



**City Council
Special Meeting
Annual Retreat
Saturday, February 5, 2022
9:00 AM
Virtual Meeting**

**Pursuant to AB 361 this City of Palo Alto City Council Meeting
Will Be Held by Virtual Teleconference Only**

To prevent the spread of Covid-19, this meeting will be held by virtual teleconference only, with no physical location. Members of the public who wish to participate by computer or phone can find the instructions below and at the end of this agenda.

VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN](https://cityofpaloalto.zoom.us/j/362027238) (<https://cityofpaloalto.zoom.us/j/362027238>)
Meeting ID: 362 027 238 Phone:1(669)900-6833

The meeting will be broadcast on Cable TV Channel 26, live on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/c/cityofpaloalto>, and streamed to Midpen Media Center at <https://midpenmedia.org>.

TIME ESTIMATES

Time estimates are provided as part of the Council's effort to manage its time at Council meetings. **Listed times are estimates only and are subject to change**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Comments will be accepted both via Zoom meeting. Written public comments can be submitted in advance to city.council@cityofpaloalto.org and will be provided to the Council and available for inspection on the City's website.

0. PRESENTATION SLIDES

1. ROLL CALL AND WELCOME FROM MAYOR

2. COUNCIL RETREAT DISCUSSION

9:15 AM STATUS OF 2021 CITY COUNCIL PRIORITIES

10:30 AM PUBLIC COMMENT

Council reserves the right to limit the duration of Oral Communications period to 30 minutes.

11:00 AM BREAK

- 11:10 AM SETTING 2022 COUNCIL PRIORITIES
- 12:15 PM LUNCH BREAK
- 12:45 PM DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE REVISION TO COUNCIL PROCEDURES AND PROTOCOLS HANDBOOK AND 2022 STANDING COMMITTEE TOPICS
- 1:45 PM RETREAT DEBRIEF, TAKE AWAY AND NEXT STEPS

3. ADJOURNMENT (2:00 PM)

PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS

Members of the Public may provide public comments to teleconference meetings via email, teleconference, or by phone.

1. **Written public comments** may be submitted by email to city.council@cityofpaloalto.org.
2. **Spoken public comments using a computer** will be accepted through the teleconference meeting. To address the Council, click on the link below to access a Zoom-based meeting. Please read the following instructions carefully.
 - A. You may download the Zoom client or connect to the meeting in-browser. If using your browser, make sure you are using a current, up-to-date browser: Chrome 30+, Firefox 27+, Microsoft Edge 12+, Safari 7+. Certain functionality may be disabled in older browsers including Internet Explorer.
 - B. You may be asked to enter an email address and name. We request that you identify yourself by name as this will be visible online and will be used to notify you that it is your turn to speak.
 - C. When you wish to speak on an Agenda Item, click on "raise hand." The Clerk will activate and unmute speakers in turn. Speakers will be notified shortly before they are called to speak.
 - D. When called, please limit your remarks to the time limit allotted.
 - E. A timer will be shown on the computer to help keep track of your comments.
3. **Spoken public comments using a phone** use the telephone number listed below. When you wish to speak on an agenda item hit *9 on your phone so we know that you wish to speak. *6 can be used to unmute and speak.

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#) Meeting ID: 362 027 238 Phone:1(669)900-6833



City of Palo Alto

City Council Staff Report

(ID # 13977)

Meeting Date: 2/5/2022

Title: Consideration and Selection of 2022 City Council Priorities

From: City Manager

Lead Department: City Manager

Recommendation

Policy and Services Committee recommends that Council consider and select the 2022 City Council Priorities.

Background

In October 2012, City Council approved Priority Setting Guidelines ([CMR #3156](#)) and outlined the role for the Policy and Services Committee in this activity. Per the Guidelines (included with [CMR #13744](#)), a priority is defined as a topic that will receive particular, unusual and significant attention during the year. Additionally, there is a goal of no more than three priorities per year, generally with a three-year time limit. Policy and Services Committee discussed potential City Council priority topics at the December 14, 2021 meeting ([CMR #13744](#); action minutes not yet available) and moved to refer a refined/cleaned up list to the City Council for consideration in the 2022 Priority Setting process.

The original report ([CMR #13744](#)) and its attachments are found in **Attachment A** to this report. Additional information was also gathered as part of a community survey and is attached to this report.

The 2021 Priorities, as selected at the City Council's Annual Retreat on January 30, 2021 ([CMR #11957](#); [Minutes](#)) are as follows:

- Economic Recovery
- Housing for Social and Economic Balance
- Social Justice
- Climate Change – Protection and Adaptation

Discussion

Staff e-mailed current City Council members requesting their suggestions for priority topics to be included, to be received by December 1, 2021. The suggestions received by the time of this publication are included in this memo. As recommended by Policy and Services, the duplicates-removed/cleaned up priorities for full City Council discussion are as follows, alphabetically:

1. Accelerate Climate Change Actions And Implementation Of The SCAP
2. Affordable Housing And Socioeconomic Balance
3. Belonging And Social Justice
4. Healthy City Healthy Community
5. Post Pandemic Economic Recovery And Local Economic Development And Support
6. Public Safety
7. Push Back On State Legislation That Trumps Local Control
8. Rebalance Infrastructure Plan
9. Redesign And Streamline Internal And External City Processes

The Policy and Services Committee discussed the full version ([CMR #13744](#)) of the list above and also discussed the possibility of maintaining the current priorities into the next year but ultimately decided to forward the cleaned up list of ideas to the full City Council for discussion at the 2022 retreat.

Community Survey through Open City Hall

In addition to soliciting the City Council for suggestions on City Council 2022 priorities, staff also released an [Open City Hall survey](#) to gather additional priority suggestions from the community at large. The online survey was open from early December 2021 through January 18, 2022. The survey forum had 409 visitors to the webpage and gained 275 specific community responses.

The full report including individual responses can be viewed in **Attachment B**. To summarize, some of the most frequently commented on priorities to focus in the coming year included:

- Community and Economic Recovery
- Public Safety
- Climate Change
- Housing
- Community Services, Libraries
- Transportation
- City Infrastructure

In addition to the online survey, several community members emailed the City Council directly. **Attachment C** contains emails received from the public.

Timeline, Resource Impact, Policy Implications

No additional resource impact is expected at this time, though future budget allocations and policy recommendations could result from applying the priorities to community and staff work.

Stakeholder Engagement

The community and the City Council have been solicited for their input and suggestions regarding the priorities. The community weighed in through the Open City Hall survey platform as well as the ability to send emails to the City Council through city.council@cityofpaloalto.org.

Environmental Review

This is not considered a project as defined by CEQA.

Attachments:

- **Attachment1.a:** Attachment A: December 2021 Policy and Services Priorities Report
- **Attachment1.b:** Attachment B: 2022 City Council Priorities, Community Survey through Open City Hall
- **Attachment1.c:** Attachment C: 2022 City Council Priorities, Emails



City of Palo Alto

(ID # 13744)

Policy and Services Committee Staff Report

Meeting Date: 12/14/2021

Title: Discuss and Make Recommendations for the 2022 City Council Priority Setting Process and Follow Up Discussion on Council Retreat Referral to Discuss Possible Edits, Changes, or Updates to the City Council Procedures and Protocols Handbook

From: City Manager

Lead Department: City Manager

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Policy and Services Committee discuss and consider making recommendations to the City Council regarding 2022 priorities and, potentially, format and facilitation for the Council's annual retreat in January or February.

The Policy and Services Committee should also consider and discuss potential substantive edits, changes, and revisions to the City Council Procedures and Protocols Handbook (CPP or Handbook) and recommend desired changes to the City Council for consideration at its annual retreat in January 2022.

Background:

In October 2012, the City Council approved Priority Setting Guidelines (CMR #3156) and outlined the role for the Policy & Services Committee in this activity. Per the Guidelines (**Attachment A**), a priority is defined as a topic that will receive unusual and significant attention during the year. Additionally, there is a goal of no more than three priorities per year, generally with a three-year time limit.

The 2021 Priorities, as selected at the City Council's Annual Retreat on January 30, 2021 ([CMR #11957](#), [Minutes](#)) are as follows:

- Economic Recovery
- Housing for Social and Economic Balance
- Social Justice
- Climate Change – Protection and Adaptation

Previous years' priorities are found in **Attachment B**.

Handbook Background:

The Municipal Code provides that the City Council should adopt “a handbook of procedural rules governing any aspect of the conduct of meetings and hearings for the Council and its standing committees, including but not limited to agenda requirements, the order of business, rules of order, rules of evidence, closed session procedures and rules for public participation in meetings” (PAMC section 2.04.100). The City Council adopted the first version of the City Council Procedures and Protocols Handbook in the early 2000s.

The Handbook calls on the City Council to review its procedural rules and protocols annually. (CPP, Protocols Section 3.1, p. 34). This is typically done at the City Council’s January retreat. The Handbook has been amended numerous times over the years with updates to particular sections, though the core of the document has remained largely unchanged for over 20 years. Most recently, the City Council adopted a set of changes on February 1, 2020 ([CMR #11036; Minutes](#)), during the annual City Council Retreat, with approval following a referral to Policy and Services.

In June 2021, the Policy and Services Committee discussed the City Council Procedures and Protocols ([CMR #12341](#)) and decided to: recommend that the City Council hires a consultant to cleanup and reformat the handbook to improve readability and ease of use for City Council Members, Staff and the public ([Minutes](#)).

That recommendation was taken to the City Council in August 2021 ([CMR #13446](#)) and the City Council approved the following: to approve the retention of a consultant to clean up and reformat the City Council Procedures and Protocols Handbook ([Minutes](#)).

Discussion:

Staff e-mailed current Council members requesting their suggestions for priority topics to be included, to be received by December 1, 2021. The suggestions received by the time of this publication are included in this memo. The community is also being solicited for suggestions. It will remain open and available to the community for inclusion at the Council retreat, date TBD. At the retreat itself, the community can also attend and express their views at the meeting. The purpose of this solicitation is to help inform the Council on priorities for the upcoming year.

The Council preliminary suggestions (listed below) will help organize ideas into groupings in advance of the retreat so staff and Council can prepare for a productive retreat. Council members are free to modify choices at the Policy and Services Committee meeting or Council retreat. The National Community Survey, formerly known as the National Citizens Survey, will not take place this year (as directed in the City budget to a bi-annual process), thus that input will not be available this year to help inform the priority setting process. The Policy and Services Committee may make recommendations regarding the priorities as well as regarding the retreat format and facilitator. Of note, the Human Relations Commission, in their presentation to the Policy and Services Committee as part of the September Race and Equity Update shared an interest in the City Council considering “Belonging” as a possible Council priority.

Following solicitation of City Council members for their topics of interest, the topics received are listed below in alphabetical order:

1. Affordable housing (unless it is already an ongoing item based on being a priority multiple times already)
2. Civility and respect in public discourse, to reinforce a welcoming community and a sense of belonging for all community members
3. Climate Change – Protection and Adaptation; Accelerate Climate Actions (mentioned 5 times)
4. Development and support for community-serving businesses, revitalization of shopping districts
5. Economic Recovery
6. Healthy City, Healthy Community (to address health and equity concerns in the community; include diversity and inclusion here, particularly around increasing diversity of City staff especially in public safety)
7. Healthy City, Healthy Community
8. Housing for Social and Economic Balance (mentioned 2 times)
9. Implementation of sustainability and climate action plan
10. Local Economic development
11. Partner with housing providers to add a variety of housing types throughout the city
12. Post-pandemic fiscal sustainability
13. Public Safety
14. Push Back on state legislation that trumps Local Control
15. Rebalance infrastructure plan (update/modify list of Council-approved projects and funding methods)
16. Redesign and streamline internal and external City processes to become a more nimble organization
17. Respond to significant changes in work location (fewer visitors in Palo Alto each day, the City's own workforce's needs and preferences, residents spending more time at home)
18. Social Justice

Council Protocols and Procedures:

Staff is working with a communication and copy-editing specialist on reorganizing and simplifying the CPP document to improve clarity and make the Handbook easier to use. Substantive revisions will not be made at this stage. The draft document will be presented to the Policy and Services Committee when the draft is further along.

In the meantime, the Policy and Services Committee expressed interest in reviewing the City Council's ideas for substantive changes to the Handbook. These items will be further discussed

at the City Council retreat in early 2022. Those items are listed in the June report ([CMR #12341](#)). In the June 2021 report, staff also shared a list of some items for the Committee to consider. At this time, staff is holding off on bringing forward those items until the reformatted Handbook is completed. This allows staff to focus on the Handbook reformatting in partnership with the consultant and also gives staff time to further refine those staff-generated CPP suggestions.

Timeline, Resource Impact, Policy Implications

No additional resource impact is expected at this time. This discussion will inform the annual Council retreat, currently TBA, pending appointment of a new Mayor, but usually held in late January or early February of each year.

Stakeholder Engagement

Council members and the community have been or are being solicited for their thoughts and topic suggestions. At the retreat itself the public can also attend and express their views during the meeting.

Environmental Review

This is not considered a project as defined by CEQA and no review is required.

Attachments:

- Attachment A-Priority Setting Guidelines
- Attachment B-Past Council Priorities

City Council Priority Setting Guidelines

Approved by City Council: October 1, 2012

Last revised: October 1, 2012

Background

The City Council adopted its first Council priorities in 1986. Each year the City Council reviews its priorities at its Annual Council Retreat. On October 1, 2012 the City Council formally adopted the definition of a council priority, and the Council's process and guidelines for selection of priorities.

Definition

A Council priority is defined as a topic that will receive particular, unusual and significant attention during the year.

Purpose

The establishment of Council priorities will assist the Council and staff to better allot and utilize time for discussion and decision making.

Process

1. Three months in advance of the annual Council Retreat, staff will solicit input from the City Council on the priorities to be reviewed and considered for the following year.
 - a. Council members may submit up to three priorities.
 - b. Priorities should be submitted no later than December 1.
 - c. As applicable, the City Manager will contact newly elected officials for their input by December 1.
 - d. The City Clerk will provide timely notice to the public to submit proposed priorities by December 1. The Policy and Services Committee shall recommend to the Council which suggestions if any shall be considered at the City Council retreat.
2. Staff will collect and organize the recommended priorities into a list for Council consideration, and provide to Council no less than two weeks in advance of the retreat.
3. The Policy and Services Committee, each year at its December meeting, shall make recommendations about the process that will be used at the Annual Retreat paying particular attention to the number of priorities suggested by Council members. The recommended process is to be forwarded to Council for adoption in advance of the Council retreat.

Guidelines for Selection of Priorities

1. There is a goal of no more than three priorities per year.
2. Priorities generally have a three year time limit.

ATTACHMENT B

Past Palo Alto City Council Priorities, By Year for the last six years:

2021

- Economic Recovery
- Housing for Social and Economic Balance
- Social Justice
- Climate Change – Protection and Adaptation

2020

- Housing, with special emphasis on affordability
- Sustainability, in the context of the changing climate
- Improving mobility for all

2019

- Climate Change
- Grade Separation (choose preferred alternative by end of the year)
- Traffic and Transportation
- Fiscal Sustainability

2018

- Transportation
- Housing
- Budget and Finance (create an infrastructure funding plan)
- Grade Separation (choose preferred alternative by end of year)

2017

- Transportation
- Housing
- Infrastructure
- Healthy City, Healthy Community
- Budget and Finance

2016

- The Built Environment: Housing, Parking, Livability, and Mobility
- Infrastructure
- Healthy City, Healthy Community
- Completion of the Comprehensive Plan 2015-2030 Update



2022 City Council Priorities

January 28, 2022, 1:54 PM

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ii.	Individual priorities	3

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Summary Of Priorities

As of January 28, 2022, 1:54 PM, this forum had:		Topic Start	Topic End
Attendees:	413	November 30, 2021, 10:15 AM	January 18, 2022, 12:00 PM
Priorities:	275		
Hours of Public Comment:	13.8		

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Individual Priorities

Name not available

December 1, 2021, 1:40 PM

Crime and public safety: recently there have been a spate of robberies, assaults, and burglaries

Traffic and congestion: traffic around Palo Alto has been steadily getting worse

City infrastructure: additional investment in electric and Internet infrastructure to prepare the city for 21st century needs

Name not available

December 1, 2021, 7:23 PM

Active Transportation: Walking, Biking, & Transit

Name not available

December 2, 2021, 7:55 AM

Crisis management: there are times when change is not driven by community choice as much as response to crisis and Palo Alto is living through a period of multiple crises, including: climate change, drought, income inequality, social justice, public safety, affordable housing, COVID, hyper-partisanship, political dysfunction, inflation, crumbling/evolving infrastructure, and so on. How should the Council better recognize, or explicitly address, the context of crisis management and likelihood of significant change in the long-term conditions for living and working and raising families in our community? For example: remote working as it impacts jobs:housing, traffic, school enrollment, retail, employment, etc. How will our post crisis future differ from the prior status quo and how can we optimize by managing change?

Bill Fitch

in Evergreen Park

December 2, 2021, 3:41 PM

Public safety should always be the highest priority. Maintain an excellent police and fire capability. Next is housing and homelessness. I would like to see PA take a

leadership role in proposing new high rise housing on the peninsula rather than fighting state regulations in court. Finally, resolve the caltrain crossing issues with the best outcome for bikers not cars.

Name not available

December 2, 2021, 4:52 PM

Traffic flow - it's starting to get congested again
Crime and security - there have been a lot of petty crimes lately.

Name not available

December 2, 2021, 6:31 PM

Literally just build as much housing as humanly possible. Stop putting caveats and zoning on it. Build. More. Housing.

Name not shown

in Charleston Meadows

December 2, 2021, 7:30 PM

1. Sustainability
2. Diversity and Inclusion , Social Justice

Name not available

December 2, 2021, 8:18 PM

Economic recovery for businesses, low tax rates, updated schools,pre community activities and events, esp for kids. No interest in advancing social Justice issues or equality issues. None.

Name not available

December 2, 2021, 8:21 PM

Low taxes, esp for doing business in Palo Alto, reinstating the gifted and talented program for kids, recruiting and paying teachers well, more community events, eg

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Christmas parades like the one Los Altos just had. Not interested in advancing social justice. Not interested in affordable housing.

Abhishek Bajoria

in Midtown/ Midtown West
December 2, 2021, 8:23 PM

We need to fight climate change. More and safe bikes lanes in Palo Alto means that short car trips are no longer necessary, which will add up to tons of CO2 saved. Let's make Palo Alto more bike friendly!

Name not available

December 2, 2021, 8:28 PM

Want anonymous input.

Name not available

December 2, 2021, 8:38 PM

Safety issues. The crimes around the city are increasing, which makes people feel insecure. We need more police to protect people and be strict on the criminals.

Ken Horowitz

in University Park
December 2, 2021, 8:54 PM

1)Healthy City, Healthy Community. Health is the greatest wealth. The #1 priority for the Council should be to support proven policy initiatives that put the health of our residents first. The American Cancer Society, the American Diabetes Association, the American Cancer Society, the American Heart Association, the California Black Heath Network, the Latino Coalition for a Healthy California, and many other organizations support a sugary drink tax. And the California voters who passed sugary drink taxes have given their cities millions of dollars in revenue to address critical health needs. Soda taxes should be everywhere including in Palo Alto. I understand that the City Council is considering two ballot measures such a business tax as well as a utility tax. However I believe that residents will favor a ballot measure that has a specific purpose, and a

sugary drink tax will direct its monies on healthy initiatives for residents such as students' well being. It is not unreasonable to put multiple tax measures on the upcoming November election. And I hope the City Council will do such!

