

CITY OF PALO ALTO
CITY COUNCIL
Special Meeting
Monday, March 04, 2024
Council Chambers & Hybrid
5:30 PM

### Agenda Item

8. Approval of the 2024 City Council Priority Objectives and Finance Committee and Policy & Services Committee Workplans *Presentation, Public Comments* 



### **City Council Staff Report**

From: City Manager Report Type: ACTION ITEMS Lead Department: City Manager

Meeting Date: March 4, 2024

Report #:2401-2520

#### TITLE

Approval of the 2024 City Council Priority Objectives and Finance Committee and Policy & Services Committee Workplans

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Approve the 2024 City Council Priority Objectives, and workplans for Finance Committee and Policy & Services Committee.

#### **BACKGROUND**

On January 29, 2024<sup>1</sup>, the Council held its annual retreat to approve the 2024 Council Priorities. The Council Handbook<sup>2</sup> defines a priority as a topic that will receive unusual ad significant attention during the year. With only minor edits, the Council voted to keep the existing Priorities for another year, they include:

- Economic Development and Transition
- Climate Change and the Natural Environment: Protection and Adaptation
- Housing for Social and Economic Balance
- Community Health, Safety, Wellness and Belonging

Each Council Priority area encompasses a set of specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART) Objectives. These Objectives primarily consist of Council actions and engagement required throughout the calendar year to further the adopted priorities. Council engagement may include a variety of forms, such as Council approval, committee/council ad hoc review and recommendations, legislative advocacy, regional board/committee

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> City Council Retreat, 1/29/2024:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> City Council Handbook: <a href="https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/v/1/city-clerk/city-charterprocedures/2023-adopted-council-protocols-and-procedures-manual-5.2023.pdf">https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/v/1/city-clerk/city-charterprocedures/2023-adopted-council-protocols-and-procedures-manual-5.2023.pdf</a>

representation, and budgetary actions. Using 2023 Priority Objectives as a baseline, staff has evaluated and included a proposed list for Council consideration in 2024.

In addition to Priority Objectives, Council evaluates progress on topics and issues of interest through the approval of Committee Workplans. Finance Committee and Policy & Services Committee Workplans are also included for Council consideration and approval.

### **ANALYSIS**

The 2024 Council Proposed Priority Objectives list is ambitious with a total of 75 Objectives. This can be compared to the 72 objectives approved by the Council in calendar year 2023. During its annual retreat, Council reflected on 2023 accomplishments and expressed appreciation for progress made and overall advancement in each priority area, though also acknowledged the actual rate of completion in 2023 was approximately 50% and approximately 70% were completed or on-track. The proposed 2024 workplan reflects alignment with prior Council direction, the identified priorities, and regulatory requirements. Staff have estimated that several objectives will require additional resources to complete as outlined. Allocation of additional funding is not always a complete solution to overcome obstacles for completion. Timelines to procure consultant support, or the process to recruit, onboard, and train new staff delay the City's ability to begin or maintain the pace of work on these projects, especially within the 2024 calendar year timeframe outlined, of which the first 2 months have passed.

Attachment A is the summary of 2024 Objectives. It includes new Objectives and 2023 objectives carried over that were not completed for consideration. The table is organized with the following information:

- Revised/New- Revised Objectives (R) refer to those not completed in 2023 and may have been revised to reflect 2024 goals. These will include the previous number/letter as identified on the 2023 workplan in parentheses. New Objectives (N) reflects an action or project that is new to 2024 and was not on the 2023 workplan.
- **Objective Description** Summarizes the activity to be accomplished in calendar year 2024, with more detail to follow in the Objective narrative.
- **Estimated Completion** Reflects the 2024 calendar quarter in which the Objective is estimated to be completed. Q1 is January-March, Q2 is April-June, Q3 is July-September, and Q4 is October-December.
- **Council Priority Crossover** Identifies which Council Priorities the Objective supports, as some could fit in several Priority areas.
- **Funding Needed** Reflects a project that requires additional resources (staffing, capital investment, or professional services) to achieve and complete the activity beyond current budgeted levels. '\$' is up to 50K, '\$\$' is 51-400K, '\$\$\$' is 500K+

A few 2023 Objectives were dropped from the list and are outlined below. Some have been replaced by alternative Objectives that better align with Council priorities.

