
yy	Update without interruption 911 dispatch system (CAD provider) once selected through procurement process (CHS4)***
zz	Begin construction of the Gas Main Replacement Project 24B***
aaa	Approve updated Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CHS15)***
bbb	Implement Foothills Fire Management Plan (CHS3)
ccc	Advance final construction phase of Public Safety Building and begin preparations for move-in (CHS9)***
ddd	Approve next steps for the rebuild of Fire Station No. 4 project (specifically design and entitlements) (CHS17)
eee	Approve resources and consultant to study and develop seismic and resiliency ordinance (CHS20)***

Reduction of Noise and Air Quality Pollution

fff	Update gas-powered leaf blower ordinance and enforcement plan (CHS16)
ggg	Implement a strategy for the provision and promotion of unleaded fuel at Palo Alto Airport (CHS12)
hhh	Approval of quiet zone implementation (rail/train crossings)
iii	Continue engagement with San Francisco Airport on SFO's Ground Based Augmentation System (GBAS) project and other potential opportunities to decrease SFO noise impacts on Palo Alto (CHS11)

COMMUNITY HEALTH
& SAFETY (CH&S)



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INTRODUCTION TO ANNUAL GOAL PROCESS

KEY INPUTS: COMMUNITY & COUNCIL FEEDBACK

JANUARY 29, 2024

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COMMUNITY & COUNCIL FEEDBACK

Community Feedback on Priorities

- An online survey seeking community input on 2024 Council priorities garnered a total of 396 responses.
- A variety of perspectives were provided, and all responses are submitted as part of the retreat packet.
- Topics gaining most community focus included seven themes or areas.

Council Feedback on Priorities

At its Jan. 16 meeting, Council affirmed P&S Committee recommendations that the Council reselect the 2023 Priorities and have a deeper discussion on the strategies required to advance each priority area.

Crime & Safety

Airplane Noise

Community Building

Electrification


Bicycle & Pedestrian Infrastructure

Housing & Affordable Housing

Flood Control

FEEDBACK

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PUBLIC COMMENT

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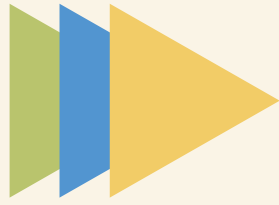
SELECTION OF 2024 PRIORITIES & STRATEGIES TO ACHIEVE

JANUARY 29, 2024

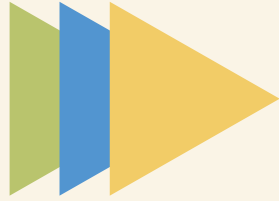
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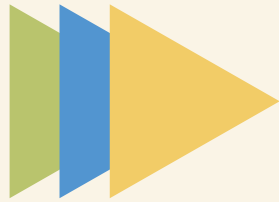
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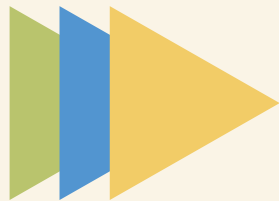
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STRATEGIES TO ACHIEVE PRIORITY GOALS

1) How does the Council envision its engagement in advancing each Priority area? If involving ad hoc committees, are there specific goals to be assigned to each committee?

2) What are the key community engagement needs to support and enhance the City's progress toward these goals?

3) What resources (staff and Council time, financial, partner, other) are needed to achieve Council's vision for each priority?



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DISCUSS CITY COUNCIL NORMS



Forum to discuss how the Council prefers to work as a team during 2024 ensuring productivity, collegiality, and efficiency.

This is a separate conversation than the formal Council protocols and procedures review that will come before the Council separately schedule in the first quarter of 2024 as previously referred by the Council.

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NEXT STEPS

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NEXT STEPS





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