2)Renovate Cubberley. Buy out the remaining unplanned acres owned by PAUSD and incorporate them into the acres owned by the City into a new community center that serve the needs of residents. Currently, the buildings there are a liability. Get on with it, City Council!

Name not available

December 2, 2021, 9:08 PM

More hours and activities through the library, as a safe space for students, resource for the community, and way to bond

Name not available

December 2, 2021, 9:09 PM

Lower taxes to encourage more small businesses to help our downtown and California street thrive again. Businesses such as restaurants, store fronts, gyms, spas, and other services make this a great place to live and work

Name not available

December 2, 2021, 9:10 PM

More funding and services for various students at PAUSD, more staff support to help with different levels, from those who are above grade level to those who are struggling. Individualized attention for students. Our schools attract residents. Maintaining top quality schools is a must for our city

Name not available

December 3, 2021, 8:20 AM

Climate change and adaptation to its many impacts on our City is my first priority. Cybersecurity, especially of our utilities, is a close second.

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Name not shown

in Palo Verde

December 3, 2021, 1:38 PM

Please prioritize eliminating Caltrain Horn noise at all crossings - particularly PA Avenue.

Thank you

Tal Samet

in Midtown/ Midtown West

December 4, 2021, 2:43 PM

Palo Alto should prioritize mitigating the environmental effect to the neighborhood just across the city facilities in mid town. There several facilities that negatively effect the environment, including the city facilities just across the 101, the electrical power station, multiple office space with various licenses. All results in very poor air quality and pollution. The city should do a study and take all measures to improve the quality of air for those of us the live between Fabian way and Oregon express way. Thanks!

Name not available

December 4, 2021, 5:35 PM

PALO alto needs to focus on its brand, which is excellent schools, a thriving downtown, a great place to live and to work. We need to focus on keeping competitive on these fronts

- for schools we should have more funding towards buildings, newer facilities, staff, activities
- for community we should continue to have more events such as concerts at Mitchell park, magical bridge, tree lighting, or even things like the parade at Los Altos
- help neighbors get to know each other through funding for neighborhood events and associations, which will keep our neighborhood safer
- safety for businesses and home, better police enforcement from petty crime as such porch package thieves to more major things
- have a thriving downtown, help small businesses recover with lower taxes
- make it friendly for businesses to continue to have offices in downtown

Name not available

December 4, 2021, 6:44 PM

Assistance to homeless, decriminalizing sleeping in vehicles, provisions of more public shower services

Name not available

December 5, 2021, 12:49 PM

Stop buying public art with city money. It doesn't enrich the community, nor uplift the spirit; it's a waste of money.

Name not available

December 5, 2021, 1:00 PM

Remove all political and social justice messaging on public property. The anti-ICE messaging along Embarcadero (since removed) should never have been there. The similarly-colored political messaging on the Palo Alto Art Center should never have been there and should be removed immediately. Neither installation is "art"--if this is the rationale for displaying such work, please find politically neutral art instead. Political messaging in all forms is acceptable on private property (residences, commercial buildings, etc.), but should never be on public property.

Name not available

December 5, 2021, 7:53 PM

I think there should be a free ice cream day each week. This would make people feel better and be happier.

Name not shown

in University South

December 6, 2021, 9:28 AM

1. Economic recovery: Save our downtown and commerce centers, so that we can have a thriving sales tax base. Make it easy for new businesses to start up and also acquire the space that they need. Palo Alto is a regional destination and without economic growth and recovery we cannot achieve any other goals like social justice.
2. Airplane noise

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

3. Infrastructure: Communication infrastructure like Fiber. Bicycle and Pedestrian infrastructure.

Name not available

December 7, 2021, 1:20 PM

40% of Palo Altans are renters. I am a teacher in PAUSD and have rented an apartment here for the past five years. My income has risen (you can see it available publicly online), as has my rent, and I am going to be priced out of the city this year because my rent went up and I cannot continue to put half of my money towards it. Prioritize renters and people living in poverty - there are so many of them, they are invisible, they don't know where to go for help, and your focus on landlords' rights and zoning are - not only a palimpsest of Palo Alto's redlining and blockbusting - they are harming people, especially children. If you can't win without big money, that should really tell you a lot about YOUR values and priorities that you care more about keeping your power to serve a select few rather than actually do your job.

Name not shown

in Oak Creek

December 8, 2021, 10:35 AM

Stanford University should be encouraged to build more housing on campus for students and staff.

Name not available

December 8, 2021, 11:19 AM

Palo Alto needs to build more high-density, middle-income housing.

Name not shown

in Evergreen Park

December 9, 2021, 11:34 AM

I would like more rental protection. I am one of the 46% of Palo Alto citizens who are renters. My husband and I now live on Social Security and savings and have rented our 1-bedroom apartment for about 35 years. My landlady is giving us a rent break since we help with apartment

repairs, but she wants to sell the building. We're afraid that the new owners would raise or rent a lot. It would be very difficult for us to move due to our bad backs. Thank you for your help.

Name not available

December 9, 2021, 12:29 PM

Housing, Housing, Housing! As a renter, I have no safety nets. My building is being sold, and I will have to move out of the area because, as someone who earns under \$100K, I will not be able to afford housing at a new apartment. I make too much for ultra-low income housing, and besides, the waitlists are ridiculously long. The way Palo Alto treats low-middle income earners is despicable.

Name not available

December 9, 2021, 9:25 PM

Remove climate change from list. Nothing Palo Alto does alone makes any difference to a global issue.

Ligia Murillo

in Community Center

December 10, 2021, 11:48 PM

I would like to see parks with activities for teenagers. I wish the education for low income students would improve. More after school programs for low income students.

Name not available

December 11, 2021, 7:17 AM

Look at balance of attention given South vs North Palo Alto and especially Southwest Palo Alto (Green Acres, Ventura and Barron Park) and retail on El Camino in Southwest Palo Alto -seems very unequal.

Name not shown

in Greenmeadow

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

December 16, 2021, 9:18 AM

The intersection from San Antonio Way onto San Antonio Ave is a safety nightmare and badly needs redesign. Cars bear down on cars attempting to cross onto the avenue and merge in before the light on Middlefield. I have heard and experienced many stories of close calls or people crossing over the dimpled part of San Antonio Ave before the merge to turn left at Middlefield. Please consider putting in barriers instead of dimples to address this at least.

Second I would love for the city to reengage on jet noise over South Palo Alto. The FAA only understands one thing: litigation. Other communities has successfully use lawsuits as a means of getting change.

Name not shown

in Barron Park

December 16, 2021, 9:26 AM

HOUSING, HOUSING and HOUSING are my top 3 priorities. Teachers, secretaries, firefighters, nurses, etc. cannot afford to live here anymore. Once they go, they're not coming back. We can't keep our heads in the sand and only think about ourselves because "we've got ours". Enough with the nonsense arguments about traffic, historical nature of the city, etc. I am fortunate enough to live in a \$5M+ home and even I see how ridiculous it is getting here.

Name not shown

in Midtown/ Midtown West

December 16, 2021, 9:27 AM

Carefully planned, sustainable affordable housing with excellent design, access to public transportation and safe outdoor spaces including parks.

A plan to prevent the predictable and likely affects of climate change on existing built housing and infrastructure, to be accomplished within a decade.

Name not available

December 16, 2021, 9:29 AM

Any stated priorities as their implementation implies improving infrastructure and physical plant should be emphasized.

Name not shown

in College Terrace

December 16, 2021, 9:31 AM

I feel very strongly that priorities should be focused on protecting the environment. This includes dealing with the climate crisis, and protecting Foothills Park. If there is any way to go back to having the park open only to Palo Alto residents, I believe that the decision to open up the park to all should be reversed. Only by protecting the environment can we hope to deal with other problems for the long term. So, my priorities are: 1) deal with climate crisis; 2) reverse the opening up of Foothills Park to all; 3) 2 smaller things are tied for third place: make sure the animal shelter is fully funded; and have the College Terrace Library be open during the hours it was open pre-pandemic. The animal shelter and the College Terrace Library are two things that the city council has tried repeatedly to obliterate, but they are a small part of the budget and are really important, so that efforts to shut them down are particularly egregious. The College Terrace Library is such a small part of the library and community service system, but serves a large community. Mid-town has the huge major library and community center. Downtown has the downtown library, the Children's Library, and the Main Library, and the last two are near the zoo. All of that is on one side of El Camino. The only kind of community center on the other side of El Camino is the College Terrace Library. So fully reopen the library!!!! Efforts to shut it down are shameful.

Name not shown

in Crescent Park

December 16, 2021, 9:32 AM

I think the priorities for 2022 should be the same as in 2021.

Name not shown

in Barron Park

December 16, 2021, 9:33 AM

Housing for the unhoused.

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Care for the city's urban forest
Improved public transportation

Dick Schultz

in Palo Verde

December 16, 2021, 9:39 AM

The first priority for 2022 should be more housing. It is a tragedy that families who grow up in Palo Alto can't afford to live here.

So the second, third, and fourth priorities are also more housing. The next is more police protection and neighborhood security - we should not have to worry about burglaries at night, at home - additional security cameras may work. Thanks for your commitment to Palo Alto.

Name not available

December 16, 2021, 9:43 AM

Please hire the appropriate consultants to help figure out how to revitalize downtown. Closing university and/or parklets are very popular but a professional opinion on how those ideas actually work in the long run is needed.

Reacting to a few retailers and restaurateurs and landlords' opinions is not way to formulate a plan. Also, please get rid of the antiquated arbitrary 50' height limit, at least for residential, and encourage more housing. Thanks for listening

Name not available

December 16, 2021, 10:05 AM

Provide support to gardeners so they can switch to electric leaf blowers.

No more new office projects!

Name not shown

in Barron Park

December 16, 2021, 10:09 AM

I fail to see why Palo Alto has to grow/get bigger. Given that we are already built-out - the only way to go is up....is

that what you really want?

Traffic is getting worse as we add more people and more businesses. We are putting a strain on infrastructure that was not intended for this many people.

AND that infrastructure cannot not be adequately modified ad finitum (Arastadero, etc.). Polititians love growth because it means more \$ for them to spend - our \$ is better spent elsewhere. New development needs to cease.

Name not available

December 16, 2021, 10:09 AM

Caltrain Grade Separation. Let's protect our kids (and others) from the trains.

Likewise, more support for our kids wellbeing.

Name not shown

in Crescent Park

December 16, 2021, 10:09 AM

Housing the homeless and food insecurity should be at the top of the list

Name not shown

in Old Palo Alto

December 16, 2021, 10:27 AM

Ban gas leaf blowers AND ENFORCE THE BAN. Residents of Palo Alto deserve some peace and quiet. Gardeners who can't work without using a gas blower to push everything out into the street can work somewhere else.

And wouldn't it be nice if Palo Alto PD wrote tickets for all the loud cars racing around town with modified or NO exhaust system? Oh wait, that will never happen.

And how about bring our building permitting/inspections into line with our neighboring cities?

Name not shown

in Duveneck/ St Francis

December 16, 2021, 10:28 AM

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Infrastructure, such as roads, needs improvement. Roots are turning many roads into a series of speed bumps, Improved infrastructure will help everyone, regardless of economic level.

Jean-marc mommessin

in Fairmeadow

December 16, 2021, 10:37 AM

We are often woken up by the loud horn of the rail crossing of both charleston/alma and East meadow/alma. These horns are at midnight, 1 pm, 2 pm, 3, 4pm.. Other rail crossings in Palo Alto and Menlo have been exempt from the train required or allowed to horn in the middle of the night. Can you please address this significant sound pollution problem for the community. Thank for your attention to this matter.

Jeralyn Moran

in Barron Park

December 16, 2021, 10:43 AM

I encourage our Palo Alto City Council to highly prioritize (move to top of the list) Climate Change Mitigation; please commit to equal focus on protecting ALL remaining Wildlife Habitat under its jurisdiction!

M A Michel

in University South

December 16, 2021, 10:43 AM

Housing that can be afforded by parents of children otherwise we will close schools again. Housing must be more dense, smaller and in the main part of the city. Converting empty office Building to small apartments sounds like a good idea. Just do it asap.

Name not shown

in Crescent Park

December 16, 2021, 10:52 AM

I believe the city of Palo Alto is over-staffed at the management level (higher paying jobs) and understaffed

on the front lines (those that actually do the work for the citizens of Palo Alto). In other words we are top heavy and getting more so every year. This leads to higher cost for less tangible value, and if not stemmed sooner than later, we will find ourselves in a major budget hole due to pension commitments, etc.

Name not available

December 16, 2021, 10:59 AM

We should be sure that the utilities rate structure is harmonious with the goals of moving from gas to electricity. Perhaps gas could be surcharged to pay for discounts on electricity. Right now the incentives are missing to encourage moving to electricity for heating, cooking, etc.

Bill Leikam

in Barron Park

December 16, 2021, 11:05 AM

Protect wildlife at the baylands and in the hills. As it stands at Byxbee Park, the mowing and the removal of coyote bush on the hillsides is making life extremely difficult if not downright impossible for the predators and others in the baylands to survive. Without predators, the baylands' ecosystem is out of balance resulting in a trophic cascade.

Restoration of riparian habitat is needed. This will increase the biodiversity of the baylands thus making it a healthy place for all wildlife to live.

David Coale

in Barron Park

December 16, 2021, 11:05 AM

Climate Change with a priority on our GHG reduction goal of 80% by 2030.
Transportation
Housing

Name not shown

in University South

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

December 16, 2021, 11:38 AM

Sustain efforts to mitigate aviation impacts.

Name not shown

in Downtown North

December 16, 2021, 11:58 AM

Priorities should be resident based. 1. More park space and facilities for residents. The Fry's site would be perfect for a large park and civic space. Make it a priority. 2. Write a population policy that shows that adding more residents is bad for the natural environment and will add more CO2 and will lessen our chances of getting to our conservation goals. At the same time fight back against Sacramento sponsored growth and support the recall initiative to overturn growth promoting bills like SB9 and SB10. 3. Stop approving new buildings on the other side of US101 since they will be underwater soon and taxpayers should not be held responsible for building levees to protect buildings that should never have been placed there in the first place.

Name not shown

in Duveneck/ St Francis

December 16, 2021, 12:00 PM

Priorities

- * Climate change
- *Housing for lower income, including a parking space for those living in motor homes
- *Replacement of grade crossing with under or overground
- keep Churchill open as a through street
- ^More commercial, less offices downtown
- *More reasonable building inspection criteria

Name not shown

in Research Park

December 16, 2021, 12:10 PM

The biggest challenge for Palo Alto remains having affordable places to live. The city has not kept pace with others in the region on housing construction and was even singled out in a New York Times op-ed for being uniquely resistant to allowing and encouraging housing of any kind.

We need to change this narrative by allowing and encouraging housing at all income levels. The city is unaffordable due to a lack of supply and more housing is needed to make Palo Alto a place where more than just the incredibly wealthy or inheriting elite can live. Further, Palo Alto is an example of the legacy of red lining and housing discrimination. Buying housing is a wealth building tool that is inaccessible to too many in and outside of our community. In order to address the sins of the past, we need to develop a positive future where people feel welcome and where housing is available to all. Turning parking lots and strip malls into housing should be a top priority for the city, as well as, creating more density near transit.

Name not shown

in University Park

December 16, 2021, 1:21 PM

My priorities:

1. Eliminate homeless population. One of the things that attracts the homeless to Palo Alto is the free meals. We could either eliminate them or move the distribution center to east of 101. Also, crack down on the people living in RVs on El Camino.
2. Get the police out of their cars and onto the streets to reduce crime.
3. Provide incentives to attract retail back to the downtown area.

Name not shown

in Downtown North

December 16, 2021, 1:33 PM

This exercise has almost no value because no targets or measurements are attached to the priorities. For a community that demands data and accountability, this exercise is an embarrassment. Council members who join in this exercise are not up to the job.

Name not available

December 16, 2021, 1:54 PM

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Reduce utility costs, property taxes, etc.

Name not shown

in University Park

December 16, 2021, 2:05 PM

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input regarding the adoption of the 2022 Palo Alto City Council priorities.

As your email mentions that the adopted priorities usually have a three-year limit it would be of value to let us know the year that each of the four listed was adopted.

//Regarding the 2021 priority "Climate Change - Protection and Adaptation: adherence to a strong action plan to fulfill the 2030 agenda for sustainable development":

The sustainable development plan should focus on the automobile emissions of commuters and residents, which is the largest producer of CO2 emissions and not on the elimination of natural gas service to our residents. Incentives to turn to electric heat, water heaters and stoves are a good idea for those who want to make that change. However, we strongly oppose the plan now discussed by the Sustainability and Climate Action Plan Ad Hoc Committee to end natural gas service to our residents in 2025 and note that the total cut-off proposal does not include those most able to pay for the expensive conversions to all-electric, industry and the city itself.

//Enforce existing laws and codes forbidding transients living in the streets, parking garages and in parked vehicles.

The needs of these individuals vary greatly from mental health issues, to severe economic hardship to drug and/or alcohol addiction, and they should be addressed. However, if you do not enforce the law regarding this behavior you become a magnet for attracting individuals to this area. Food banks are a great idea but handing out three prepared meals a day and allowing illegal behavior is not, we believe, doing much to really help these suffering people. It is a blight on our city and a factor in street crime. Building housing will help a few, but if you build housing for those in the street and do not enforce our laws, more will come. According to the Bay Area Council Economic Institute "Between 2017 and 2020, the Bay Area's homeless population grew by 6,878 individuals to a total of 35,118—accounting for more than a quarter of the growth

in the total U.S. homeless population." San Francisco has provided tens of millions in aid to those living on their streets; portable bath and clothes washing trucks, food, bathrooms, eliminating drug use enforcement, and even human feces reporting websites and cleanup crews and how has that worked out? We appreciate the steps you are taking to address this problem but feel that many residents believe that this problem should be in the list of priorities for 2022 with a clear statement that our laws and codes will be enforced.

//Return retail shops to the University Street and California Avenue areas.

Over the past ten years there has been a steady loss of retail shops in our downtown areas.

Walgreens is gone, Stanford Electric is now in Mountain View, we lost our sporting goods store, two stationary shops, University Art is now in Redwood City, several clothing shops and some of our favorite places to drink and dine. Our big property owners took the high rents they could demand from dot coms as retail was forced out. The City Council finally forced new downtown construction to keep ground-floor retail in place but due to the economy, online sales and COVID we now face empty storefronts. A microcosm of these changes can be found on the ground floor of those beautiful old apartments on the corner of Forest and Gilman. The ground floor was once parking spaces for the renters, which was then replaced by retail and now is fully occupied by dot coms.

The big developers have been provided for much by our city and we hope that same consideration will be used to draw retail back to our Palo Alto. Wave property taxes, give utility discounts and offer grants to businesses that stay in operation for a set period of time.

Thank you for your consideration of these suggestions.

Name not shown

in Midtown/ Midtown West

December 16, 2021, 2:11 PM

Do not allow car dwelling in residential neighborhoods.