- Align Business Improvement District (BID) priorities and investments to the Comprehensive ED Strategy (g). Discussion of the Downtown Business Improvement District is expected to continue in the discussions with the economic development priorities, but we do not expect this work to mature sufficiently in 2024 to allow realignment of BID priorities and investments to occur this calendar year.
- Approve operations and maintenance agreements with Valley Water purified water facility at LATP Area B (y)
- Create new affordable housing opportunities through funding such as a housing land trust, in particular, CalCHA (gg)
- Explore opportunities to regulate short-term rentals with Council committee (hh)
- Respond to various Grand Jury recommendations related to Housing (HSEB 6, 17, 24)
   (kk)
- Develop a citywide strategy to connect unhoused residents to housing and services (qq).
   This is replaced by a gap analysis that would identify any areas that the City could feasibly work towards within our own abilities.

Council may decide to add these objectives back to the 2024 Proposed Council priorities, after discussing and conferring with staff regarding their urgency and consideration of an attainable expectations for the 2024 objectives in full.

### **Finance and Policy & Services Standing Committee Workplans**

Attachment B and C reflect the current draft workplans for the two City Council standing committees that meet monthly, Finance Committee and Policy & Services Committee. These workplans reflect annual agenda items and current referrals from Council. Staff expects that as work progresses on the 2024 objectives, some objectives will use these committees for review and feedback and will be added throughout the year as appropriate to ensure continued progress on the objectives. Council can identify if any referrals are missing from the list in the workplan attachments.

### FISCAL/RESOURCE IMPACT

Council approval of Priority Objectives does not have an immediate fiscal impact; however, resources will need to be allocated to non-resourced projects to implement Council Priorities. Opportunities to resource projects include the FY 2025 annual budget process, with adoption scheduled for June 2024. In addition, Council may amend the budget in alignment with the municipal code regulation at its normal Council meetings throughout the year.

#### STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Council, community and stakeholder engagement is a key area of focus that is woven into the workplans to implement the proposed Council objectives contained in this report. Should the Council revise or add to the proposed objectives list, staff will develop engagement plans to

support each project. Attachment D includes examples of the various community engagement strategies used to advance the Council Priorities and Objectives.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

Council action on this item is not a project as defined by CEQA because the Council discussion on 2024 Priority Objectives is a continuing administrative or maintenance activity. CEQA Guidelines section 15378 (b)(2).

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A: 2024 Proposed Council Priority Objectives

Attachment B: Finance Committee 2024 Tentative Topics

Attachment C: Policy & Services Committee 2024 Tentative Topics

Attachment D: Community Engagement Strategies

### **APPROVED BY:**

Ed Shikada, City Manager

2024 Proposed City Council Priorities and Objectives Crossover CHS ED CC& HS& W&
Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 &T NE EB B Objective Economic Development & Transition (ED&T) Focus on Commercial Corridors, Downtown and California Ave

N facilitate the establishment of sustainable business organization in the Cal Ave, DT, and Midtown districts х х Engage Cal Ave merchants on high priority, rapid implementation projects, i.e. barrier replacement, street cleaning, maintenance, access, signage and outdoor dining N \$\$ Develop permanent Cal Ave car-free steetscape design through engagement with Cal Ave merchants and community stakeholders (h) N Initiate preliminary analysis and stakeholder engagement on a car-free streetscape design for Ramona Street x x \$\$ Develop pre-approved parklet designs with stakeholder outreach, for Council approval x x Implement ongoing parklet program in compliance with adopted parklet standards, leveraging pre-approved designs (e) Advance Downtown Parking garage in conjunction with advancement of affordable housing in the Downtown Advance complete build out of fiber pilot phase 1 with grid modernization х х Support Economic Development and Business Transition Establish regular engagement with retail brokers in the area to create stronger connections and understand how the City may be able to help promote available spaces Research and evaluate options for implementing a public-private small and local business and incubation and vacant storefront program connecting landlords experiencing N vacancy with small and local-businesses that may be seeking brick and mortar spaces Conduct business stakeholder outreach and present to Council recommendations for a citywide retail zoning strategy and receive direction for zoning ordi R x implementation (k) CLIMATE CHANGE & THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT: PROTECTION & ADAPTATION (CC&NE) Climate Change Protection

R Deploy 65,000 residential Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) meters by end of 2024 (I) Conduct community engagement and data collection and analysis to develop a Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Safety Action Plan for Council approval in 2024 N х х х Continue community engagement efforts to inform the update and receive Council feedback on the 2025 Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan (BPTP) characteristics in preparation for next steps including environmental review and adoption in 2025 (m)