Strong police force to fight rampant crime.

Mark Shull

in Old Palo Alto

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

December 16, 2021, 2:52 PM

Palo Alto has been heavily impacted by air traffic concentration over the city due to new FAA procedures, and the effect of long-term and recent air traffic shaping (e.g., the new PIRAT procedure) by the SFO Roundtable. Having been denied membership since 1997, this concentration will continue to increase so long as the City of Palo Alto remains largely passive in its response to FAA, SFO and Roundtable initiated traffic shifts.

Moreover, SFO is in the process of replacing its 80 year old landing system with a GPS based system, as well as rearchitecting arrivals to accommodate reduced separation and spacing. Once implemented, this new system and its initial procedures are likely to stay in place for many decades.

While the city faces many issues, the City must find a means for effective air traffic mitigation, particularly with respect to SFO and the changes its new arrival systems will bring. This cannot be delayed -- because the new system is going in now -- so it needs to be a priority in 2021.

Thank you.

Name not available

December 16, 2021, 2:57 PM

without protection of the environment, nothing else matters in the long run. Everything else is related to this.

Name not shown

in Crescent Park

December 16, 2021, 3:39 PM

I would like to add more focus on community safety (more police patrols in the community/neighborhoods) and improved road/street conditions and general transportation infrastructure to the list of priorities.

Name not available

December 16, 2021, 4:02 PM

I would like council to address the uptick in crime in our

city. Increase police budgets to allow more patrolling and change laws to provide stricter penalties for break ins, theft and assault. These criminals should not be walking free in our neighborhood.

Name not shown

in Crescent Park

December 16, 2021, 4:02 PM

Please make the constant airplane noise a part of your emphasis !!

We've been working on this for years with no relief !! We need the weight of city government behind us.

Thank you.

Sallie and Jay Whaley

Name not available

December 16, 2021, 4:12 PM

Teens and youth programming multiplied
Affordable safe, quality Housing
Equity and inclusion
Healthcare
Climate
Jobs

Name not shown

in Midtown/ Midtown West

December 16, 2021, 4:18 PM

Please prioritize climate change and related mitigation, including flooding and other foreseeable impacts on our community, as well as social justice (focusing on social justice will by its nature ensure better and more affordable housing for all).

Name not available

December 16, 2021, 5:37 PM

I support the four priorities already articulated by city staff. Please add to this agenda abating the constant and disturbing noise from aircraft heading to SFO. This has seriously eroded our quality of life in Palo Alto.

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Name not shown

in Old Palo Alto

December 16, 2021, 6:00 PM

1. Airplane noise reduction.
2. Change-up the flight path to avoid flying repeatedly over the same homes in Palo Alto.
3. Require planes to fly at a minimum of 8000 feet over Palo Alto.

Name not available

December 16, 2021, 6:07 PM

Stop the intrusive airplane noise from planes flying to SFO

Name not available

December 16, 2021, 7:56 PM

- 1- Lack of action on reducing airplane noise in Palo Alto over the last 8 years is unacceptable. a) reduce airplane noise from SFO bound flights. b) reduce increasing airplane noise from Palo Alto Airport flights. b) Establish quantitative monitoring of noise and acceptable limits. c) Recall elected officials who do not act on these priorities. d) All objectives should have quantitative goals and specified times for completion.
- 2- Cars are speeding in residential neighborhoods in bringing students to and from local schools. Case in point: speeding on Southampton drive to pickup and dispersal sites. Southampton Drive needs a speed bump between Portal and Newell and/or a traffic control radar or officer.

STEPHEN ROSENBLUM

in Old Palo Alto

December 16, 2021, 8:52 PM

With regard to climate change the city is way behind in its 80x30 goal and needs to set up programs with timelines and benchmarks to assure success.

Name not shown

in Crescent Park

December 16, 2021, 9:20 PM

I think the council needs to stop bemoaning that PA is unaffordable, when it does little to make it not more affordable. In fact, it is the policies and bureaucracy that it espouses that create the imbalances, increasing costs, etc. Slow growth, cumbersome land use and permitting, Nimbyism, and NO NO NO. What do you expect to happen? Prices of homes go up because, we are limiting development, making it more costly, and not allowing even development as of right to happen-yet the hand wringing and complaints happen on why can't we have more affordability here in PA? It does not make sense. Why can't we look to smart growth, enabling developers and in fact encouraging them to create housing that we need, and why don't we want more offices, labs and business here, they bring taxes and more street life. I am baffled by the hand wringing of the council about things that it has control over and can enable. The complaints, shoulder shrugging needs to stop. Get moving on solving issues and do it without raising taxes; enough is enough. We are so lucky in that we have a world-class university, and yet PA wants to limit it, we are so fortunate that we have so many that want to come here and live, work, or study--why would we want to artificially constrain it...we are lucky...many places are jealous of what we have, let's not strangle progression of our community. We should look to allow for growth and opportunity, not box it in until companies say we are done...we have lost several big HQs recently, and many say good riddance? Do we want this town to be full of just a bunch of super rich, and people on welfare or living on the streets? We can do better.

Name not shown

in Charleston Terrace

December 16, 2021, 10:19 PM

Crime has exploded in our multi-family community. I have lived here for 10+ years. It has completely transformed from a safe, pleasant community to--for over 2 years now--a place of constant crime and break-ins.

We have provided the police with many videos of the crimes being committed, clear pictures of the perpetrators, pictures of the cars, pictures of the license plates, etc. Nothing is done.

The SAME criminals come back week after week, often multiple times on the same week, terrorizing our community and children.

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

We change the gate codes, change the doors, add locks, etc. The criminals hack the Doorking, break the doorknobs, use power tools to cut through the gate, break the glass, call residents pretending to be Fedex employees, etc etc.

We physically chase them away over and over again. The SAME criminals return over and over again.

In fact, they often don't even bother to wear facemasks when committing the crimes, even though we have visible video cameras & signs warning of video cameras. They have no fear about their faces or cars being caught on camera because they know nothing will be done. They know they can rob and terrorize Palo Alto residents with impunity.

Please make public safety a priority so that our community of 100+ can live and sleep in peace, and so our children can play in our courtyard without fear.

Please provide police the resources they need to protect our residents.

Name not shown

in Downtown North

December 16, 2021, 11:23 PM

I would like homelessness to be addressed. We need a plan and enforcement of the plan.

Name not shown

in Community Center

December 17, 2021, 9:53 AM

1. Palo Alto needs to ensure that all issues are looked at through a climate change lens---first and foremost. Objectives and measurements must be included.
2. Housing----with empty office spaces in downtown and elsewhere and new work patterns emerging, examine opportunities to convert 2nd floors and above to moderate housing for service workers etc. (Reverse the unfortunate loss of the President Hotel as housing)
3. Focus on mitigating air traffic noise and flight pollution over the city before SFO/SJC set in concrete coming changes.

Name not available

December 17, 2021, 1:00 PM

crime & airplane noise are my priorities.

Name not available

December 17, 2021, 2:47 PM

The Council should focus on building as much housing, of all types but with an emphasis on density, as possible.

Name not shown

in Green Acres

December 17, 2021, 3:24 PM

Reduce airplane noise for Palo Alto and its neighbors.

Joerg Rathenberg

in Crescent Park

December 17, 2021, 3:55 PM

PLEASE STOP THE AIRPLANE NOISE

Quite honestly, I don't care about anything else you have as a priority.

It has been what - 8 years? - since the airplane noise over Palo Alto Crescent Park became unbearable.

This is a killer priority for any anyone living in our admittedly geographically limited neighborhood.

The noise level is absolutely intolerable and we spend as little time as possible in our home in Palo Alto.

Retiring here is unthinkable, unless, of course, we will have turned deaf by then.

Anyone who had to spend the entire day having 100 or more planes fly over your house at 3000 ft would go crazy in just a few weeks.

To me it is extremely disappointing that the city has not been able to do anything at all, in spite of hundreds of thousands of noise complaints that no one seems to notice.

Name not shown

in Charleston Terrace

December 17, 2021, 4:49 PM

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Crime: there are several theft happened in our community in the past year, in particular mail theft

Homeless: We need a plan to execute.

Name not available

December 17, 2021, 5:53 PM

Safety - our Altaire community has experiencing multiple thefts. The thieves just came day time night time and take all the packages from the mailroom. We have filed multiple police reports and PAPD did nothing. This type of thefts are increasing and threaten the safety of our community.

Name not shown

in Evergreen Park

December 17, 2021, 6:06 PM

Climate change is most important!

Name not available

December 18, 2021, 6:19 AM

Complete new safety facilities (police/fire dept)
Having a balanced budget

Name not shown

in Leland Manor/ Garland

December 18, 2021, 1:08 PM

The City should continue to advocate for less airplane noise.

Mary Jane Marcus

in College Terrace

December 18, 2021, 11:11 PM

Our #1 priority should be regional well-being -- partnering closely with EPA, Mountain View, Menlo Park, to make sure we are doing everything possible to help everyone thrive, not just Palo Altans. COVID testing, vaccine sites -- can the cities come together to make one commitment together,

like ending food insecurity. It seems insane anyone should not have enough food in this region. How can we get there?

2) Housing everywhere for everyone

3) Climate change - promoting the Palo Alto owned utility model to other cities and regions. Ending all gas use in any renovation. Making chargers, solar more accessible to everyone. (it's very hard for renters to have chargers)

Name not shown

in Community Center

December 19, 2021, 7:47 AM

Aviation noise and pollution: Since 2015 hundreds, if not thousands of Palo Alto resident's lives have been made miserable by SFO NextGen flight paths. A few hundred people are miserable enough to take whatever actions they can to alleviate the pain. The city's continued engagement with this issue is essential.

Name not shown

in Crescent Park

December 19, 2021, 1:21 PM

As I type this, I hear yet another low-flying plane, flying to SFO and generating much noise and pollution overhead. Living in a suburban area, I expect some airplane noise and pollution, but not this often and this loud. Additional paths to SFO should be used to spread the noise and pollution equitably.

Name not shown

in Charleston Meadows

December 19, 2021, 3:01 PM

Beautification for South Palo Alto (including Monroe Park). This includes but is not limited to: moving utility lines underground, adding additional greenery along streets, etc.

Name not available

December 19, 2021, 6:54 PM

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Climate change top priority.
A general plan for the City .. we build pay no attention to traffic, schools. Think about them as an afterthought.
Keep City green, parks and playing fields are essential.

Jennifer Landesmann

in Crescent Park

December 21, 2021, 10:52 AM

My appeal to Council for 2022 Palo Alto priorities is as follows:

1. Air traffic noise and pollution - to declare the seriousness of impending federal actions that pose risk to the City
2. Health and welfare, with special attention to youth and vulnerable citizens
3. Resident engagement beyond surveys, or City Agendas - more actual Town Halls

Aviation pollution impacting all corners of the City is a threat to health and welfare, productivity, safety, and quality of life. At risk from Council inaction are the very basic quality of life needs that make a City attractive and safe to live, work, and raise a family. I can't think of any higher responsibility than to protect people, youth and children from being assailed by industrial levels of noise and air pollution.

The Department of Transportation recently disclosed the FAA survey and study of 10,000 people around the country that found that the number of people "highly annoyed" by air traffic noise is an order of magnitude greater than originally estimated by the FAA. The DOT study also found that "noise from airplanes, helicopters are far more annoying than other sources" (this quoted phrase is from a 3/26/21 Washington Post headline about the study). Beyond "annoyance" however are very real health impacts that are especially harmful when aircraft noise disrupts sleep. The FAA survey did not include youth, and children who are more affected.

The number of Council's constituents affected by air traffic noise is also greater than the number of people who complain. The number of complainants about excessive and intrusive noise can range from 200 - 600 people (daily). In 2014, the City had a SWOT activity related to the Comprehensive plan using this same forum, to look at the City's strength's, weaknesses, opportunities and threats -

several Palo Alto residents provided input to the City's SWOT activity and named aircraft noise then as a threat to health and welfare, productivity, and safety.

I hope that Council will begin 2022 by demonstrating to the FAA that our community takes people's well being seriously and will direct necessary and urgent attention to protect its citizens. Thank you.

Name not available

December 21, 2021, 10:31 PM

I hope the city council puts addressing the huge increase in theft as a top priority. We need more police personnel patrolling the streets. My community is tired of having bikes, packages, and mail stolen.

Name not available

December 22, 2021, 2:42 PM

Reduce crime
Bring economic viability to downtown centers
More community activities at parks

Jade C

in Research Park

December 23, 2021, 12:50 PM

As in years past, the City and YMCA have co-hosted the Palo Alto Health Fair. Please make it a priority in 2022 as we have pandemic mental health and physical health issues that should be addressed. Thank you.

Name not available

December 23, 2021, 1:01 PM

Please continue to focus mainly on economic recovery. Without that, other objectives may not achievable. We need a strong economic base to accomplish other great community goals! Remember that business is important to the balance of the community and should be encouraged to flourish, not be punished, especially since so many are fighting for survival after all of the COVID shut downs. Helping business helps the entire community!

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Please also try to stop or contain the splitting of lots and higher density housing in our lovely single family home neighborhoods, the very nature of our city and its charm are at stake. The ABAG groups will never be happy, no matter how many residences are built since there will always be a deficit compared to jobs. So please don't destroy our special city trying to fix what is un-fixable. Thank you!

Claudia Truesdell

in Crescent Park

December 23, 2021, 1:31 PM

The Sustainability and Climate Action Plan, S/CAP is my top priority. Please treat climate change as the emergency it is. Move quickly to finalize planning and start implementing. There is so much groundwork that you can lay now in education and outreach. Please prioritize this for the sake of the future, for our kids and the natural world.

Name not shown

in University Park

December 23, 2021, 2:00 PM

--The climate has been changing since the world began. Climate change computer models are manipulated to appear we are the cause. Don't screw up the economy over climate change. More control and regulation is a politician's mantra.

--Columbus is getting a bad rap. He was only trying to find a new world, inspired by God. He had no idea that he would come across indigenous people that were already fighting one another, had only tribal structure and had no property ownership. They were simply occupiers before the settlers became occupiers. It took a lot of courage to do what he did, and he never intended for the abuse that followed. Ancestors of indigenous people came from all over the world, from Mongolia to Jerusalem to Babylon. I was born here, so I'm indigenous. I won't apologize for my skin color. And I honor Columbus and the indigenous people.

--A mandate on electrification with a deadline is unrealistic. Our grid can't handle the increased load. And electric cars are a great polluter before they even go to market, when considering the mining and processing materials for batteries. And they are delivered all over the world on diesel trucks. Solar panels have a life span. Think of where they will go and how they will be recycled.

--All lives matter. That's about as all-inclusive as you can get. To achieve diversity, we have to stop segregation in all its forms. Stop asking people what their color is. Stop pandering. The answer to discrimination is not more discrimination. The answer is ignoring the differences and embracing them. The greater number of black violence is caused by blacks. Let's concentrate on strengthening the family unit.

--The rainbow flag is a nice sentiment, but it does not represent a government entity. Therefore it does not belong in front of City Hall. Otherwise, there are a lot of other flags you will need to add to the Pavilion. Remember, the United States flag stands for unity already. 'United' being the operative word here, and 'e pluribus unum'. Hang the rainbow flag in your yard. If our flag doesn't mean 'unity' to you, then change that. We don't need another flag.

Judith fields

in Evergreen Park

December 23, 2021, 5:54 PM

Palo Alto no longer feels safe. The woman being robbed at the train station, the woman being stabbed on University Ave. The continued thefts of packages and rumored break-ins at Palo Alto Central. People who steal less than \$950. worth need to be pursued and prosecuted. We obviously need more police, and funding. for them. Judith Fields

Kai Ju Liu

in Palo Verde

December 24, 2021, 12:05 PM

1. Make a final decision on our rail crossings this year. Seriously.
2. Allow a company like AT&T or Xfinity to build out our residential fiber this year. Seriously.

Elisa Y

in Charleston Terrace

December 25, 2021, 10:54 PM

The city and the Palo Alto Family YMCA have cohosted health fairs annually, but stopped due to COVID. However, mental health, especially dealing with COVID impacts, and physical health are on everyone's mind, and having a

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

health fair to address those issues, in my opinion, should be one of the city's top priorities. Please consider bringing the health fair back in 2022. Thank you.

Name not available

December 27, 2021, 12:59 PM

My priorities for the city of Palo Alto

1. Quality of life

safety, thefts and violent crime, noise, open spaces for city residents, people/infrastructure match, and other such things.

2. Transparency of city government

reduce pet projects
reduce projects driven by outside interests
reduce projects driven by career interests or specific interests of city employees and council members
align city attorney with interests of the city residents, not city government
reduce coercive laws. the council treats the city as if it's its toy.

3. Reduce business spaces, rezone for parks or housing.

this is the only realistic way to control cost of housing

4. Stop trying to save the world. Focus on solving city's immediate problems.

5. Help the housing situation by subsidizing those whom the city (residents and government) think should be able live in the city. There are millions who want to live in Palo Alto. We can't subsidize them all, so make a fair system. Do not try to control or manage the residential real estate market, rental or purchase.

Arnout Boelens

in Midtown/ Midtown West

December 30, 2021, 11:15 AM

Dear City Council,

With the Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan being updated I would like to encourage Council to make active transportation one of the City's priorities this year. There are many good reasons to support and encourage active transportation:

* The City is falling short on its own CO2 emission reduction goals. Active transportation can help the City meet these goals. Walking and bicycling emit

far less CO2 than internal combustion powered vehicles and do not require an expensive upgrade of the electricity grid.

* As shown by the success of the Safe Routes To School Program, offering a viable alternative to driving can significantly reduce traffic congestion.

* It is much cheaper to walk and bike than to own a motorized vehicle. Promoting active transportation allows Palo Alto residents of lesser means to have equitable access to community resources and jobs.

* Making sure all people's basic needs are met within a short walking or bicycle riding distance, will allow the City to fulfill it's housing obligations without increasing traffic.

* An active lifestyle offers significant health benefits to all Palo Alto residents.

* Active transportation encourages local shopping and would thus be beneficial to our local businesses.

The financial outlook of the City is improving and investing in active transportation would offer a great return on investment. Typically the best results are obtained when combining programs with infrastructure investments. One program the City could invest in is adult cycling classes. These would increase the confidence of Palo Alto residents as they ride around town. On the infrastructure side the City should adopt a road safety policy and finally address some long standing hazardous locations, including many of the intersections along El Camino Real.

Kind regards,

Ava, Nicole, & Arnout Zoeller Boelens

Name not available

December 30, 2021, 2:24 PM

Airplane noisr

Name not shown

in Charleston Meadows

December 30, 2021, 3:59 PM

Housing, Housing, Housing

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Name not available

December 30, 2021, 4:01 PM

City Council needs to come to terms with the problems with the City and the Humane Society (Pets in Need). spend the money...upgrade the building. Palo Alto needs their service in our community.
Thanks

Name not shown

in Greenmeadow

December 30, 2021, 5:04 PM

Climate change
Community/Neighborhoods/Discourse
Affordable housing (affordable, not market-rate)
Mental and physical wellness

John Kunz

in Leland Manor/ Garland

December 30, 2021, 8:55 PM

Address the rampant, scary and dangerous auto speeding on city streets. Drivers take 20 and 25 mph limits as a joke.

marty klein

in Palo Verde

December 31, 2021, 11:42 AM

1. Take airplane noise pollution more seriously. Sooner or later air traffic will increase to and surpass pre-COVID levels. Pressure our House representative and SFO administrators to restore the old over-the-Bay flight paths.
2. Everyone complains about traffic. Stop slowing cars down with roundabouts, road diets, new bike lanes, etc..

Frank Holland

in Midtown/ Midtown West

December 31, 2021, 12:54 PM

Push-back on Sacramento's high density housing

regulations, and if necessary Palo Alto should become a sanctuary city to fight this tyranny. If Palo Alto residents want more high density housing, then the residents should decide (not the politicians in Sacramento)!

Local zoning regulations are best developed by the affected stakeholders who understand the specific knock-on effects related to schools, parking, traffic patterns, and the full range of effects on the city's infrastructure from grocery stores to parks and libraries, etc.

Arguably there is a case for high density housing, but COVID is driving changes in employment and housing trends: more work from home, less need to commute to an office, some exodus from Silicon valley, more need for backyards for young children, etc. Whether these trends continue, reverse or morph into a different direction is to be determined, but the local residents are best positioned to adjust zoning regulations in response to changes in the housing and employment environment.

Sacramento has not solved state wide problems, for example:

- we need a safe and reliable electric grid,
- we need forest management to prevent forest fires,
- ostensibly an "easy" task, but delayed implementation of DHS Real Identification requirements, and
- regulations and taxes are the worst in the nation (as reported by Forbes) for business.

Let's not let Sacramento dictate how we should evolve our Palo Alto community.

Name not available

January 1, 2022, 11:24 PM

I wish the Downtown areas of Palo Alto were more clean and attractive. Palo Alto doesn't look as "polished" as it should. Both the downtowns sidewalks could be steam cleaned, especially University Avenue.. The street dining was not as attractive on University downtown, as it was in The Cal Ave area downtown. Some potted greenery might help.

Some other nearby towns must have made a plan, and had regulations about the attractiveness and uniformity features of their temporary outdoor "dining rooms." I would love to see Cubberly remodeled. It's a visually depressing place to go.

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

I would like to see more police on bicycles in our downtown areas.

I think police visibility cuts crime.

Thank you for taking the time to read my suggestions.

Name not shown

in Crescent Park

January 3, 2022, 2:13 PM

Top priorities should be:

- 1) Efficient operation of City government: staffing at the appropriate level, with salaries and benefits that are competitive with the private sector.
- 2) Public safety
- 3) Estimate and publish cost-benefit analysis for every project and mandate, particularly "climate"-related activities. For those, reject any activity where CO2 mitigation exceeds the California cap-and-trade market price (\$23.69/tonne for the past year). CO2 mitigation in Palo Alto will not make any difference to global temperatures, but it's downright stupid to spend taxpayer money on projects that don't meet that hurdle.
- 4) Simplify and shorten the building permitting and inspection process and architectural and community reviews. Provide incentives to the Development Department for reducing project delays.

Hamilton Hitchings

in Duveneck/ St Francis

January 4, 2022, 10:12 AM

Public Safety - should be our highest priority. Reduce covid spreading, reduce risk of wildfires and floods, reduce home theft and violent crime.

Climate Change - Protection and Adaptation: Palo Alto's efforts towards 80/30 help other cities see what is possible. We also must preserve our urban tree canopy.

Housing for Social and Economic Balance - continue creating below market affordable housing opportunities to maintain and increase socioeconomic diversity while advocating for local control and protecting our single family neighborhoods.

Name not shown

in Leland Manor/ Garland

January 8, 2022, 11:19 AM

Airplane noise. This problem affects many Palo Alto residents, including at night. If solutions are not pursued, the problem will get worse as air traffic continues to grow.

Brian Tucker

in Leland Manor/ Garland

January 8, 2022, 12:59 PM

my main concern is airplane noise because it disrupts my sleep and I think it will ultimately lower Palo Alto property values.

Linda Henigin

in Duveneck/ St Francis

January 10, 2022, 12:43 PM

Housing, transportation, and Climate Change are all intertwined. We need to build denser housing so that that we live and work closer together, which will mean we can use less carbon moving from place to place because we can walk, bicycle, and use electric cars. I hear a lot from this Council on what we cannot do, where we cannot build, what changes we cannot make. I hope to hear more leadership from this Council on what we can do, where we can build, and what changes we can make, since the world is changing around us. Let's work within the world we have now and into the future, rather than the world we either wish we had or that we had in the past. Thank you.

gary fine

in College Terrace

January 10, 2022, 1:04 PM

housing at all levels

Rohin Ghosh

in Midtown/ Midtown West

January 10, 2022, 3:43 PM

Building lots of dense housing, especially affordable

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

housing. Stop fighting state fair housing laws and actually follow them.

Pass robust tenant protections.

Improve transit, bike, and pedestrian infrastructure.

Expand services to unhoused residents and end all police harrassment. Lots more safe parking lots. End RV towing.

Joel Kohn

outside Palo Alto

January 10, 2022, 6:38 PM

Palo Alto should strive to build more housing, both market rate and affordable wherever possible. We as a state are in a crushing housing deficit and we need to do everything possible to fix it.

scott oneil

in Charleston Terrace

January 10, 2022, 9:28 PM

The region in general and the city in particular desperately need more housing at all income levels. We're turning our children into economic refugees, exporting our housing crisis throughout the country, and discrediting the notion that liberal governance can provide broad-based prosperity at a time when this endangers democracy itself in the United States of America. The city must take bold action to produce vastly more housing.

Multiple recent lawsuits reveal our police department to be unusually brutal, in a country with a severe problem of police brutality. Even after adopting 8-cant-wait reforms, the city is writing a six-figure check to compensate a victim who was assaulted *while sleeping.* Was "Duty to Protect" upheld, and if not, what was the accountability for officers involved? City must follow up and ensure that policy is upheld.

Allegations of coverup activity in another recent suit reveal that we must implement externally-driven accountability, rather than letting the PD self-investigate complaints.

The city should adopt strong whistleblower protections for PD employees.

Name not shown

in Old Palo Alto

January 11, 2022, 1:23 PM

While the City looks into installing fiber networks in the City, why not combine it with putting all utilities underground? In the 30+ years I have lived in my home, the City has ripped up my street several times yet there has been no progress on moving the utilities underground. Each year the City spends \$\$\$\$ to have trees pruned and in the winter we all can see the disfigured trees with their lopped off branches. Seems a concerted effort might reap benefits in several areas.

Name not shown

in University Park

January 11, 2022, 3:34 PM

The Human Resources department is a revolving door of immoral and unethical practices that leave employees feeling inadequate and unheard. Management needs to be reconsidered and the current Director and Assistant Director need to retire. What happened to the human aspect of Human Resources?

Name not shown

in Ventura

January 11, 2022, 6:02 PM

Less dense expensive unattractive housing. More community activities and resources! Why can't you make El Camino more attractive, especially with all the new housing on it. PA needs more activities, music venues, roller rinks, pubs, etc.

Name not shown

in Midtown/ Midtown West

January 11, 2022, 10:00 PM

More housing, especially multi-family
More transit friendly, especially through greater use of paid parking
Climate change
Economic recovery

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Name not available

January 11, 2022, 10:19 PM

Affordable housing. Increasing density. Encouraging diversity and inclusion. Supporting low income folks.

Name not available

January 13, 2022, 8:15 AM

Pensions
Pensions
Get rid of the pensions

Kathy Miller

in Community Center
January 13, 2022, 8:26 AM

The League of Women Voters has put forward an excellent proposal for local campaign finance reform that would enact a \$30,000 voluntary expenditure limit to rein in excessive campaign spending in City Council elections, cap campaign donations at \$500, and require PACS that pay for campaign ads to disclose contributors who donated \$2500+ to the PAC in the previous 12 months. Palo Alto is lagging behind neighboring cities such as Mountain View, Cupertino and Santa Clara that have passed similar measures. At a time when national politics is riven with multiple threats to democracy, this Council should unite around these campaign finance reform measures as a simple means of restoring faith in government and elections.

Name not available

January 13, 2022, 8:27 AM

Climate change is by far the biggest threat facing our city and our country and should be the number one priority. There is so much our municipality can do to fight climate change we need to muster the political will, spend the effort and the funds to drastically lower our greenhouse gases with all due speed. Second, housing, Third, economic recovery, Fourth Social Justice

Dawn Billman

in Crescent Park
January 13, 2022, 8:59 AM

Please focus on solutions to help new businesses reside in Palo Alto and keep the local retailers that we have. It is time to be creative. What we are doing is not working. The Los Altos and Menlo Park downtown areas are thriving. It is discouraging to walk down University and Cal Ave and see ALL the empty store fronts. We need thriving businesses to provide a tax base. Low income housing near the retail businesses and Caltrain, bus lines. Crime in the city is terrible. We need to do a better job of working with our police. We need them visible in the communities. Happy to learn that we plan to build affordable housing for teachers. Thank you for supporting this plan and working with the county to make this happen.

Name not shown

in University South
January 13, 2022, 9:43 AM

continue with:
Economic Recovery,
Housing for Social and Economic Balance, and
Climate Change - Protection and Adaptation

Name not available

January 13, 2022, 9:50 AM

I agree with the previous priorities. Housing people is a moral imperative. It also will reduce commutes and traffic congestion and strengthen our community.

Gregory Watson

in Palo Verde
January 13, 2022, 10:42 AM

Affordable housing is an imperative for the council to address. I am pleased to see that the council has adopted this as a top priority for the year. Another area is to do everything we can to support PAUSD in its efforts to protect student mental health in these

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

times of COVID.

Elizabeth Beheler

in Charleston Meadows
January 13, 2022, 12:09 PM

I would like to see more serious solutions around creating affordable housing. I'd also really appreciate some focus on the shifting needs of community recreation around covid (ex, Cubberley Community Center). I very much appreciate the efforts city council has made in environmental conservation around composting.

Name not available

January 13, 2022, 12:25 PM

No 1 - dramatically reduce all crime and improve security

Name not available

January 13, 2022, 3:19 PM

1. Citywide municipal fiber to the premises (FTTP) (meaning all residences and businesses can have access). It's been a dream for more than two decades. Time to make it a reality.

Name not available

January 13, 2022, 5:59 PM

I agree with the high level priorities presented. However, please do not lose sight of important traffic issues: continue to improve biking infrastructure and choose a grade separation option for East Meadow and Charleston that is least impactful to neighborhoods around them (trench or underpass but NO viaduct). Thank you for all you do for our city.

Name not shown

in Old Palo Alto
January 13, 2022, 6:15 PM

While I think it is responsible to consider all the corridors adjacent to Cal Train for multi-story/ multi family dwellings

up to 5 story, I am in agreement with PA City Council to make every effort to strike down SB9&10!! If I had wanted to live in a San Francisco like environment, I would have accepted their recruitment effort to hire me as Director of Public Health Nursing. I choose to remain in a city where I could walk safely, in any direction, and do, a city where I can help host a Block Party to better know neighbors and include them in Disaster Preparedness and Response, a city where I can grow fruit and vegetables that I can also share with neighbors, which I do. I could go on, but I think you get my point. My great grandmother was born at Indiana Ranch in Yuba County. I do not want Developers to be able to ruin/damage our excellent/responsible City!!

Name not available

January 13, 2022, 6:18 PM

Why do I have to make a statement?

Name not available

January 13, 2022, 6:49 PM

Crimes against both people and property have increased in Palo Alto. It is frightening to those of us who live here. Please focus on solving such basic problems.

Name not available

January 13, 2022, 7:02 PM

Climate change is by far the biggest threat facing our city and our country and should be the number one priority. There is so much our municipality can do to fight climate change we need to muster the political will, spend the effort and the funds to drastically lower our greenhouse gases with all due speed. Second, housing, Third, economic recovery, Fourth Social Justice

Name not available

January 13, 2022, 7:13 PM

Totally agree with Dawn Billman that small businesses are sorely lacking in Palo Alto. Menlo Pk and Los Altos have livelier downtowns.

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Palo Alto is awash in vacant apartments (example-Page Mill/El Camino area) and empty office buildings. We don't need more of either!! Please focus on bringing back retail, besides restaurants.

Name not shown

in Charleston Terrace

January 13, 2022, 8:58 PM

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback. City services like parks, bike boulevards, libraries, and a well run government were what drew us to Palo Alto over nearby neighborhoods.

We should continue to lead the way in providing these types of infrastructure for the future: fiber to the home (and all utilities while the roads are dug up), climate change adaptations (especially in/near flood zones), increased roads / transport to handle new development, and housing programs so more people who work in Palo Alto can live here as well.

Thanks for your consideration!

Name not shown

in University South

January 14, 2022, 4:52 AM

Please work towards creating a vibrant, welcoming and economically healthy downtown by permanently closing University Avenue to traffic and making a walking mall with options for outdoor dining, comfortable seating and kiosks for flowers, green grocers, etc.

We have such fantastic potential.

Add climate change prevention to our protection and adaptation efforts. It is not enough to backfill. We also have to make clear and significant efforts to stop it in its tracks.

Let's focus on unifying and connecting our neighborhoods and becoming 'one Palo Alto' rather than a bunch of scrappy folks fighting over resources. We are one of the wealthiest communities in the country and should be leading by example rather than using our advantage to promote personal interest.

Pamela Kharaka

in Palo Verde

January 14, 2022, 7:14 AM

Traffic lights to be sensitised, not programmed. Sitting waiting with no cars or people in an intersection.

Road repair. When work opens a section of a road (for the house changes) those that fill the section are not required or checked to make it blend into the contour of the road. Streets (particularly Middlefield in South Palo Alto) are jerking our spines! Another bad street is bay shore road from Loma Verde to where it meets the buildings. Many others. Plus El Camino. Just spreading more tarmac does NOT make the road even!

Markus Fromherz

in Barron Park

January 14, 2022, 8:25 AM

My priorities are climate change action (reducing greenhouse gas emissions, transitioning to electric appliances and cars, etc.), affordable housing, more measures to reduce individual traffic and increase options for biking and public transit, and improved walkability of key streets like University Ave. and California Ave.

Lisa Ratner

in Fairmeadow

January 14, 2022, 9:06 AM

The League of Women Voters has put forward an excellent proposal for local campaign finance reform that would enact a \$30,000 voluntary expenditure limit to rein in excessive campaign spending, cap campaign donations at \$500, and require PACS that pay for campaign ads to disclose contributors who donated \$2500+ to the PAC in the previous 12 months. Palo Alto is lagging behind neighboring cities such as Mountain View, Cupertino and Santa Clara that have passed similar measures. At a time when national politics is riven with multiple threats to democracy, this Council should unite around these campaign finance reform measures as a simple means of restoring faith in government and elections.

Name not available

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

January 14, 2022, 9:11 AM

Youth mental health and wellness

Name not shown

in Southgate

January 14, 2022, 9:13 AM

Housing plan for PAUSD educators so they can afford to live in their own community.

Name not shown

in Barron Park

January 14, 2022, 9:18 AM

My priorities for city: (1) Health - recovery from COVID-19. (2) Decide on CalTrain grade separations and start implementing.

Matthew Lennig

in Community Center

January 14, 2022, 9:21 AM

City Council should prioritize the quality of life for residents above all else. Council should establish a standing committee on quality of life. Here are some of the quality of life priorities:

- 1) Strictly enforce the ban against gasoline leaf blowers
- 2) Build a new swimming pool at Mitchell Park
- 3) Ban vehicular traffic on the commercial section of University Avenue
- 4) Add bicycle paths and protected lanes
- 5) Deploy more inverted-U bicycle racks, including at Rinconada Pool.

Name not available

January 14, 2022, 9:24 AM

Keep supporting Art Center, Theatre, Zoo Museum, libraries and other important social establishments.

Name not available

January 14, 2022, 9:26 AM

Reduce Criminal Activity, Fund Police

Name not shown

in Crescent Park

January 14, 2022, 9:32 AM

My priority is the environment.

Name not shown

in College Terrace

January 14, 2022, 9:36 AM

We have seen increasing incidents of break-in stealing and robberies in neighborhoods and commercial of Palo Alto and surrounding cities. It directly threatens the security and safety of our daily life. We want to see the City of Palo Alto to take actions to improve the situation and make our city safer.

Name not shown

in Leland Manor/ Garland

January 14, 2022, 9:42 AM

1. Aircraft Noise
2. City Infrastructure
3. Traffic and transportation

Name not available

January 14, 2022, 9:59 AM

The City needs to prioritize reducing the constant SFO arrival traffic over our community. The traffic is near non-stop again, with three arrival routes over us. The jet traffic over Palo Alto concentrates noise and particulate pollution over the community. It is well past time for the council to prioritize this important community health issue. This is also a climate change issue. Transportation is one of the biggest contributors to climate change and air travel is one of the fastest growing contributors within the transportation category.

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Rebecca Ward

in Old Palo Alto

January 14, 2022, 10:09 AM

The City needs to prioritize reducing the constant SFO arrival traffic over our community. The traffic is near non-stop again. The jet traffic over Palo Alto concentrates noise and pollution over the community. It is well past time for the council to prioritize this community health issue. This is also a climate change issue. Transportation is one of the biggest contributors to climate change and air travel is one of the fastest growing contributors within the transportation category.

Andrea Gara

in Community Center

January 14, 2022, 10:09 AM

I believe that the most important challenge facing all of us is climate change. I applaud the City Council for their serious attention to this matter, particularly the Ad Hoc Committee. The upheaval that we face if we don't manage to avoid the worst damages from climate change will make all of our other very worthy goals much harder to achieve. Density in housing has been shown to reduce carbon, and addressing our housing shortage, thereby cutting down on commuting in our area, must be a part of our response. It is also the right thing to do considering the humanitarian housing/homelessness crisis we face. Thank you.

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2021/aug/22/cities-climate-change-dense-sprawl-yimby-nimby>

Sharon Lee-Nakayama

in Charleston Terrace

January 14, 2022, 10:39 AM

Crime of home mail theft, home package thefts, breaking and entering into gated multi-home townhouses, department store mob thefts.

Name not shown

in Charleston Terrace

January 14, 2022, 10:45 AM

Safety, Quality life and civic amenities are more important than listed priorities.

Name not available

January 14, 2022, 10:46 AM

The environment is ALWAYS the priority. If that is not cared for, nothing else will matter, ultimately.

james logan

in College Terrace

January 14, 2022, 10:54 AM

Excellence in local government - Select and employ the best and brightest people for employment should be the first priority

Name not available

January 14, 2022, 11:09 AM

Please continue to make airplane noise and flights over Palo Alto a priority.

Name not available

January 14, 2022, 11:16 AM

Safety, Safety, Safety. We have criminals freely roaming our property and casing our house. They've dismantled the security system at our complex. They come back weekly. They have unlocked our community mailboxes and stolen the mail, and perhaps our identities. They steal our packages. The same people week after week. We have them on video, and we get their license plates. What we don't get is arrests or safety.

Our kids can no longer play outside in the community. We keep our doors locked even when we are inside. Is this what Palo Alto has become?

I can't imagine any public officials keeping their jobs if this continues.