Complete initial pilot area of electric grid modernization (p) х Compile tritial pind area of electric grid modernization (p) including community outreach and policy discussions Cinitiate development of a model to transition gas utility including community outreach and policy discussions Continue to improve the Advanced Heat Pump Water Heater Pilot Program in preparation for a full-scale program (q) Adopt a residential whole home electrification pilot program (r) х х Refine existing HVAC pilot program to encourage participation as a next step toward a 2025 Council approved commercial rooftop HVAC electrification advanced pilot program(s) х Develop and approve an Electric Vehicle Strategic Plan (t) Develop an EV Replacement Program for the City Fleet
Develop and initiate implementation of a Reliability and Resiliency Strategic Plan (u) х х x Develop draft S/CAP funding study with Council input (v) х Evaluate and report out Palo Alto Link pilot performance and consider continuation and/or expansion of future services Begin community engagement to consider parking policy updates that enhance customer satisfaction, improve program sustainability, and aligns with S/CAP mobility goals Amend local building regulations to establish a "one Margin" energy efficiency standard, to allow installation of natural gas plumbing while imposing more stringent energy efficiency and all-electric readiness requirements to all new buildings Ν Initiate the 2026 California Building Standards Code update, including the California Green Building Standards Code Complete community engagement for the Airport's Long-Range Facilities & Sustainability Plan in accordance with Federal requirements and hold a study session with Council on the draft plan N Council selection of a locally preferred alternatives for City Rail/Grade Separation project at Churchill Avenue, Meadow Drive, and Charleston Rd. Climate Change Adaptation: Flood Protection

R Advocate for the San Francisquito Creek Flood Protection capital project (Reach 2) through Council's JPA representation and any Council approvals involved (w)

Complete design and right-of-way acquisition, obtain regulatory permits, finalize project funding needs including potential Council advocacy with State legislators, and approve construction contract for the Newell Road Bridge Replacement project (x) Coordinate with Federal and regional partners on a path forward exploring the development of a Sea Level Rise Adaptation Plan (5) **Natural Environment** Approve stream/creek corridor setback ordinance (4)
Approve a bird safe glass and wildlife light pollution protections ordinance (6) HOUSING FOR SOCIAL & ECONOMIC BALANCE (HS&EB) Approve project funding and a consultant contract to develop and identify housing opportunity sites through the Do ((dd)) Submit a compliant Housing Element to the state department of Housing and Community Development (ee)
Approve final North Ventura Coordinated Area Plan (NVCAP) (ff)
Receive Cal Poly San Luis Obispo student-led concept plan for San Antonio Corridor х х х N e consultant contract to initiate a Specific Plan for San Antonio Road Corridor including project goals and outcomes (8) nt Housing Production Policies Initiate a review and make recommendations for a possible extension of the Housing Focus area to other geographic locations along El Camino Real Consider funding affordable housing related projects based on responses to a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)

Approve a consultant contract to assess housing development impact fees for the conversion from a per unit to per square foot basis х \$\$ Refine implementation of City's SB9 objective development and urban lot split standards (HSEB 14) (II) Х x Adopt an ordinance that implements Housing Element Program 3.4 related to the housing incentive progr Amend the municipal fee schedule and prepare economic feasibility analysis that implements Housing Ele ent Program 3.1 related to fee waivers and adju х Initiate a study implementing Housing Element Program 6.5 related to alternative housing types
Adopt an ordinance implementing various Housing Element Programs
Initiate analysis to amend the zoning code to implement Housing Element Program 3.9 related to commercial floor area х Support Unhoused Service Initiatives Partner with Santa Clara County Housing Authority to achieve 2024 milestones on construction timeline for Palo Alto Homekey project to provide transitional housing and R services for unhoused residents (pp)

Conduct a gap analysis of housing and services for the unhoused in Palo Alto, considering Council direction, City activities and work, and County activities and work х х Initiate research to understand Palo Alto unhoused population and explore feasibility of expanding safe parking options on Geng Road. Council discussion of possible ordinance related to fair chance renter policy N Council discussion of possible anti-rent gouging policy х х х nalize development plan to maintain affordability and improve conditions at Buena Vista Mobile Park