Name not shown

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

in Charleston Terrace
January 14, 2022, 11:16 AM

Please prioritize student well-being, as they've been through an incredibly stressful and isolated time throughout the pandemic.

Name not shown

in Research Park
January 14, 2022, 11:20 AM

The importance of community connectedness and mental health cannot be understated during these unprecedented times. This is especially true for our community's youth. Please prioritize youth mental health.

Name not available

January 14, 2022, 11:23 AM

(1) Palo Alto owes a duty of care to rebalance our housing stock to include housing for (a) the unhoused (b) those who work in Palo Alto School District, City government who are not in the executive branch of these agencies (c) low income local workers. We need to help the Palo Alto Housing Corporation and require all new development projects and companies with more than 100 employees to provide resources monetary and in kind to help solve our housing needs. and ensure parking is available at all developments recognizing that we are not at real dependency on public transportation. HIGHEST PRIORITY : We should oppose the regressive attempt to overturn State rules arising under SB 9 and 10. That any of our council is fostering the undermining of the State legislative action seems contrary to good public policy and very much anti-social. I am very disappointed in the lack of leadership shown by certain council members on this issue. It appears to me to be discriminating against housing in the name of being protective of our neighborhood values. 2. We must not put another piece of cement on the wetlands of the Baylands and if possible get rid of the airport at the Baylands. (3) Where practicable reduce Palo Alto specific services which can be done as a joint venture with other Peninsula cities to reduce the overhead of running small cities in an urban / suburban environment (to wit: police, fire, emergency services, ambulance, street maintenance, water treatment, sewage...) so that climate-related sea-rise and other environmental long-term dangers can be

addressed at a very high priority: protecting the water table, sewage treatment plant etc.

Ken Joye

in Ventura
January 14, 2022, 11:24 AM

1. addressing climate crisis -- please consider all issues through this filter
2. affordable housing -- expand use of incentives to 100% affordable developments
3. resurrect NTSBB2 -- please implement Park/Wilkie improvements

Name not shown

in Midtown/ Midtown West
January 14, 2022, 11:29 AM

Climate change is my first priority. Second is lowering crime rate. We have been living in Palo Alto since 1998 and we have been feeling increasingly less safe. Reports of violent crimes are increasing, walking around downtown at night does not feel safe, etc.

Name not available

January 14, 2022, 11:34 AM

I think that environmental sustainability is the lense through which all of the priorities can be viewed for long term growth and health of the city.

Jason Titus

in Professorville
January 14, 2022, 11:44 AM

The city should have three main priorities - reducing CO2 emissions (through electrification, increased rooftop solar & energy storage, and facilitating low carbon transit - biking, EVs, and public transit), preparing for climate change, and increasing housing availability through increased density (especially near low carbon transit hubs).

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Name not available

January 14, 2022, 11:46 AM

IF THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT IS NOT #1, THEN, ULTIMATELY, NOTHING ELSE MATTERS.

Name not available

January 14, 2022, 11:47 AM

CLIMATE AND ADAPTATION IS #1.

Name not available

January 14, 2022, 1:13 PM

#1 Climate Change Action

Brigham Wilson

in University South

January 14, 2022, 1:20 PM

I feel sad that the library keeps having to limit hours. Our city has so many openings for jobs that don't pay enough for people to live in our city. If we want to have students, librarians, nurses, teachers, waiters, cooks, and other folks working in our city, we need to have housing they can afford. If we don't offer housing, we won't be able to fill jobs, and then we won't have the services we enjoy. Here are three ideas that would increase supply:

- Change zoning within 500 yards of a Caltrain station to more dense than R-1
- Develop mixed use areas in current office parks (like Palo Alto Square) instead of looking to church parking lots.
- Increase density in R-1 areas near Midtown shops on Middlefield

All three of these ideas increase density in walkable areas that wouldn't increase the parking/traffic burden as much as other solutions.

Name not available

January 14, 2022, 1:33 PM

* Climate Change -- All decisions should be made with sustainability in mind. Biking, community-serving businesses, parks, creek restoration are all good.

* Community -- How can the city council improve our feelings of community, even in the face of Covid restrictions? Planning and architecture can improve community interaction or reduce it. Same with the use of outdoor space. A few benches or plazas are not enough unless the right businesses are supported nearby. Business recovery is not enough without gathering space. The choice to keep 2 blocks of California Ave closed was a good decision -- but even more can be done.

Name not available

January 14, 2022, 2:08 PM

Focus on making progress on housing and climate change, not just talking about it and coming up with reasons why every single proposed development is somehow against our standards. Enforce leaf blower ordinance, perhaps with community service officers. Stop wasting time and money fighting SB9&10 and "airplane noise". We live in the 21st century and it's time to face up to it. Recognize that the folks you hear at meetings don't represent the majority of the actual taxpayers in the city, who are too busy with Valley jobs and kids to join meetings. Make the NIMBYs raise money and actually pay for things if they want things like the Roth building museum or add a swimming pool at Cubberley or Mitchell Park. It's not all up to "somebody else" to pay for it.

Name not shown

in University Park

January 14, 2022, 2:38 PM

no statement

Name not shown

in Palo Verde

January 14, 2022, 3:23 PM

Affordable Housing for Social and Economic Balance (for low-income seniors, transitional housing for homeless, teachers, public safety workers)
Social Justice (in hiring, grants for minority-owned businesses)
Youth Mental Health Support (partnering with the school district on increasing wellness/teen programs at Mitchell Park)

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

More Services for Seniors (in-home assistance network, transportation options, finding housemates)

Name not available

January 14, 2022, 3:37 PM

End covid restrictions in Palo Alto
Reduce barriers to build housing, operate businesses, and live healthy and prosperous lives
Start saving a percentage of the city's financial reserve's in bitcoin to protect against inflation

Name not shown

in Charleston Terrace

January 14, 2022, 3:50 PM

End covid restrictions in Palo Alto
Start savings a percentage of city's financial reserves in Bitcoin to protect against inflation.
Reduce barriers to building housing and operating businesses

Name not available

January 14, 2022, 3:51 PM

Crimes, both violent and non-violent have become a serious problem in Palo Alto, and crime prevention needs to be a priority for the city. There are many reports of robberies, both unarmed and armed. My community has a serious, frequent theft problem, and despite surveillance videos showing faces as well as license plates, it's difficult to get the Palo Alto police to ever follow up beyond taking a report.

Name not available

January 14, 2022, 4:07 PM

1. Addressing the Climate Crisis
2. Affordable housing
3. Culture and arts: libraries, children's theatre, open air music events, etc - with focus on it being free or at least (actually) affordable, so that the whole community can benefit from them!
4. Social justice, equity, and inclusion

Jeff Hoel

in Midtown/ Midtown West

January 14, 2022, 4:56 PM

1. Citywide municipal fiber to the premises (FTTP) (meaning all residences and businesses can have access). It's been a dream for more than two decades. Time to make it a reality.

Name not available

January 14, 2022, 5:44 PM

Crimes, both violent and non-violent have become a serious problem in Palo Alto, and crime prevention needs to be a priority for the city. There are many reports of robberies, both unarmed and armed. My community has a serious, frequent theft problem, and despite surveillance videos showing faces as well as license plates, it's difficult to get the Palo Alto police to ever follow up beyond taking a report.

Name not available

January 14, 2022, 5:48 PM

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Name not shown

in Charleston Terrace

January 14, 2022, 5:49 PM

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2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Name not shown

in Midtown/ Midtown West
January 14, 2022, 6:55 PM

1. Allow building more housing by drastically reducing zoning restrictions - in particular allowing denser and more mixed use zoning. Make significant public investments in affordable housing
2. Work to build safer, more walkable and bikeable streets
3. Focus on helping businesses with effective Covid-19 interventions like ventilation to protect workers and allow more businesses to stay open and keep the economy strong
4. Invest in climate mitigations and clean energy

Jennifer Liu

in University Park
January 14, 2022, 8:56 PM

Please put public safety as a high priority task. For the past couple of years, there are more robbery and thefts in our neighborhood. I don't feel safe any more. This needs to be fixed. Thank you.

NAPHTALI KNOX

in Crescent Park
January 14, 2022, 9:14 PM

1. Affordable housing: Through policy and rhetoric, promote smaller units and affordability throughout the city.
2. Crime: Crack down on retail and residential invasions and burglaries. Financially support the police in the endeavor.

Name not available

January 14, 2022, 9:18 PM

I'm worried about safety and public school education. Both issues got worse in past two years

Name not shown

in Palo Verde
January 14, 2022, 9:30 PM

We absolutely have to improve overall safety in PA by greatly reducing all kind of crimes. Unless the city feels safe to live, nothing else matters

Name not shown

in College Terrace
January 14, 2022, 9:37 PM

Level crossings! This has been discussed ad nauseum for years. The city has a surplus; use it, and anything you can get from the states or feds, and get it done. San Carlos and other cities have done it. How many more accidents does it take? And don't even think about closing Churchill Ave. We need to get across town, and once high speed rail comes along, it will be impossible. Please!

Name not shown

in Research Park
January 14, 2022, 9:50 PM

Would appreciate the City Council looking through the lenses of the well-being of the residents of Palo Alto & social justice in making decisions on priorities.

Name not shown

in Charleston Terrace
January 15, 2022, 12:26 AM

Make Palo Alto a Safe Community to live and visit.

LAUREN ANGELO

in Old Palo Alto
January 15, 2022, 5:23 AM

Continued City funding and support of the vital Community Services that make Palo Alto such a wonderful place to live and visit. Please continue to provide the funding needed by the Palo Alto Junior Museum & Zoo, the Children's Theatre, the Palo Alto Art Center, and the libraries. Thank you!

Name not shown

in Crescent Park

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

January 15, 2022, 6:00 AM

1. Remove restrictions on housing construction, including zoning and requirements for size, parking, etc. Streamline processing of building permits.
2. Reduce regulatory and taxation burden on business. Same as #1 with different focus.
3. Justice: Establish policy against qualified immunity and civil forfeiture. Do not enforce laws against victimless crimes, especially regarding drugs and immigration. Do not cooperate with other agencies in enforcing such laws.
4. Financial responsibility: Stop spending money on non-essentials, for example public art. Get all city employees onto defined-contribution retirement plans. Put local taxes on the ballot to be repealed (50% to repeal!).
5. Economics: Avoid feelgood policies whose unintended consequences make things worse, among them rent control, minimum wage regulations, electrification mandates.
6. Education: Work to open Palo Alto schools to students from less affluent neighboring communities. If Palo Alto taxpayers are to subsidize anything in the social justice area, let it be education opportunities.
7. My personal gripe: Stop making streets less safe for cyclists under pretense of making them bicycle friendly. Examples: Middlefield from Oregon to Channing, Arastradero from El Camino to Gunn, University at Center or W Crescent. Never put bollards or curbs in the street (exception: wrong-way bike lane on Homer, Alma to High).

Craig Taylor

in Crescent Park

January 15, 2022, 8:57 AM

Actions should improve citizen's lives with the most efficient use of city funds. Address congestion, parks, schools, libraries, crime, roads... local issues for a local government.
Programs should have measurable impacts and costs.

Karen Kalinsky

in Fairmeadow

January 15, 2022, 11:58 AM

In addition to the given priorities:

1. Encourage voter participation in local elections for City Council and PAUSD School Board by enacting city

ordinances that create limits on individual donations to at most \$500; and voluntary expenditure limits to at most \$30,000 (lower limits for school board). This will make many more voters think that their smaller donations to candidates matter; and will allow potential candidates who don't have access to large funding (including more people of color and more diverse backgrounds) to consider running for office. This supports the DEI priority as well as a commitment to participatory democracy.

2. Act expeditiously to decide on plans for replacing all the at-grade train crossings. The Meadow and Charleston crossings are in dire need of improvement given the large number of students biking and walking across these intersections. Please keep in mind that the same solution will not necessarily work for both crossings since Meadow is much narrower than Charleston. Visual impacts are important, but not as important as creating safe crossings for everyone (cars, pedestrians, bike riders, people with disabilities, etc.).

Name not available

January 15, 2022, 2:17 PM

Protect our neighborhoods -- put safeguards in against SB9 & SB10
Economic Recovery -- help small businesses to survive & keep the city vibrant
Climate Change -- protect homeowners from floods
Consider parking & traffic (people WILL continue to have cars) when approving new developments

Name not available

January 15, 2022, 4:08 PM

Social justice/diversity/inclusiveness/equity: Implement campaign finance reforms as proposed by the League of Women Voters of Palo Alto to:
(1) decrease the cost of running for City Council through voluntary spending ceilings, which will support a diverse field of candidates;
(2) decrease reliance on a small number of wealthy donors through mandatory donation caps, which will enhance the importance of smaller donations from more people and encourage increased citizen participation; and
(3) improve disclosure of PAC money by reducing the level of donations to PACs that will trigger disclosure of the top donors on political ads, so voters will know who is supporting candidates or ballot measures.

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Name not available

January 15, 2022, 8:59 PM

Dramatically reduce carbon emissions.
Focus on fiscal responsibility.
Build and repair physical infrastructure.

Name not available

January 16, 2022, 3:48 AM

Lets have more public events, get togethers, picnics, entertainment.

larry alton

in Downtown North

January 16, 2022, 4:10 AM

Lets have more get togethers, picnics, entertainment.
Larry Alton

Megan Fogarty

in Midtown/ Midtown West

January 16, 2022, 9:37 AM

Posting as an individual. Priority ideas from me:

- 1) Developing sense of place - nurture civic spaces, business corridors, arts, community service. Bring us together through our recreation and culture resources.
- 2) Continue work on housing affordable for all in our community (in particular our most vulnerable children and families) and climate change impacts.
- 3) Local campaign finance reform - insure that Palo Alto is an active and thriving democracy. The League of Women Voters has put forward an excellent proposal for local campaign finance reform that would enact a \$30,000 voluntary expenditure limit to rein in excessive campaign spending, cap campaign donations at \$500, and require PACS that pay for campaign ads to disclose contributors who donated \$2500+ to the PAC in the previous 12 months. Palo Alto is lagging behind neighboring cities such as Mountain View, Cupertino and Santa Clara that have passed similar measures. At a time when national politics is riven with multiple threats to democracy, this Council should unite around these campaign finance reform measures as a simple means of

restoring faith in government and elections.

Lawrence Garwin

in Community Center

January 16, 2022, 2:18 PM

2022 Priorities for Palo Alto City Council:
(In no particular order, so please read the entire list. Thank you for your kind consideration of these suggested Council priorities.)

Continue focus on reducing climate change. (More detailed suggestions below.)

Roads:

Resurface dangerously bumpy bike lanes such as the one by the high school that is eastbound on Churchill from Alma to Emerson. Be sure they are kept free of obstructions, such as waste bins.

Install and diligently maintain reflective paint, reflectors, and warning signs on all bulb-outs, medians, traffic circles, etc., that narrow biking and driving lanes throughout the city. (Car tire strikes have darkened or removed much of the reflective paint and reflectors, where there was any.) Currently, many of these create a huge hazard in that someone going straight down a street (particularly in the bike lane) can easily hit them without warning. Design future ones and possibly retrofit current ones to have a soft landing spot, such as a bush, for cyclists who hit these curbs and flip over their handle bars. (This is a serious suggestion.)

Review all roadway signs, starting with those along bikeways, that say, "Not a Through Street". Amend them, as appropriate, to say, "for motor vehicles" or "except for bicycles and pedestrians", as often there's a path out the other end. Make all signage throughout the city appropriate for bicyclists (and pedestrians, where appropriate), as they are legitimate road users and must be encouraged to reduce climate change, pollution, and the ills of sedentary living. Clarify, perhaps with CA DMV collaboration, whether bicycles are considered "vehicles" and have signage reflect this standard.

Air:

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Enforce the existing gasoline leaf blower ban, expand it to be city-wide (not just for residential properties) and cover all landscaping tools. Make available a downloadable flyer for folks to share with offending property owners and yard care workers. Create an online reporting tool for easy, perhaps anonymous, offense reporting. Possibly have warnings sent out without the need for staff intervention.

Ban all indoor fireplace wood fires, as they destroy the air quality for blocks around the offender's home and are truly ineffective at heating the home.

Require all wood stoves to be low emission and fed with outdoor air; catalytic converters and pellet stoves allow relatively clean wood burning and outside air intakes substantially lower the emissions from burning wood in a well-sealed house and the air infiltration in a leaky house. Consider banning all indoor wood burning and further regulating outdoor fires.

Electricity:

Install and encourage electric load shedding and grid storage, whether behind the meter or municipally owned or contracted. Incentivize the former by providing rebates and introducing instantaneous two-way electricity pricing and a communication structure for customers' equipment to automatically respond to price fluctuations. (OhmConnect currently provides a limited incentives-for-load-shedding service to PGE and other utilities' customers; perhaps OhmConnect could be engaged to do the same for PA in at least the short term.) Educate local contractors and residents on how to install and use the aforementioned load shedding and grid storage equipment.

Aggressively encourage building electrification and natural-gas-free buildings by giving huge incentives to not pipe gas to new or remodeled buildings and large rebates to folks who do transition their appliances from gas to electricity. Progression: Increase the reliability of the electric supply to reduce resistance to giving up gas appliances such as stoves, water heaters, wall furnaces, and gas fireplaces that currently don't require electricity. Make no new gas connections. Ban installation of new gas appliances. Require existing gas appliances to be replaced by a certain date. Cap off older lines to prevent leakage. Cap off all unused lines. Stop supplying gas altogether or transition non-electrifiable needs to biogas, possibly

supplied through the remaining gas pipeline network.

Transportation:

Encourage the adoption of electric vehicles by people living in multi unit and rental housing by expanding and diligently maintaining publicly available level 1 and 2 EV chargers in the neighborhoods and DC Fast Chargers in retail areas. (Many municipalities very affordably install level 2 chargers on street light poles.) Require all remodels and new dwelling units to be EV charger ready. Encourage/require work place charging (standard 120 VAC, 15 amp outlets are all that's needed for most commutes) to make use of the statewide surplus of solar energy during the day.

Follow the lead of other cities on the Peninsula by cost-effectively grade separating the railway crossings with a hybrid approach of raising the tracks and lowering the cross streets to go underneath. Be sure that there are low sound walls on the elevated tracks to protect the nearby homes from wheel noise. (The electrified locomotives will be much quieter than the current diesel ones, so tall sound walls are not needed.)

Name not available

January 16, 2022, 3:28 PM

I encourage City Council to prioritize clean air and quiet neighborhoods. Without these fundamentals, Palo Alto becomes an unpleasant place to live, particularly for the many folks who are working from home. As it is right now, there is noise nearly all of the time, on every day except Sunday -- illegal gas leaf blowers, plus gas trimmers, lawn mowers, etc. This makes it difficult to work from home and impossible to open windows or enjoy one's yard, even on beautiful days. In addition, it contributes to smog and pollution, with disastrous health consequences for both gardeners and the most vulnerable members of our community. It doesn't need to be like this. If the City would strengthen and enforce the code, we all could breathe cleaner air and enjoy our homes -- very simple things to ask. Please prioritize this in the coming year.

Helene Grossman

in Midtown/ Midtown West
January 16, 2022, 3:33 PM

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

I encourage City Council to prioritize clean air and quiet neighborhoods by enforcing the gas leaf blower ban. Without these fundamentals, Palo Alto becomes an unpleasant place to live, particularly for the many folks who are working from home.