R	Approve a service contract to initiate Renter Registry implementation (cc)			х				x	x	
	COMMUNITY HEALTH, SAFETY, WELLNESS & BELONGING (CHSW&B)									
Mental & Physical Health and Belonging										
R	Complete reopening of libraries to budgeted level (rr)				х				x	
R	Approval of multi-year agreement for provisions of animal shelter services (ss)	x							×	
R	Develop a workplan to enhance community special events with focus on inclusion (tt)		х			x			x	
R	Reach a tentative agreement with PAUSD on long term use of the Cubberley property (uu)		х						х	
R	Evaluate Recreation Wellness Center Feasibility (vv)		x						×	
R	Evaluate HSRAP funding allocation as a percent (%) of the General Fund (11)		х						х	
R	Facilitate a location for La Comida in North Palo Alto (12)	х							x	
R	Increase support and funding for youth mental health (13)		x						х	
N	Complete Trusted Response Urgent Support Team (TRUST) Augmentation pilot and evaluate the effort				х				x	
Invest in R	eliable Safety Infrastructure and Systems									
R	Support visible police presence by ensuring stable staffing (recruiting and retention) through hiring ahead program (ww)				x				х	
N	Initiate upgrade of Police Department field based video hardware				х				x	\$\$\$
R	Approve vendor selection for 911 dispatch system (CAD provider) (yy)			x					х	
R	Approve updated Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and Community Wildfire Protection Plan (aaa)			х			х		х	
R	Update Foothills Fire Management Plan (bbb)				х		х		x	
R	Complete construction of the new Public Safety Building including department move-in (ccc)			x					×	
R	Council award of a construction contract for Fire Station No. 4 Replacement (ddd)				х				х	
R	Approve consulting contract to initiate work, including stakeholder engagement, related to the Seismic and Resiliency Ordinance (eee)				х			x	x	
Reduction	of Noise and Air Quality Pollution								×	
N	Initiate work to conduct a Quiet Zone study at Churchill Ave, Meadow Drive, and Charleston Rd and begin initial analysis and regional stakeholder outreach.	х							х	
R	Implement strategies for promoting unleaded fuel and phasing out leaded fuel (ggg)				х				x	
R	Continue engagement with San Francisco Airport on SFO's Ground Based Augmentation System (GBAS) project and other potential opportunities to decrease SFO noise									
R	impacts on Palo Alto (iii)				х		х	х	х	
Total	75 Objectives									



## FINANCE COMMITTEE TENTATIVE TOPICS CALENDAR 2024

As of February 22, 2023

See the end of the document for information on the completed 2023 referrals as well as the outstanding and on hold referrals to date.

### January

Mayor appoints Committee and designates Chair; usually no FC meeting

### **February**

 Preliminary Review of Utilities Advisory Commission Rate Forecasts and Financial Plans: Gas, Electric, Water, Wastewater Collection

#### March

 Council Referral: Allocation of General Fund for Human Services Resource Allocation Process (HSRAP) [tentative]

### April

- Utilities Advisory Commission Rate Forecasts and Financial Plans: Gas, Electric, Water,
   Wastewater Collection
- Rate Schedule Storm Water Management Fee
- Council Referral: Junior Museum & Zoo (JMZ) organizational review and pricing changes [tentative]

#### May

- Annual Budget Review: Operating + Capital Five Year Plan
  - Daytime meetings, tentative schedule 5/7, 5/8, and 5/21 or 5/28
- Fiscal Year 2024 Municipal Fee Schedule
- Retiree Healthcare Plan and Annual Actuarially Determined Contributions (ADC)- Biannual report

#### June

- Third Quarter Fiscal Year 2024 Financial Report
- Adoption of Fiscal Year 2024 Investment Policy (to be done by June 30 per code)

### July

No meeting; Council Break

### August

### September

- Accept California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) Pension Annual Valuation Reports as of June 30, 2023
  - Every 3-4-year review/decision on pension funding policy assumptions next review scheduled for FY 2026.

#### October

Planning and Development Services Fee Study [tentative]

#### **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, 2024 and Management Letter
- Discussion and Recommendation to Approve the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Comprehensive Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and Approve Budget Amendments in Various Funds

### December

- Review and Forward the FY 2026 FY 2035 Long Range Financial Forecast
- First Quarter Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Report
- Informational: Report out on Status of Committee Referrals

### **Referred Topics:**

A full report on the status of Finance Committee referrals and the status can be found <u>here</u><sup>1</sup>, Item 1 on the December 5, 2023 agenda.

- 1) COMPLETED: Evaluation of Printing & Mailing Services levels and service delivery.
- 2) COMPLETED: Dialogue with PAUSD regarding cost-sharing for mutual activities
- 3) PENDING: Parking Permits Pricing and Parking Permit Funds Financial Status. Staff initiated, review is expected to begin in FY 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Finance Committee, December 5, 2023, Item #2, CMR #2307-1794: <a href="https://cityofpaloalto.primegov.com/meetings/ItemWithTemplateType?id=2874&meetingTemplateType=2&compiledMeetingDocumentId=8595">https://cityofpaloalto.primegov.com/meetings/ItemWithTemplateType?id=2874&meetingTemplateType=2&compiledMeetingDocumentId=8595</a>



# POLICY & SERVICES TENTATIVE TOPICS CALENDAR 2024

### As of February 22, 2024

See the end of the document for information on the completed 2023 Referrals as well as the outstanding and on hold referrals to date. There is also a section of proposed referrals to remove.

### **January**

Mayor appoints Committee and designates Chair; no Policy & Services Committee meeting

### **February**

- Auditor Task Order Report
- Auditor Quarterly Report
- Council Referral: Procedures and Protocols: (Council Referral from March 20, 2023) establishment
  of appropriate parameters for Council Discretionary Expenditures (Protocols Section 4, X.1
  (consider modifying Section 4, X.1 to allocate \$2,000 annually from the contingency fund for each
  Council Member to decide its purpose))
- Council Referral: Discussion of the Creation of the Advisory Committee regarding Council Compensation

#### March

- Update: Summary of Recent Race and Equity Work since late 2023
- Follow up on the Council Discretionary funds referral
- Auditor Report ??
- Auditor Report ??

### April

- Auditor Report ??
- Auditor Report ??
- Legislative Update Townsend Virtual (then Update at May City Council)

### May

- Public Safety Building Construction Audit
- Quarterly Audit Status Report

#### June

Audit Report [tentative]

### July

No meeting; Council break

### **August**

- Quarterly Audit Status Report (April-June) [tentative]
- Legislative Update (then Council in late August/early September)

### September

### October

- Quarterly Audit Status Report (July-Sept) [tentative]
- Audit Report [tentative]
- Quarterly Race and Equity Update: Summary of Recent Race and Equity Work

### **November**

- Procedures & Protocols Handbook Discussion (Annual Discussion)
- Legislative Agenda and Guidelines (can also go in December)
- 2024 City Council Priorities Discussion (includes discussion on process)

### December

- Informational: Report out on Status of Committee Referrals
- Discussion of Council Priority Setting Retreat

### Completed Referrals (status and date of referral):

- 1. COMPLETED: From June 19, 2023: Friendship Cities (Motion from June: to refer the Colleagues Memo for Approval of a "Friendship City" Program to Policy and Services Committee for further discussion and to review the staffing impacts of this program). [completed February 2024]
- 2. COMPLETED: City Council Procedures and Protocols Handbook Referrals from April 2023: Council Organization, Video Participation, Board Commission Liaison Role, Board/Commission Lobbying (Council action on Feb. 5, 2024)
- 3. COMPLETED? Referral: Leaf blowers
- 4. COMPLETED: Review and discussion of Use of Force (UOF) reports to evaluate current policies and effectiveness of the UOF reports and recommend modifications if necessary (referral from Apr. 2022; updates included in Race and Equity reports)
- 5. COMPLETED: Rental Registry Update (linked to 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)

### Pending Referrals (status and date of referral):

- 1. PENDING: December 4, 2023: Consideration of the Creation of an Advisory Committee to review Council Member Compensation P&S Agenda for Feb. 13, 2024 first conversation
- 2. PENDING: City Council Procedures and Protocols Handbook Referrals from April 2023: Council

- Censure (Council agenda for Feb 26, 2024), Use of Discretionary Funds (P&S Agenda for Feb. 13, 2024 first conversation)
- 3. PENDING: Continued follow up of: Seismic Ordinance Update

### Items Moved to the Housing Ad Hoc:

- 1. Council Referral from Nov. 29, 2021: Renter Protections: Bring to P&S [a] proposal & discussion on expanding anti-gouging measure to address loopholes → moved to ad hoc:
- 2. Council Referral from Nov. 29, 2021: Renter Protections: Fair chance ordinance to be reviewed by P&S for analysis on consequences/unintended consequences → moved to ad hoc
- 3. Referral from 2021: Council Referral Affordable Housing Funding (from August 16, 2021 Council Meeting) → moved to ad hoc

#### **Council Action Needed to Retain:**

- 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
- CalCHA follow up actions (Motion below)
- Review City Council Colleagues' Memo Referring Policy Changes on Short Term Rentals (referral from Dec. 12, 2022)

Approve the Workplan for Development of a Revenue-Generating Local Ballot Measure for the November 2022 General Election; Review and Potential Guidance to Staff on Affordable Housing Funding as Referred by the City Council.