As it is right now, there is noise nearly all of the time -- illegal gas leaf blowers, plus gas trimmers, lawn mowers, etc. This makes it difficult to work from home and impossible to open windows or enjoy one's yard, even on beautiful days. In addition, it contributes to smog and pollution, with disastrous health consequences for both gardeners and the most vulnerable members of our community. Recently, the air quality has been terrible due to this pollution being trapped close to the ground by weather conditions. It doesn't need to be like this.

If the City would strengthen and enforce the code banning gas leaf blowers, we all could breathe cleaner air and enjoy our homes -- very simple things to ask. Please prioritize this in the coming year.

Name not available

January 16, 2022, 4:54 PM

Please prioritize enforcement of the gas powered leaf blower ban. This saves energy and greatly improves our quality of life. I work online at home and the constant loud noise sabotages my work! Thanks.

Name not available

January 16, 2022, 6:09 PM

I would like to see the City Council to do something with the increased crimes in Palo Alto.

The four announced priorities (Economic Recovery, Housing for Social and Economic Balance, Social Justice and Climate Change) are important. However, if people don't feel safe to go out, and have to spend their daily effort to protect assets from being robbed or stolen, I don't see how the economy could recover. Without Economic Recovery, the other three priorities are also jeopardized.

Nancy Cohen

in Green Acres

January 16, 2022, 8:48 PM

The development of Cubberley as a community center should be high on the City's priorities. This is long overdue and, of course, has been hindered by the School district's decision to retain 20 acres of that land. But there is an offer for the City to acquire an additional 7 acres; it is imperative that the City do that while the offer is outstanding. The tenants at Cubberley are anxious to see if there will be a future for them and for other community members to have space that is not encumbered by dilapidated buildings. I am on the board of Friends of the Palo Alto Library whose function is to support the Palo Alto City Library from three far-flung rooms at that site. The Concordia plan included realistic space for FOPAL and other organizations. The plan could be adapted for a smaller acreage. Putting Cubberley on the Capital Infrastructure Plan now would be a significant step. Thank you.

Nancy Mahoney Cohen

Karen P

in Duveneck/ St Francis

January 16, 2022, 9:12 PM

The 2022 priorities must include protecting people's health and the environment by (1) continuing and even redoubling efforts to reverse the FAA's actions that moved and concentrated jet flight paths – and associated noise and emissions – over Palo Alto, and (2) ending the use of lead fuel by small planes at the City-owned Palo Alto Airport.

Regarding jet traffic, the FAA has steadily increased the number, and lowered the altitudes, of jets flying over Palo Alto since 2015. The City punted when it had the chance to sue about the PIRAT procedure (although I have hope that the current Council would not make the same mistake). And the City has been rebuffed in its efforts to “propose recommendations” to the FAA, so the problem has continued to worsen (notwithstanding the dedicated efforts of Council Members Kou and Stone). While jet traffic overall has fluctuated during Covid-19, the harmful impact remains substantial, especially considering that many people are trying to work or study from home. Palo Alto residents continue to register the highest number of jet noise complaints among Bay Area cities, according to SFO's Airport Director.

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Regarding Palo Alto Airport, it was named #19 in a list of the top 100 lead-polluting small airports in the U.S. published by a leading environmental non-profit last August. Lead is widely known to be toxic, particularly to children, as it causes neurodevelopmental damage and other harm. The County of Santa Clara has ended the sale of leaded fuel at Reid-Hillview Airport in San Jose (which was #34 on the list) because of lead emissions and their impact on the community, and the County has further taken steps to close Reid-Hillview. A Staff Report for Council's 10/18/2021 meeting said the City has been "exploring the use of unleaded fuel" since 2014. No more excuses or delays – Council must take immediate, decisive action to prohibit the use of leaded fuel at Palo Alto Airport, and it must address other emissions and noise as well.

Name not available

January 16, 2022, 9:57 PM

The Council adopted four important priorities last year. Progress was made, but it would .be premature to judge any of the four complete. Therefore, I suggest Council keep these priorities for the coming year, elaborating the focus for the coming year.

For economic recovery, focus should be on defining success criteria and putting in place the supporting infrastructure to create a favorable environment for small business. Creating a unique identity for Palo Alto should enable both small start ups and local retail to succeed.

For housing, the focus should remain on affordable housing. The Council and community have put much effort into affordable housing. The effort has not yet materialized into a plan. The priority merits another year. This community is richer when its population is more diverse. If Palo Alto it's going to sustain it's image as a favorable place to live and raise a family, the Council and the community need to be more aggressive about supporting affordable housing. Affordable housing might mean more favorable disposition to multi family housing, Commitment to affordable housing could be demonstrated by setting goals/ceiling of perhaps 50% of new residential building for multifamily homes in Palo Alto.

For social justice, a focus on enhancing a sense of belonging is warranted. For decades, Palo Alto's population numbers and composition were static. Not so,

more recently. Palo Alto has grown and changed. Too many people feel they don't belong. Underpinning diversity by becoming a belonging community, is the most important priority we can pursue in 2022. After George Floyd's killing, many cities, including our own, made resolutions of support for the black community. Protests, demonstrations, study groups occurred. We must leverage this surge and pursue, real change to get beyond the carefully worded resolutions. Initiatives in community engagement, housing, policing, community education can do much to put words into action.

For climate change, a focus on transit could have positive effects on resource. use and on quality of life for residents.

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2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

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For climate change, a focus on transit could have positive effects on resource. use and on quality of life for residents.

Valerie Stinger

in Palo Verde

January 16, 2022, 10:00 PM

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For social justice, a focus on enhancing inclusion and a sense of belonging is warranted. For decades, Palo Alto's population numbers and composition were static. Not so, more recently. Palo Alto has grown and changed. Too many people feel they don't belong. After the murder of George Floyd, many cities, including Palo Alto, confirmed

their commitment to diversity, inclusion, and equality in carefully written resolutions. Protests, demonstrations, and study followed. Now, initiatives in community engage, education,, policing , and housing, are needed to move from word to action. This is the most important priority for 2022. It reveals the character of the place that is willing to put itself into diversity and not leave words without back up.

For climate change, a focus on public transit can lead to a better use of natural resources and improved services to residents, this is particularly important if zoning is encouraging smaller Residential units with reduced parking provisions.

Name not shown

in Crescent Park

January 16, 2022, 10:07 PM

Please enforce the gas powered leaf blower ban. Thank you.

Rebecca Marasco

in Greenmeadow

January 16, 2022, 10:09 PM

Parks- neighborhood parks are used more than ever with Covid- let's put money to upkeep and improve them.

Cubberly keeps getting kicked down the road. It needs a plan and it needs to start and get funded.

Name not shown

in Charleston Terrace

January 17, 2022, 12:18 AM

Please focus on making Palo Alto safer. There has been too much theft and burglary in my neighborhood in the past 2 years. Packages and mail are getting stolen behind locked doors. Thieves keeps on coming back. We need to have the police follow up with these crimes instead of ignoring them.

Name not shown

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

in Ventura

January 17, 2022, 12:25 AM

Quality of life is becoming a serious issue for Palo Alto: The intolerable (and illegal) nuisance of gas-powered leaf blowers, crimes against people and property, and the urgent need for decent, off-street, non-residential parking facilities for RV dwellers.

Cedric de La Beaujardiere

in Barron Park

January 17, 2022, 3:11 AM

1. Carbon Drawdown, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, and support for Green California (greencal.org) movement for state-wide GHG Reduction
2. Environmental Sustainability, Stewardship and Restoration including Renaturalization of Matadero Creek
3. Affordable Housing including for homeless
4. Economic Recovery and support of locally owned businesses
5. Racial Equity including truth and recognition of local native peoples

Name not available

January 17, 2022, 5:37 AM

Open space preserved and no housing

Name not available

January 17, 2022, 7:16 AM

Although there are many priorities, especially due to COVID, I request that Cubberley be added to the capital infrastructure plan and placed as a high priority. There has been no action or movement in the efforts to make this prime real estate usable and safe for our community and the time has come.

Thank you.

Deborah Simon
Chair, Friends of Cubberley

Name not shown

in Charleston Terrace

January 17, 2022, 7:55 AM

Hello, Council Members.

I live in a townhouse community in Palo Alto. For the past 2+ years, we have had regularly people breaking into our complex and stealing from our mailroom, garage, and storage spaces. The situation is increasingly worsening despite us taking many steps for securing our complex, submitting surveillance videos to the police, and filing multiple police reports. Please make crime prevention and safety of PA residents a top priority for the city.

Name not available

January 17, 2022, 8:44 AM

The 2 stroke engines that annihilate our peace, quiet and our air quality must be stopped. For over half my life the leaf blowers have been illegal yet never enforced. I have asked hundreds of gardeners to please obey the law only to have them agree and continue using them behind the gate or just blatantly ignore me. This should not be the way I spend my mornings asking the neighbors gardeners to obey the law that law enforcement should be enforcing. Our tax dollars are taken too much to do these things that never seem to get done. On any given day of the week I can count up to 20 gas powered leaf blowers around town in a small area. The state of California made these illegal to sell as well as other gas powered polluting engines. We know the people using them already have them but who will stop them from being used.

"Gavin Newsom signed a law that will effectively ban the sale of gas-powered small off-road engines (SORE) — spark-ignited engines rated at or below 25 hp — many of which are used in lawn and garden equipment such as mowers, as well as logging equipment, commercial utility equipment and specialty vehicles."

If the city of Palo Alto that I was born in cannot enforce its own law, than I will ask the state government for some support for help in removing these well known toxic pollutants. If we are a city truly concerned about climate, then why is this so difficult?.

Please send a city wide letter, email and climate warning to all residents stating their gardeners can no longer run their

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

2 stroke engines. I am really tired of trying to enforce this.

Name not available

January 17, 2022, 9:24 AM

Personal and property safety around home.

Irene Gotgelf

in Charleston Terrace

January 17, 2022, 9:56 AM

Before we address global warming or any other global issue, we need to address local increase in crime. Palo Alto is experiencing a significant increase in theft and residential burglaries. That needs to be addressed first. I and my family need to feel safe before iam asked to contribute paying taxes to address global warming .

Name not available

January 17, 2022, 10:00 AM

We have experienced an increased crime rate in our neighborhood. The same thieves stalk our neighborhood waiting for the next packages to arrive. We live in a gated community, yet the thieves would just breach the gates to walk around the premises shopping for expensive bikes. It seems as if they are getting more brazen everyday because there are no consequences to their actions even as we continue to report the crimes to the city police. We just can't believe this consistently happens in Palo Alto. The city council need to address this immediate problem to ensure the safety and property rights of the residents of Palo Alto.

Peter Giles

in Charleston Terrace

January 17, 2022, 10:29 AM

I support adding Cubberly improvements to the Capital Infrastructure Plan. There are surely planning and incremental capital investment steps that are feasible now to put this increasingly valuable and needed resource higher than present on City priorities.

Jenny Munro

in Midtown/ Midtown West

January 17, 2022, 11:00 AM

I would like the city council to focus on developing the Cubberley site. Please urge the city to purchase the additional acreage available, and to begin upgrading the site. Also, consider Cubberley for the proposed city gym; it is a large, easily accessible site for many of Palo Alto's residents. Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, I exhort the city to put Cubberley on the Capital infrastructure Plan. Thank you.

Name not available

January 17, 2022, 11:25 AM

Theft is at all time high in townhomes and condos. Despite ample evidences (videos, car license plates etc) submitted to PA police, it seems that the same perpetrators are coming back repeatedly and are increasingly more brazen. This sets a bad example for future kids who think stealing is ok and normalized in the society. It is becoming a blemish on Palo Alto and changing narrative from a safe city to crime infested one with administration indifference. Please prioritize and make it a goal in your retreat. Thanks, Kumar.

Name not available

January 17, 2022, 11:30 AM

Please stop burglars coming to Palo Alto townhomes and steal packages, bikes etc. It erodes confidence in Palo Alto Police and city ability for a basic human need - safety. Forget climate change, this is more immediate and closer to home now.

Art McGarr

in Barron Park

January 17, 2022, 12:21 PM

The City of Palo Alto has had a ban on gas-powered leaf blowers since 2005, but this ban has never been enforced. Without enforcement, this ban cannot possibly result in the intended improvement in our environment. Please initiate some long-overdue enforcement.

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Not only would this improve our quality of life in Palo Alto, enforcement of the gas powered leaf blower ban would also raise some money for our city government, at least to the extent that enforcement takes place.

Name not available

January 17, 2022, 12:27 PM

As a Palo Alto resident, I am really concerned about the crimes in Palo Alto: residential and commercial burglaries, violent and non-violent confrontations. Something needs to be done.

Name not shown

in Midtown/ Midtown West

January 17, 2022, 1:53 PM

- 1) Enforce existing ordinances! e.g. ban on gas leaf blowers, noisy cars and motorcycles roaring down Oregon Expressway at night, abandoned vehicles, RVs parking on front lawns, illegal parking of RVs and storage vehicles on El Camino.
- 2) Why are there so many 'Ghost Houses' (empty for years)? How many are there? We need to know. Establish a rental housing registry; are all the ADUs being built really contributing housing units that were intended?? Allow high density on El Camino but not in our R1 neighborhoods.
- 3) Noise Reduction. Noise is the last environmental frontier. Can we ban Caltrain horns at night? Can we at least push FAA/SFO to reroute aircraft away from us at night? I am awakened at 2 am and 4 am by cargo flights when the skies are empty. These planes could easily fly a different route.
- 4) Eliminate leaded gas at PA Airport. I'd like to see PAO closed, but at least heavily tax its use. How about stopping the annoying training flights.

Name not shown

in Downtown North

January 17, 2022, 2:22 PM

To show a basic commitment to improving the environment (climate change) Palo Alto should adhere to basic programs which help. One such area, which is a law (not enforced at all), is gas

powered leaf blowers!

Not to mention reducing noise! Funda resource to enforce, if nothing else an 800# for complaints. There is zero effort currently.

Andrew Cheng

in Charleston Terrace

January 17, 2022, 2:59 PM

Crime has exploded in our multi-family community (we have several hundred households). I have lived here for 10+ years. It has completely transformed from a safe, pleasant community to--for over 2 years now--a place of constant crime and break-ins.

We have provided the police with many videos of the crimes being committed, clear pictures of the perpetrators, pictures of the cars, pictures of the license plates, etc. Nothing is done.

The SAME criminals come back week after week, often multiple times on the same week, terrorizing our community and children.

We change the gate codes, change the doors, add locks, etc. The criminals use power tools to cut through the gate, break the glass, hack the DoorKing dialpad, break the doorknobs, call residents pretending to be Fedex employees, etc etc.

We physically chase them away over and over again. The SAME criminals return over and over again.

In fact, they often don't even bother to wear facemasks when committing the crimes, even though we have visible video cameras & signs warning of video cameras. They have no fear about their faces or cars being caught on camera because they know nothing will be done. They know they can rob and terrorize Palo Alto residents with impunity.

Please make public safety a priority so that our community of 100+ can live and sleep in peace, and so our children can play in our courtyard without fear.

Please provide police the resources they need to protect our residents.

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Name not available

January 17, 2022, 3:01 PM

City Priorities for 2022:

1) Affordable housing that can be accounted for as actually serving the community. ADU's are just a giveaway to landowners with no accountability for how the owners use the unit. With no rules, the units are likely rented at market rate, or not rented at all and just used by the owner as "in-law" units. The City should require all such units be rented BMR and track the rentals. The densification of structures on residential lots with additional cars parking on the streets just hurts everyone around the property.

2) Require timely (days, not years) enforcement of ALL City Codes and Ordinances, incl. limits for street parking, gas leaf blowers, cars parked on sidewalks, overgrown dilapidated properties, etc. The City has dropped the ball on enforcement, which is the only way to make ordinances effective! Our streets, neighborhoods, and quality of life suffer for lack of consequences for offenders.

3) Ban the sale of leaded fuel at Palo Alto Airport and any other city-based pumps!! HOW can we call ourselves a "Sustainable City" when we allow PA based planes to circle the Baylands spewing leaded fuel? Aviation proponents have too much power here, given their minority in this community. Aviation interests promised unleaded fuels were coming, and didn't deliver in the last 10 years! Take away the leaded Avgas pumps this year!

4) Terminate the leases to flight schools at PAO (PA Airport). Pilot training accounts for ~80% of operations at PAO as "touch and go" practice burns fuel and adds to Palo Alto's CO2 footprint. What a waste of energy! And why is The City budget supporting this boondoggle? Let hobby pilots keep the airport afloat, without City support. Or shut it down and let us enjoy the Baylands Preserve as a natural treasure.

Name not shown

in Charleston Terrace

January 17, 2022, 3:38 PM

Priority is crime, our mail and items are being stolen from our homes and cars broken into, crime is rampant and no one seems to think that it is priority.

Name not available

January 17, 2022, 3:55 PM

Please complete Cubberley Community Center and add housing to the top in order for it to fit into this year's priority: Housing for Social and Economic Balance: focus on affordable and workforce housing, funding, and achievable plans. David Moss 347 Ferne 94306

Name not available

January 17, 2022, 4:34 PM

Citywide municipal fiber to the premises (FTTP) (meaning all residences and businesses can have access).

Name not shown

outside Palo Alto

January 17, 2022, 6:09 PM

1) I would like to see the Council go back to the Priority they had in 2017: Healthy City, Healthy Community. There can't be a better time to work on a healthy city and healthy community! This priority could encompass a number of the other topics they now have as priorities.

2) Prioritize the well being of our youth, K-12th! There can't be a time in which our Youth need to be prioritized as now!! Look at any Data about our youth and you will know WE ALL NEED to prioritize our Youth!

Name not shown

in Professorville

January 17, 2022, 7:42 PM

Ban Gas Leaf Blowers
Affordable Housing Please!

Name not shown

January 17, 2022, 8:24 PM

Improve community safety and reduce crime rate
Increase police patrol
Do not use the city budge to promote cancel culture

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Name not available

January 17, 2022, 8:50 PM

Community safety. Crimes rates are going up in Bay Area. As local presidents I'm very concerned about our safety. First priority for my family and I are community safety.

Paul Goldstein

in University South

January 17, 2022, 9:13 PM

I believe that Council should focus on increasing the housing stock in Palo Alto. Affordable housing should be a priority, but we need to build more housing period. We should not be a community in which our teachers and workers cannot live. We should not be forcing people to commute (and pollute) to work here. Proving more housing for our workers will support efforts to reduce greenhouse emissions.

Name not shown

in Greenmeadow

January 17, 2022, 9:33 PM

Crime prevention - the City of Palo Alto and the Palo Alto Police Department continue to neglect the Altaire community by disregarding our complaints of multiple thefts in the past 2 years - escalating now more and more - thieves male and female come into the community with and without masks at all times of the day and steal our packages, break our lockboxes, break into our mailboxes and make off with their loot - this is unacceptable - please help us

Name not available

January 17, 2022, 9:57 PM

Crime Prevention should be a Palo Alto Priority

Yan Wang

in Charleston Terrace

January 17, 2022, 11:30 PM

Please address the increased crime in our neighborhood!