**MOTION:** Council Member Burt moved, seconded by Mayor Dubois to approve the workplan for the pursuit of a revenue-generating local ballot measure for the November 2022 General Election with the following focus:

- A. The pursuit of a business tax and the preference of square footage as the basis for such a tax;
- B. The pursuit of a utility use-based tax, and explore the option to incorporate revenue on climate adaptability;
- C. Proceed with the refinement of estimates and evaluation of potential tax measures—including stakeholder outreach, polling and further feasibility analysis—and bring forward the budget actions necessary;
- D. Review and accept additional information regarding affordable housing funding mechanisms, and refer to the Policy and Services Committee on the housing land trust, Jobs Housing Linkage Policy, and particularly with the CalCHA; and

Page 2 of 3 Action Minutes: 08/16/2021 Sp. City Council Meeting

### Community Engagement Strategies

To support Council discussion on community engagement, the following provides examples of engagement between the community and Council. These efforts aim to advance the Council Priorities Objectives by fostering community awareness, boosting civic participation, and gathering stakeholder input.

General approaches include town halls, community information sessions, office hours, neighborhood meetings, online surveys, polls, and digital engagement platforms. These efforts fall into three areas of focus:

- topic-based community engagement to help inform Council decision-making
- general engagement such as listening sessions/opportunities that are open-ended
- following-up/closing the loop on issues raised by community members

The City employs a diverse array of engagement strategies and methodologies, customizing them based on the audience, desired input, and timeframe to effectively gather feedback for informed decision-making. The City uses the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) as a framework to organize community involvement, ensuring alignment with the specific input or feedback required for each project or issue:

- **Inform:** Fact sheets, webpages, blog posts, information sessions, open houses, frequently asked questions, website feedback forms, information campaigns
- Consult & Involve: Surveys, focus groups, questions and answer sessions, office hours, public
  meetings like community meetings, town halls, panel discussions, workshops, polling,
  community meetings
- **Collaborate & Empower:** Working groups, ad hoc groups, feedback groups, boards, commissions and committee meetings, community advisory panels, advisory groups, digital engagement platforms, and voter ballot measures.

Recent engagement tools discussed by the Council are summarized here for further input and discussion:

- Use of Citizen advisory committees Council referred to the Policy & Services Committee
  interest in establishing a committee to advise on councilmember compensation and discussing
  next steps.
- Establishment of new boards or commissions While not explicitly directed by Council at this
  point, the City's Economic Development Strategy calls for the City to convene new or
  reinvigorated business organizations in Downtown, California Avenue, and Midtown business
  districts. Staff is currently working with the Chamber of Commerce and business stakeholders to
  establish regular meetings in a format that will foster sustained engagement which tie to
  specific proposed objectives contained in this report.
- Consideration of Ballot measures If the Council is interested in advancing issues for voter consideration, proposals must be largely finalized by June.

At this year's Council retreat, the Council discussed utilizing and formalizing Council Ad Hoc committees to advance engagement on specific topic areas such as:

- Housing
- Retail
- Sustainability/Climate Action Plan
- Cubberley
- Stanford

In addition, Council committees and existing boards, commissions and committees are actively used to facilitate community conversations on various topics throughout the year.

The City also looks to neighborhood, educational, and community organizations such as Palo Alto Neighborhoods (PAN), Stanford University, Emergency Service Volunteers, churches, parent and youth groups, and many more to engage and inform. These existing groups share engagement opportunities with their community networks, acting as ambassadors for increased public dialogue and engagement.

The City's website remains a reliable hub, frequented by the community, with over 900,000 users last year. Visitors accessed event details, service information, and engaged through online forms, FAQs, white papers, fact sheets, general surveys, and the new City Service Feedback tool available at www.cityofpaloalto.org. OpenForms, our website survey/poll resource, gains input on various topics on an annual basis. The Community Engagement web page at <a href="https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/engage">www.cityofpaloalto.org/engage</a> is a direct connection to the City's Open Town Hall as well. The City Service Feedback tool has received 140 responses from community members providing service level input. Palo Alto 311 while largely a reporting tool, alerts staff to issues with the opportunity for direct engagement with the community who reported the concern. In 2023, there were over 5,500 community requests submitted.







### **2024 Council Priorities & Objectives Introduction**



- Lists the 76\* proposed Objectives that build on the 2023 incomplete or returning
   Objectives (+1 Objective inadvertently left out from Economic Development section)
- Reinforces the Council's annual priority setting process
- Shares the role of Council Committees in the work ahead, including Council adhoc committees and standing committees (standing committee workplan review tonight)
- Begins discussion on the Council, community and stakeholder engagement necessary to implement the proposed Council Objectives
- Recognizes tension between capacity, resource limitations, and potential interest in additional objectives for the year

<sup>\*</sup> The staff report previously noted 75 objectives, one was left off in error. This has been corrected and restated in this presentation.

### **Discussion Facilitation**

- Council has the flexibility of a two-step process to discuss Council Objectives and Standing Committee Workplans: Tonight, and March 11th.
- Staff will guide Council through a review of the proposed Council Objectives by Priority and staff is seeking input on and approval of the Council Objectives for 2024
- Council Objectives are stated in a manner to reflect a milestone of completion within calendar year 2024, work on many of these objectives will continue beyond 2024 with subsequent milestones.
  - Both estimated completion and funding needs are reflective of the 12 month milestone goal and resource needs; additional resources are expected to be necessary for subsequent milestones of some objectives in future years.
- Staff will guide Council to discuss the Standing Committee Workplans following discussion of Objectives

### 2024 Council Priorities & Objectives (76 projects)



Economic Development and Transition (12 Objectives)				
	# of Objectives	\$\$ Needs		
Support economic recovery and business transition	3	0		
Focus on commercial corridors, Downtown, and California Ave	10*	2		

<sup>\*</sup>Approve referred alternative for the University Ave Streetscape Plan in preparation for environmental review and funding options (i)

Climate Change & Natural Environment (23 Objectives)					
	# of Objectives \$\$ Nee				
Climate change protection	18	2**			
Climate change adaptation: flood protection	3	0			
Natural environment	2	0			

<sup>\*\*</sup>Updated to reflect funding needs upon further consideration.

Housing for Social and Economic Balance (21 Objectives)				
Advance housing plans	5	0		
Implement housing production policies	9	3		
Support unhoused service initiatives	3	1		
Advance renter protection policies	3	0		

Community Health, Safety, Wellness & Belonging (20 Objectives)				
Mental & physical health and belonging	9	0		
Invest in reliable safety infrastructure and systems	8	1		
Reduction of noise and air quality pollution	3	0		

# **Council Priority: Economic Development and Transition** (12 Objectives)

5	Foc	cus on Commercial Corridors, Downtown and California Ave				
6	N	Facilitate the establishment of sustainable business organization in the Cal Ave, DT, and Midtown districts				
7	N	Engage Cal Ave merchants on high priority, rapid implementation projects, i.e. barrier replacement, street cleaning, maintenance, access, signage and outdoor dining guidelines \$\$				
8	R	Develop permanent Cal Ave car-free steetscape design through engagement with Cal Ave merchants and community stakeholders (h)				
9	N	Initiate preliminary analysis and stakeholder engagement on a car-free streetscape design for Ramona Street \$\$				
10	R	Approve prefrerred alternative for the University Ave Streetscape Plan in preparation for environmental review and funding options (i)				
11	N	Develop pre-approved parklet designs with stakeholder outreach, for Council approval				
12	R	Implement ongoing parklet program in compliance with adopted parklet standards, leveraging pre-approved designs (e)				
13	N	Advance Downtown Parking garage in conjunction with advancement of affordable housing in the Downtown				
14	N	Advance complete build out of fiber pilot phase 1 with grid modernization				
15	15 Support Economic Development and Business Transition					
16	N	Establish regular engagement with retail brokers in the area to create stronger connections and understand how the City may be able to help promote available spaces				
17	N	Research and evaluate options for implementing a public-private small and local business and incubation and vacant storefront program connecting landlords experiencing vacancy with				
1/	IN	small and local-businesses that may be seeking brick and mortar spaces				
18	R	Conduct business stakeholder outreach and present to Council recommendations for a citywide retail zoning strategy and receive direction for zoning ordinance implementation (k)				