Felipe Fernandes Cordeiro de Moraes

in Evergreen Park

January 18, 2022, 8:24 AM

Response to the post-pandemic crime wave: recent data shows a significant increase in the crime rates after the COVID-19 pandemic (<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/Departments/Police/Public-Information-Portal/Crime-Statistics>). The Palo Alto City Council should define a strategy to deter the criminals to practice infractions in the city.

Increase the COVID-19 testing options for Palo Alto residents: the new stage of the pandemic requires testing for COVID-19 in several occasions. The population is struggling to find at-home test kits or options to schedule at testing sites. The City Council should discuss about providing more testing options to the Palo Alto population.

Housing for Social and Economic Balance: Access to safe, affordable housing

- 1 - Access to safe, affordable housing is an urgent issue.
 - a) 46% of Palo Alto's population are renters.
 - b) COVID-19 was an inflection point. It showed us all how important stable housing is, how vulnerable nearly half our population (renters) is, and how far behind our policies and programs are.
 - c) With state-wide renter protections like the eviction moratorium ending last month, renters in Palo Alto are facing harassment and evictions. Older renters and renters with disabilities are experiencing this the worst.
 - d) Families and long-time renters are being forced out and are unable to afford housing anywhere else.

2 - Palo Alto needs a data driven approach to housing and the Rental Survey Program (Rent Registry) will help make this possible.

- a) In 2018, housing and a rent registry were identified as priorities by Mayor Tom Dubois and Councilmember Lydia Kou but we haven't acted swiftly on them.
- b) The Rental Survey Program or Rent Registry is already on the books but just needs to be implemented
- c) It would assist other renter protection efforts because the city has almost no data on renters in Palo Alto.

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

- d) It would help us tailor our policies to Palo Alto and address specific, local needs.
- e) A rent registry can help us identify bad players and policy gaps
- f) It HELPS mom and pop landlords — educate them on their responsibilities and helps separate them from bad actors

3 - Other policies from the list

a) Expand Tenant Relocation Assistance

4 - The Bay area is extraordinarily expensive to live in and leaves low-income and middle income neighbors at high risk of homelessness. In Palo Alto, 80% of renters making less than \$75,000 per year are paying more rent than the federal standard. It's no surprise that 43% of people experiencing homelessness lost their home when they had a loss of income. The majority of them reported remaining unhoused because they couldn't find housing affordable to them. Homelessness is closer than we think for many in the Bay area and this is an opportunity to change that.

Name not shown

in University South

January 18, 2022, 8:51 AM

Easier, faster solar installs (permitting, inspection, etc).

Yingquan Wu

in Fairmeadow

January 18, 2022, 9:01 AM

Crime Prevention

Name not shown

in Charleston Terrace

January 18, 2022, 9:07 AM

Crime Prevention should be a Palo Alto Priority!

Name not available

January 18, 2022, 9:08 AM

Palo Alto MUST provide more housing that is affordable to

low-income renters to meet state standards.

Name not available

January 18, 2022, 9:41 AM

1. Support the Campaign Finance Reform. Neighboring cities have implemented effective measures to reduce the influence of money in politics and make elections clean and accessible to all who want to serve. I urge the city to adopt these reforms for the upcoming city election. Think not of self interest, but the best interest of our city by having a fair election process.

2. We have seen a surge in robberies, home break-ins and car break-ins in our city. People no longer feel safe. Please step up police enforcement to make our city safe. The effort in policing is not in conflict with the social reforms needed to address the root cause of the problem. We need both to keep down the crime.

Mickey Suen

in Midtown/ Midtown West

January 18, 2022, 9:48 AM

Sad to say I have little hope for the City Council to get the long over due need resolved for all the people of Palo Alto.

Palo Alto Zero Tolerance for gas leaf blowers with 100% Compliance.

Wouldn't that be some headline. It has been really nice not to have the gas blowers disturbing the peace during the shelter in place for a few weeks. How wonderful it is to get all the gardeners back to work, but unfortunately that comes with their gas leaf blowers. On my block, there are six houses on each side of the street and of these 12 homes, 9 use hired gardeners. All use gas blowers! When three of them arrive at the same time, I feel like I am in a war zone. Seems all the gardeners and homeowners have no regard for the law.

So this is NOT an article on complaining about gas blower since there have been many.

The headline reads "100% Compliance" ok, 99.9% because there will always be someone who demands to be different.

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

So how do we achieve 100% Compliance. It is costly for the City to add more enforcers and the police are overworked and frankly have more important things to do with their time.

This is a step by step plan on how we as a city can reach 100% compliance within 6 months. In this process, reduce and maybe even eliminate this job for the police department, generate new revenue for the city and create new jobs that cost the City nothing. I present this to the City of Palo Alto as a free idea.

1. Send out one notice with the utility bill stating the law on Gas Leaf Blowers with the statement that this is the education part of the ordinance and the only warning that each home will receive.
2. Setup a city website which can receive reports of violations with a place to input address of violation and 3 pictures of the violation. These pictures should have a time and date stamp. Following pictures are required, one of the gardener doing the blowing, one of the gardener's truck with license plate or company name on the truck, and one of the homeowner's street address. The person making the report name and address for the reward.
3. The city will fine both the homeowner and the gardener (X) dollars for the first violation, (2X) dollars for the second violation etc. Half of the fine will be kept by the City and half will be sent as a reward to the reporter. No more need to have a police officer spend their valuable time running down violators and we have just created new jobs for independent reporters.

Tim Persyn

in Midtown/ Midtown West
January 18, 2022, 10:40 AM

The city council must approve housing projects for all income levels to ensure Palo Alto is an affordable and inclusive community.

It should develop a city-wide strategy for increasing the number of Black and Latino residents in the city.

Cherrill Spencer

in Barron Park
January 18, 2022, 10:45 AM

Dear City Councillors

I have three priority requests.

#1 We hear that some of your staff are drafting an ordinance based on the UN Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), that is good news. Please make sure you put a discussion and vote on accepting their draft CEDAW ordinance on a council agenda when staff tell you it is ready.

#2 Some years ago the then Mayor [working alone] took our fine City OUT of the Mayors for Peace organization, we had been members since about 1985. We need to rejoin Mayors for Peace (find out more about this international effort to abolish nuclear weapons here:

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/>). Membership costs about \$25 per year.

My last request is what I and many others asked for last year:

#3 To increase access to truly affordable housing in Palo Alto and to expand tenant protections and supports. Examples would be, a Rental Survey or Rent Registry, funding for Renter Relocation, and most importantly : expanded eviction protections.

I see hardly any movement this past year on these vital housing issues, surely we can do better in 2022?

Thank you.

Cherrill Spencer, Palo Alto resident since 1974.

stephen levy

in University Park
January 18, 2022, 10:47 AM

Housing for all income groups

Reducing existing constraints to housing proposals and approval

Making PA a competitive city

Stuart Hansen

in Community Center
January 18, 2022, 11:09 AM

Please aggressively pursue how Palo Alto can REGAIN local control over threats to our SFR zoning life-style (SB-9) we worked a lifetime to obtain.

Sign-on to any petition to overturn SB-9 and aid the process of signature gathering. Thank you so much, Stuart and Carol Hansen

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Mary Jo Levy

in Midtown/ Midtown West
January 18, 2022, 11:22 AM

I support retaining the 2021 priorities and with emphasis in two add'l areas: restoration of Library & Community Services programs as able to pre-pandemic levels; and vigorous, noticeable efforts to move forward renovation of the dilapidated Cubberly site and the building of a real gym as proposed by the Parks & Rec. Commission.

Catherine Crystal Foster

in Community Center
January 18, 2022, 11:26 AM

I would like to see Palo Alto serve as a model for other cities in the way it includes a wide variety of residents, creates a vibrant and progress-oriented civic life, and executes on bold decisions about climate, housing, and transportation. My priorities are:

- 1) Ensuring that the city includes and sustains a robust variety of housing options (including a meaningful amount of affordable housing, housing for people with disabilities, and higher-density transit-oriented housing). This means taking leadership to ensure that housing other than very expensive single-family homes actually gets built.
- 2) Promoting climate resilience.
- 3) Resolving and taking action on the train crossing issue.
- 4) Passing local campaign finance reform, so that we limit the time candidates and electeds need to spend raising money (rather than talking to voters and addressing our city's issues), avoid undue influence from donors, increase voter trust in the system, and welcome a wider range of candidates to the field.

Stephanie Enos

in Barron Park
January 18, 2022, 11:28 AM

Do not let another year go by when local law is ignored and gradually becomes irrelevant. This is the shameful history of (not) banning gas leaf blowers that make life in certain neighborhoods feel like a war zone. There is much grand standing about climate change and the environment when at a stroke the Palo Alto city council could ensure that the ban was strictly observed, the law upheld and the air quality vastly improved. Not only would this restore some

degree of local control but Palo Alto residents would breathe much more easily! Adjust the original provision in the ban to warn and then fine property owners not the gardeners. Why bother to have a ban if it is not implemented. This is how trust in local government is undermined.

Name not shown

in Palo Verde
January 18, 2022, 11:28 AM

Please prioritize air quality in Palo Alto by ensuring our code is enforced and pollution is minimized. Recently, the air quality has been terrible due to a temperature inversion, trapping wood smoke, vehicle exhaust, and other particulate matter close to the ground. This has profound effects on the health of the population. For myself, I get headaches and cannot go outside when air quality is low.

One of the top (and easy) things we can do for air quality is to enforce the ban on gas powered leaf blowers. One hour of gas leaf blower usage generates as much pollution as driving a car 1000+ miles. It's unnecessary, it's illegal, and it's bad for all of us. It would also have the side benefit of reducing noise/stress in neighborhoods, particularly for the many people who are continuing to work from home.

While Palo Alto has many needs, few things are more basic than clean air for all of us to breathe -- please consider this, and the health of the community, in the coming year. Thank you.

Martin Kuhn

in Downtown North
January 18, 2022, 11:30 AM

Start executing a grade separation solution in 2022. This project while already a priority for the city needs to be 'shovel ready' as soon as practicable. Decision making appears extremely protracted and slow moving. City Council - Please make tough decisions and let's move forwards!

Name not available

January 18, 2022, 11:43 AM

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Please prioritize air quality in Palo Alto by ensuring our code is enforced and pollution is minimized. Recently, the air quality has been terrible due to a temperature inversion, trapping wood smoke, vehicle exhaust, and other particulate matter close to the ground. This has profound effects on the health of the population. For myself, I get headaches and cannot go outside when air quality is low.

One of the top (and easy) things we can do for air quality is to enforce the ban on gas powered leaf blowers. One hour of gas leaf blower usage generates as much pollution as driving a car 1000+ miles. It's unnecessary, it's illegal, and it's bad for all of us. It would also have the side benefit of reducing noise/stress in neighborhoods, particularly for the many people who are continuing to work from home.

While Palo Alto has many needs, few things are more basic than clean air for all of us to breathe -- please consider this, and the health of the community, in the coming year. Thank you.

Name not available

January 18, 2022, 11:47 AM

WE NEED SERVICE SECTOR HOUSING FOR OUR LOW-INCOME WORKERS. REZONE OR USE OFFICE SPACE, PARKING LOTS, FREY'S IS AN EXCELLENT PLACE, PARKING LOTS ON EL CAMINO AND PAGE MILL CENTER WHERE THERE IS MUCH PARKING, NOT ANY APARTMENTS (CINEARTS AREA) PROVIDE INCENTIVES AND ALSO BUILD SHLETERS FOR THE HOMELESS!!

Name not available

January 18, 2022, 11:49 AM

Please put focus on making Palo Alto's permitting process efficient and more user friendly. Background: Contractors state that, due to the difficulty of Palo Alto's permit process, they will not install solar in our city, although they'll do the same work in other cities along the peninsula. A Palo Alto Weekly article titled "Palo Alto Takes Heat Over Solar Permitting" by Gennady Sheyner, dated May 21, 2021, provides examples of what needs to be fixed. The permitting tie-ups are in substantial conflict with the city's goal of encouraging residents and businesses to electrify.

Name not shown

in Downtown North

January 18, 2022, 11:50 AM

Housing cost and affordability is still the number one issue in Palo Alto today. We are losing community, including long term residents, due to high housing costs. This year, 2022, Palo Alto City Council's #1 priority must be the creation of a Housing Element that meets regional requirements and state law. Our own county, through a Civil Grand Jury Report, has also called on our city to step up and put together a feasible housing plan that serves our current and future residents. If we don't act our county and our state will hold us accountable for our lack of action. Worst case the state may sue us or strip away our ability to act for ourselves. As a homeowner and taxpayer I do not want our city council to put us on a path to be sued - they is bad governance and fiscal negligence. That's why it is paramount that in 2022, this city council, current mayor and vice mayor must act responsibly to prioritize, not thwart, a legal, feasible, workable Housing Element and long-term housing plan that meets state law, addresses our county's concerns and serves our community as a whole.

Patrick Ye

in Old Palo Alto

January 18, 2022, 11:51 AM

continuing to make progress on Palo Alto's climate goals. we are running out of time, and forward thinking action items (e.g. simplifying the solar panel approval process, a timeline for phasing out city gas) will be critical

Name not available

January 18, 2022, 11:53 AM

I have lived on a "designated" Bicycle Boulevard (NOT Bryant) for many years. Park-Wilkie Bike Boulevard was in the Bike-Pedestrian Plan in both 2003 and 2012. Improvements to calm motor traffic were to be phase 2 of the Neighborhood Traffic and Safety Project (2017). Please put honest effort into improving safety on Wilkie Way for the many cyclists and pedestrians.

2022 City Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2022?

Bob Wenzlau

in Crescent Park

January 18, 2022, 11:59 AM

Council Priority Statement by Bob Wenzlau

Water Resources. Water is an integrated resource managed in multiple departments and silos. Water is a resource that has quality and quantity considerations. Water integrates to climate, hazard via flood, health and economy. The Utility Advisory Committee and Storm Water Commission touch water, but neither whole a One Water view. Council should consider charging the Storm Water commission with oversight of One Water.

Municipal Airport. The airport is a tipping point indicator to commitment on sustainability. Now a source of noise, lead, carbon and land use. The airport land is also an asset with land value of likely 1 billion dollars, yet yields no economic return. The airport serves a wealthy clique, not the community. As a source of housing, the airport lands could offer 3,000 mixed use housing, with parklands and commercial potential. Given the demand for housing, it is arrogant that our city does not explore this option. Santa Monica is a community that in the longterm has ceased their airport operations.

Climate and Drawdown. Participating in the SCAP working group, the rate of transition to achieving 80 percent reduction cannot happen via converting toward reduced emissions of carbon alone. There will be a lag in timing. To maintain our commitment, the City should embrace more investment in offsets so that we can achieve our climate goals consistent with the timing we have set.

Transportation by Bike. A shift to transportation by bike over automobile should be prioritize. A litmus test is the lack of safe biking along Embarcadero where sole preference is given to vehicle transport over bike. As bikes continue to be required to take the longer route, this represents the view that bikes are a secondary mode of transport that cannot be accommodated along the most direct routes.

Fate of Paper and Plastics. Our waste paper and plastics continue to be shipped to Southeast Asia. Council has not stopped this practice. Our climate calculations do not measure that these materials are reasonably burned or converted to carbon dioxide, and of course cause

incredible social harm. Council should not greenwash this adverse impact, and demand that this practice stop for Palo Alto's waste stream.

International Engagement. Council should maintain international as well as domestic engagement. I appreciate the unwavering support Council maintains to this engagement.

Ardan Michael Blum

in University Park

January 18, 2022, 11:59 AM

Dear City Councillors,

I would like to draw your attention to an area where there might be some considerable savings.

Since moving into my apartment in downtown, I have seen 3 times in 5 years the city's street painters re-do the "STOP" marking (painted) on the road. This seems odd. In other places I have lived, the paint used has been far less prone to vanishing.

It might be interesting to investigate what paint is being used!

Best regards,

Ardan Michael

From: [LaNell Mimmack](#)
To: [News](#)
Subject: 2020 City Council Priorities Question
Date: Saturday, January 15, 2022 6:30:16 PM

You don't often get email from lmimmack@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Why does my utility bill go up when my usage goes down?

From: [ivan kissiov](#)
To: [News](#)
Subject: 2020 City Council Priorities Question
Date: Friday, January 14, 2022 10:06:06 AM

You don't often get email from ikissiov@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Where do I find a summary of accomplished goals for the 2020 priorities:

- Housing, with special emphasis on affordability
- Sustainability, in the context of the changing climate
- Improving mobility for all

Thank you,
Ivan Kissiov
840 Altaire Walk, Palo Alto, CA 94303

From: [Gail Thompson](#)
To: [News](#)
Subject: 2020 City Council Priorities Question
Date: Friday, January 14, 2022 9:59:08 AM

You don't often get email from gail.thompson2018@outlook.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Thank you for the list of priorities and it is comprehensive. A question I have regarding housing are the number of homes that remain vacant for months/years. It seems to me that there could a time limit on how long homes can be vacant, especially those who bought them purely for a monetary investment. There are several such homes in my neighborhood.
Gail Thompson

From: [Nathan Szajenberg](#)
To: [News](#)
Subject: 2020 City Council Priorities Question
Date: Thursday, December 16, 2021 9:54:17 AM

You don't often get email from nmoshe@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Priority: Safety, safety, safety above all;

I had four thefts (totalling 8,000) from my yard and car port over ten days.

The police did nothing but take a report by computer.

The police wouldn't even reveal information on policing to Councilman Tanaka (unless he got the majority of city council to vote for this).

Now, we have gangs of smash and grab.

Make PA safe.

That's true social justice!

--

Nathan M. Szajenberg, MD

<http://szajenberg.com/>

Former Freud Professor, The Hebrew University

Training Analyst, IPA and Israel Psychoanalytic Societies

Member, San Francisco and Israel Psychoanalytic Societies

650-272-8555

3941 Duncan Place

Palo Alto, Ca. 94306

From: [Sharon Lee-Nakayama](#)
To: [News](#)
Cc: [Altaire Walk](#)
Subject: 2020 City Council Priorities Question
Date: Sunday, January 16, 2022 11:42:32 AM

You don't often get email from shrnleenakayama@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

To Palo Alto City Council:

I know that Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 12:00 noon is the deadline for submission of priorities . I want to let you know that I will be delivering a petition from Altaire Walk Townhouses (901 San Antonio Road) regarding our community concern on Crime in Palo Alto.....residential as well as commercial burglaries, violent and non-violent confrontations . We believe that your 4 announced priorities (Economic Recovery, Housing for Social and Economic Balance, Social Justice and Climate Change) are important; however, our immediate concerns dealing with increased Crime should also be addressed, as this directly affects Palo Alto residents and indirectly addresses your 4 priorities.

Thank you.

--

Sharon Lee-Nakayama
HOA Board
Altaire Walk Townhomes

From: [Steven D. Lee](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Cc: [Christina Schmidt Ptac](#); [Don Austin](#); [Mary Gloner](#); [PTA Council EVP](#); [PTAC Health and Wellness](#); [Shikada, Ed](#); [board@pausd.org](#); [supervisor.simitian@bos.sccgov.org](#)
Subject: 2022 City Council Priorities — PTAC Recommendation: Mental Health
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 9:34:23 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear City Council,

On behalf of the Palo Alto Council of PTAs (PTAC), we respectfully submit the attached letter in response to the City Council's request for public input related to 2022 City Council priorities.

We thank you in advance, and we hope you will consider, per our letter, making Mental Health in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, a 2022 City Council-level priority.

Yours in partnership,

Steven Lee
Vice President of Advocacy
Palo Alto Council of PTAs

PTAC Letter 2022 City Council...

--

Regards,

Steven Lee

From: pennyellson12@gmail.com
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: City Council 2022 Priorities
Date: Thursday, January 20, 2022 4:11:46 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Honorable City Council,

The City's Priorities survey has closed, so I am writing to share my thoughts on 2022 City Priorities.

I find myself wondering about the way we have set priorities in the past. Categories like: Housing, Land Use, Sustainability, Transportation, Economic Recovery have risen individually as priorities as though they are disconnected, though we know that they are not. I hope we will think about priorities differently this year, tying them together and focusing on more specific problems and projects that may require staff or financial resources.

With focus on housing infill, I think about availability of school capacity, community services, transportation, utilities in the areas of the city where this housing will be located. I think about leveraging the advantages of infill to move us toward sustainability which can only happen if we think comprehensively about coupling housing infill with transportation, utilities (especially water and electricity) and community facilities improvements. The things we want-- economic recovery, sustainability, more diverse and plentiful housing stock—are all tied to a healthy multi-modal transportation system, the circulation system that makes a city work.

Please prioritize:

Timely decision-making that moves us toward Multi-Modal Grade Separation

- The existing options already serve driver needs extremely well, but that's not so for foot-powered folks. Please make sure these plans are improved to integrate safe, comfortable facilities across Alma and the rails for people who walk and bike. These are school commute routes.
- Select concepts and move toward shovel readiness this year.

Tie Housing, Transportation and Community Services Together—Adapt the Housing Element to increase and diversify housing stock to enable planning and building housing that is well-supported within a comprehensive community context, providing multi-modal transportation facilities, community services and school capacity that is needed to serve added housing. Examples:

- Integrate the Wilkie/Park Bicycle Boulevard plans with Ventura development plans and move them forward together with a comprehensive plan for that area.
- If the city is serious about redeveloping portions of San Antonio Road and East Meadow Circle/Fabian Area with housing, then make sure that community services and school capacity are preserved and rebuilt on our last, large publicly owned parcel, Cubberley, to support that development in south Palo Alto with walkable, bikable schools and city services. These things must be linked.
- If the city is going to take a position on housing legislation, please insist that housing

mandates be accompanied by meaningful state funding for transportation, school capacity and community service improvements.

-
Economic Recovery—So many cuts. It is time to restore some staffing and fund projects to get things moving again. Move forward with hope (and good fiscal sense) as you continue to support efforts to free our community from the many restrictions this pandemic places on our lives. Example: OOT staff is down 23%. They were never overstaffed. Let's get that department back up to speed. FYI...Work on the Bicycle & Pedestrian Transportation Plan Update, which was supposed to start last summer, and has not started yet because we need a Senior Planner to drive it.

Thanks for listening...and for all you do.

Penny Ellson



Virus-free. www.avg.com

From: [susan chamberlain](#)
To: [Pat Burt](#); [Council, City](#)
Subject: City Council Priorities
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:57:36 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear Mayor Burt and City Council Members,

350 SV PA Climate Team is pleased to see the initiation of the Ad Hoc Committee on the S/CAP and hope that meaningful programs will emerge as the climate crisis is getting more dire every year.

While the Council has made climate change, protection and adaptation a priority for the last 2 years, we haven't moved the needle anywhere near enough given the severity of the crisis. **350 SV Palo Alto Team encourages the Council to continue to make Climate Change a TOP priority for 2022.**

While the S/CAP delineates important initiatives in a broad set of important areas, we feel the Council and Staff need to prioritize and focus on a few things that will dramatically reduce our GHGs — namely building electrification and transportation. We need to move the needle in these two biggest pieces of our emissions inventory immediately to get us anywhere near to our 80x30 goal. We also need to have annual goals and benchmarks so we can track our progress.

We're all experiencing the effects of climate change now — even sooner than most scientists predicted. Smoke, fire, drought, sea level rise and heat waves are becoming the norm, and the longer we wait to fund and put programs in place, the harder (and more expensive) it will be as 2030 is less than 8 years away.

The Governor's proposed budget for the coming fiscal year reflects his deep understanding of the crisis we're facing, and we implore you to act with the same courage and tenacity to promote a healthy and safe world for our children and grandchildren.

Please "Look Up" and lead us into a habitable future.

Respectfully,
Susan Chamberlain for
350 SV PA City Climate Team

From: [Matthew Lennig](#)
To: [News](#)
Subject: City Council priorities
Date: Thursday, December 16, 2021 11:43:58 AM

You don't often get email from matt@lennig.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

I just read the list of priorities of Palo Alto City Council. Why is quality of life in Palo Alto not a priority? I see economic recovery made the list. Does City Council prioritize retail merchants's businesses over the quality of life of residents?

Matthew Lennig
Palo Alto

From: [Sharon Lee-Nakayama](#)
To: [News](#)
Subject: Priority Concern from Altaire Walk
Date: Monday, January 17, 2022 10:27:22 PM

You don't often get email from shrnleenakayama@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

This is a petition signed by 107 residents from Altaire Walk concerning Crime Prevention as a Palo Alto priority.



Palo Altans for Sensible Zoning

February 1, 2022

PRIORITIES: LOCAL GOVERNMENT MATTERS

Council's priority for 2022 should be to maintain the quality of life while maintaining the innovative spirit that has made Palo Alto unique.

Over the past several decades, there has been a dramatic economic threat emerging from the concentration of business activity in the City. Palo Alto has the highest concentration of workers to employed residents of just about any city in the country. This makes housing and office prices and measures of income inequality among the highest in the country and the fastest growing. This places substantial burdens on local government expenses while the business contribution to local government is inordinately low.

What Council priorities can deal with these very real threats?

- Place a clear priority for housing over office space. Target a strict limit on new office space and foster the growth of affordable housing. Publish regular updates that track the reduction in the current 3:1 ratio of workers to employed residents.
- But businesses that employ three times the number of city employed residents contribute only about one-third of local government revenues. Businesses must contribute substantially more to local government expenditures for such things as affordable housing and vital services like transportation, emergency services and schools!
- Open negotiations with Stanford on contributions to local governments and school needs. The Stanford Endowment grew from \$29 billion to \$42 billion in the last year while the value of their properties exempt from local taxes grew as well. Look at other cities with large tax exempt private colleges. New Haven just negotiated with Yale and the state to increase annual contributions to the city by some \$60 million a year to cover the costs for local services from tax-exempt properties.

Palo Alto can and should be a model for other cities at building affordable housing and working toward retaining a balanced community with fair financial contributions from all.

Palo Altans for Sensible Zoning
PO Box 305, Palo Alto, CA 94302
<http://sensiblezoning.org>

Palo Altans for Sensible Zoning

Contact:

Greg Schmid
gregschmid@sbcglobal.net



City of Palo Alto

City Council Staff Report

(ID # 13996)

Meeting Date: 2/5/2022

Title: Discussion and Possible Revision to the City Council Procedures and Protocols Handbook and 2022 Standing Committee Topics

From: City Manager

Lead Department: City Manager

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City Council discuss and possibly propose revisions to the Council Procedures and Protocols Handbook and the 2022 Standing Committee Topics.

Background

Policy and Services Committee considered review of the [City Council Procedures and Protocols Handbook](#) at their December 14, 2021 meeting ([CMR #13744](#); packet page 23). No changes were suggested at that time. Staff and a consultant are in the process of implementing the City Council's August 2021 ([CMR #13446](#); [Minutes](#)) directive to reorganize the City Council Procedures and Protocols Handbook to be more user friendly for the City Council and the public. This recommendation came from the Policy and Services Committee in June 2021 ([CMR #12341](#); [Minutes](#)) and the City Council approved it in August 2021.

Attachments A and B include the tentative topics and regularly scheduled work that the City Council Standing Committees of Policy and Services and Finance expect for 2022. The tentative workplans or calendars were created knowing that there will be referrals and other topics that arise. These calendars were shared with the newly assigned Committee Chairs for 2022.

Discussion

The Municipal Code provides that the City Council should adopt "a handbook of procedural rules governing any aspect of the conduct of meetings and hearings for the Council and its standing committees, including but not limited to agenda requirements, the order of business, rules of order, rules of evidence, closed session procedures and rules for public participation in meetings" (PAMC section 2.04.100). The City Council adopted the first version of the City Council Procedures and Protocols Handbook in the early 2000s.

The Handbook calls on the City Council to review its procedural rules and protocols annually. (CPP, Protocols Section 3.1, page 34). This is typically done at the City Council's January/February retreat. The Handbook has been amended numerous times over the years

with updates to particular sections, though the core of the document has remained largely unchanged for over 20 years. Most recently, the City Council adopted a set of changes on February 1, 2020 ([CMR #11036](#); [Minutes](#)), during the annual City Council Retreat, with approval following a referral to Policy and Services.

Since the August 2021 City Council action to procure a consultant to reorganize the handbook, staff has been working with the consultant on this task. The work includes reorganizing the handbook to improve clarity and ease of use for the public, City Council and staff. In addition, obsolete language will be removed or updated to reflect current practices. The revision is intended to be non-substantive. A mark-up will be prepared to show and explain changes and updates. It is anticipated staff will bring a draft to review to the Policy and Services Committee before the end of the current fiscal year. Thereafter, the draft will come to City Council for approval.

While the reorganization work is proceeding, City Council may, if it so desires, identify substantive changes it would like to make to the handbook and the policies and practices the handbook contains. At the retreat, the City Council could identify areas for new or revised policies and direct staff to return to Policy and Services for review and City Council for adoption, potentially in conjunction with the reorganized draft. In the alternative, City Council could hold off on additional changes pending review of the reorganized draft in the second part of the year.

Work Plan Calendars for Finance Committee and Policy and Services Committee

Standing Committees Per the CPP, Section 2 – Council Meeting & Agenda Guidelines, Subsection 2.4, Letter Y (page 23):

The purpose and intent of committee meetings is to provide for more thorough and detailed discussion and study of prospective or current Council agenda items with a full and complete airing of all sentiments and expressions of opinion on city problems by both the Council and the public, to the end that Council action will be expedited. Actions of the committee shall be advisory recommendations only.

Referrals for discussion and action at the committee level are referred to Standing Committees by Council action or City Manager (staff) and are made to only one committee (CPP, page 24). The tentative schedules include regularly scheduled work, such as audit updates and budget-related reports, as well as any items that have been previously referred, with the date of the referral. These schedules were shared with the new Chairs, as appointed by the Mayor for 2022.

Timeline, Resource Impact, Policy Implications

There is no resource impact identified at this time. Depending on the nature and extent of revisions sought, direction to revise the CPP or add standing committee topics could involve substantial staff resources.

Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder Engagement Policy and Services Committee discussed the CPP at their regular meeting of December 14, 2021, and June 8, 2021. City Council recommended a full reorganization to the handbook on August 30, 2021. Staff continues to work with a consultant on that and will bring the draft document to the Policy and Services Committee for review.

Environmental Review

This is not considered a project and no environmental review is required.

Attachments:

- **Attachment2.a:** Attachment A: Policy and Services Tentative Topics Calendar-2022
- **Attachment2.b:** Attachment B: Finance Committee Tentative Calendar Topics 2022



POLICY & SERVICES TENTATIVE TOPICS CALENDAR 2022

January

- Mayor appoints Committee and designates Chair; usually no P&S meeting

February

- Update: Summary of Recent Race and Equity Work since September 2021 including update on RMS Contract for Police Data Collection

March *(some items will likely move to another agenda)*

- Auditor: Risk Assessment and Audit Plan
- Auditor: Quarterly Report – December 31, 2021
- Auditor: Economic Recovery Advisory
- Auditor: Non-profit Agreement Management
- Auditor: SAP Report

April

- Quarterly Audit Status Report (Jan-March)
- Procedures & Protocols – referral from Retreat to discuss proposed edits
- Update: Summary of Recent Race and Equity Work since February including update on RMS Police Data Collection (short update)
- Council Referral from Nov. 29, 2021: Renter Protections: Bring back to P&S [a] proposal and discussion on expanding anti-gouging measure to address loopholes

May

- Discussion of Community Survey (date is TBD but it will be in 2022)
- Referral from 2021: Council referral – Affordable Housing Funding (from August 16, 2021 Council Meeting)
- Council Referral from Nov. 29, 2021: Renter Protections: Staff to go to P&S with updated language in ordinance for a renter survey and estimates on effort to enforce it for P&S discussion
- Informational: Brief Legislative Update

June

- Audit Report – TBD
- Council Referral from Nov. 29, 2021: Renter Protections: Fair chance ordinance to be reviewed by P&S for analysis on consequences/unintended consequences
- Continued Item from November 2021: City Council Referral: Policy and Services Committee to Recommend Strategies to Support and Strengthen Neighborhood Programs, Identify Gaps in Existing Neighborhood-based Services, and Evaluate new Strategies as Proposed in the Colleagues' Memo Regarding a Proposed Program for Neighbor Connection
- Procedures & Protocols follow up discussion if needed

July

No meeting; Council break

August

- Quarterly Audit Status Report (April-June)
- Quarterly Race and Equity Update: Summary of Recent Race and Equity Work including update on RMS Police Data Collection

September

- Update: Summary of Recent Race and Equity Work since including update on RMS Contract for Police Data Collection
- Legislative Recap (what passed/didn't pass)

October

- Quarterly Audit Status Report (July-Sept)
- Audit Report – TBD

November

- Legislative Agenda and Guidelines (can also go in December)
- Informational: Report out on Status of Committee Referrals

December

- Update: Summary of Recent Race and Equity Work since including update on RMS Contract for Police Data Collection
- 2023 City Council Priorities Discussion

Completed Referrals (status and date of referral):

1. COMPLETED: Review sworn versus non-sworn staffing for cost savings/enhanced services/increased revenues. Finance Committee reviewed Fire services on November 2, 2021. Policy & Services have reviewed and continue to implement new alternative service delivery models, including creation of the PERT Program, grant to the Federal Government (earmark

process) for a CAHOOTS-type program, and staff working with Santa Clara County to implement the new TRUST community mobile response program.

2. COMPLETED: Police reform legislative priority thoughts and input to the Policy and Services Committee who will be discussing the City's legislative priorities in December 2020 (Nov. 16, 2020):
3. COMPLETED: Refer all race and equity work to the Policy and Services Committee for citywide diversity and inclusion practice areas and policing practice areas (Nov. 16, 2020)
4. COMPLETED: Policy and Services CEDAW recommendation: Direct Staff to proceed with a community summit on gender equity issues and next steps in Palo Alto (Nov. 16, 2020)
5. COMPLETED: If the County does not assign a resource to Palo Alto in the next six months, refer to Policy and Services Committee the exploration of the feasibility of a CAHOOTS-type program (Nov. 16, 2020; no action needed unless County does not assign a resource by May 16, 2021)
6. COMPLETED: Refer to the Policy and Services Committee consideration of the Independent Police Auditor (IPA) oversight of internal complaints regarding misconduct related to harassment, discrimination, or retaliation resulting in city investigation of uniformed officers (Nov. 16, 2020)
7. COMPLETED: City Council Referral Re Mid-Year Budget: Direct the Policy and Services Committee to review a rent forgiveness program for qualified City tenants with program costs not-to-exceed the \$744,000 COVID-19 Council reserve (March 1, 2021 referral)
8. All referrals from the January 2021 retreat have been fulfilled as well.

ATTACHMENT B



FINANCE COMMITTEE TENTATIVE TOPICS CALENDAR 2022

January

- Mayor appoints Committee and designates Chair; usually no FC meeting
- Review Potential Local Ballot Measures (January 18, 2022)

February

- Preliminary Utility Rate Forecasts

March

- Downtown Business Improvement District and Business Registry Certificate Program Review
- Committee Report and Feedback on Potential Local Ballot Measures (stakeholder engagement, analysis, and polling) [tentative]

April

- Grant Funding Allocations (CDBG) and the Draft Fiscal Year XXXX Annual Plan
- Utilities Advisory Commission Rate Forecast and Financial Plan: Water
- Utilities Advisory Commission Rate Forecasts and Financial Plan: Wastewater
- Rate Schedule Storm Water Management Fee

May

- Annual Budget Review: Operating + Capital Five Year Plan (typically 24+ hours, 3 all day meetings)
- Fiscal Year XXXX Municipal Fee Schedule
- Retiree Healthcare Plan and Annual Actuarially Determined Contributions (ADC)- Biannual report, last done May 2020 (FY2021 and 2022 contributions), next scheduled May 2022
- Utilities Advisory Commission Rate Forecasts and Financial Plan: Gas
- Utilities Advisory Commission Rate Forecasts and Financial Plan: Electric

June

- Third Quarter Fiscal Year XXXX Financial Report
- Adoption of Fiscal Year XXXX Investment Policy (to be done by June 30 per code)
- Report or item on the JMZ six months after it opens and what it would look like to eliminate the General Fund Subsidy through a fully cost recoverable program. Referred June 2020. [tentative]

July

No meeting; Council Break

August**September/October**

- Accept California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) Pension Annual Valuation Reports as of June 30, 20XX
 - Every 3-year review/decision on pension funding policy assumptions next review scheduled for FY 2024.
- Evaluation of Printing & Mailing Services levels and service delivery. Referred May 2019.

November

- Discussion and Recommendation to the City Council to Accept the Macias Gini & O'Connell's Audit of the City of Palo Alto's Financial Statements as of June 30, XXXX and Management Letter
- Discussion and Recommendation to Approve the Fiscal Year (FY) XXXX Comprehensive Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and Approve Budget Amendments in Various Funds

December

- Review and Forward the FY 20XX - FY 20XX Long Range Financial Forecast
- First Quarter Fiscal Year XXXX Financial Report
- Informational: Report out on Status of Committee Referrals

Completed Referred Topics:

A full report on the status of Finance Committee referrals and the status can be found [here](#), Item 3 on the November 30, 2021 agenda.

- 1) COMPLETED: FY 2021 Budget: Direct Staff to return by the end of October with preliminary Q1 financial results so that the Council can consider budget amendments. Referred in June 2021, Reviewed October 25, 2021.
- 2) COMPLETED: FY2021 Direct the Finance Committee to have an additional review of Public Safety long-term financial trends, beginning with the Fire Department, and concurrent with the September review of pensions. Referred on February 2, 2021, Reviewed on November 2, 2021.
- 3) COMPLETED: CY2019 Fiscal Sustainability Workplan: Improvement of code enforcement, 311 system, and customer relationship management activities. Referred April 2019, system redundancies eradicated March 2020.

- 4) COMPLETED: Refer to the Finance Committee, a proposal to consider affordable housing funding. Referred February 2020, revised January 2021 (Council), June 2021 (Committee), and September 2021 (Council). Referred to Policy & Services.
- 5) COMPLETED: Stanford University Medical Fund. Referred January 30, 2021, Reviewed May 4, 2021.
- 6) COMPLETED: Review sworn versus non-sworn staffing for cost savings/enhanced services/increased revenues. Referred May 2016. Referred to Policy & Services.