### Climate Change & Natural Environment (23 Objectives)

45 R Approve a bird safe glass and wildlife light pollution protections ordinance (6)

20	Clir	mate Change Protection				
21	R	Deploy 65,000 residential Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) meters by end of 2024 (I)				
22	N	Conduct community engagement and data collection and analysis to develop a Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Safety Action Plan for Council approval in 2024				
23	R	Continue community engagement efforts to inform the update and receive Council feedback on the 2025 Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan (BPTP) characteristics in preparation				
		for next steps including environmental review and adoption in 2025 (m)				
24	R	Complete initial pilot area of electric grid modernization (p)				
25	N	Initiate development of a model to transition gas utility including community outreach and policy discussions				
26	R	Continue to improve the Advanced Heat Pump Water Heater Pilot Program in preparation for a full-scale program (q) \$\$				
27	R	Adopt a residential whole home electrification pilot program (r)				
28	R	Refine existing HVAC pilot program to encourage participation as a next step toward a 2025 Council approved commercial rooftop HVAC electrification advanced pilot program(s)				
29	R	Develop and approve an Electric Vehicle Strategic Plan (t)				
30	N	Develop an EV Replacement Program for the City Fleet				
31	R	Develop and initiate implementation of a Reliability and Resiliency Strategic Plan (u)				
32	R	Develop draft S/CAP funding study with Council input (v)				
33	N	Evaluate and report out Palo Alto Link pilot performance and consider continuation and/or expansion of future services				
34	N	Begin community engagement to consider parking policy updates that enhance customer satisfaction, improve program sustainability, and aligns with S/CAP mobility goals				
35	N	Amend local building regulations to establish a "one Margin" energy efficiency standard, to allow installation of natural gas plumbing while imposing more stringent energy efficiency and all-electric readiness requirements to all new buildings				
36	N	Initiate the 2026 California Building Standards Code update, including the California Green Building Standards Code				
37		Complete community engagement for the Airport's Long-Range Facilities & Sustainability Plan in accordance with Federal requirements and hold a study session with Council on the				
3/	IN	draft plan				
38	N	Council selection of a locally preferred alternatives for City Rail/Grade Separation project at Churchill Avenue, Meadow Drive, and Charleston Rd.				
39	Clir	mate Change Adaptation: Flood Protection				
40	R	Advocate for the San Francisquito Creek Flood Protection capital project (Reach 2) through Council's JPA representation and any Council approvals involved (w)				
41	R	Complete design and right-of-way acquisition, obtain regulatory permits, finalize project funding needs including potential Council advocacy with State legislators, and approve				
71	.,	construction contract for the Newell Road Bridge Replacement project (x)				
42	R	Coordinate with Federal and regional partners on a path forward exploring the development of a Sea Level Rise Adaptation Plan (5)				
43	43 Natural Environment					
44	R	Approve stream/creek corridor setback ordinance (4)				

### Housing for Social and Economic Balance (21 Objectives)

47	Ad۱	vance Housing Plans
48	R	Approve project funding and a consultant contract to develop and identify housing opportunity sites through the Downtown Housing Plan, including community outreach (dd)
49	R	Submit a compliant Housing Element to the state department of Housing and Community Development (ee)
50	R	Approve final North Ventura Coordinated Area Plan (NVCAP) (ff)
51	N	Receive Cal Poly San Luis Obispo student-led concept plan for San Antonio Corridor
52	R	Approve consultant contract to initiate a Specific Plan for San Antonio Road Corridor including project goals and outcomes (8)
53	lmp	plement Housing Production Policies
54	N	Initiate a review and make recommendations for a possible extension of the Housing Focus area to other geographic locations along El Camino Real
55	N	Consider funding affordable housing related projects based on responses to a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)
56	N	Approve a consultant contract to assess housing development impact fees for the conversion from a per unit to per square foot basis \$\$
57	R	Refine implementation of City's SB9 objective development and urban lot split standards (HSEB 14) (II)
58	N	Adopt an ordinance that implements Housing Element Program 3.4 related to the housing incentive program
59	N	Amend the municipal fee schedule and prepare economic feasibility analysis that implements Housing Element Program 3.1 related to fee waivers and adjustments
60	N	Initiate a study implementing Housing Element Program 6.5 related to alternative housing types \$\$
61	N	Adopt an ordinance implementing various Housing Element Programs
62	N	Initiate analysis to amend the zoning code to implement Housing Element Program 3.9 related to commercial floor area
63	Sup	pport Unhoused Service Initiatives
64	R	Partner with Santa Clara County Housing Authority to achieve 2024 milestones on construction timeline for Palo Alto Homekey project to provide transitional housing and services for
CE.	N	unhoused residents (pp)  Conduct a gap analysis of housing and consists for the unhoused in Pale Alta, considering Council direction. City activities and work, and County activities and work.
		Conduct a gap analysis of housing and services for the unhoused in Palo Alto, considering Council direction, City activities and work, and County activities and work.  Split into research to understand Dalo Alto unhoused population and explore feasibility of expanding safe parking entions on Cong Board.
		Initiate research to understand Palo Alto unhoused population and explore feasibility of expanding safe parking options on Geng Road.  vance Renter Protection Policies
		Council discussion of possible ordinance related to fair chance renter policy
		Council discussion of possible anti-rent gouging policy
		Finalize development plan to maintain affordability and improve conditions at Buena Vista Mobile Park
/1	К	Approve a service contract to initiate Renter Registry implementation (cc)

### Community Health, Safety, Wellness & Belonging (20 Objectives)

73	Me	ental & Physical Health and Belonging
74	R	Complete reopening of libraries to budgeted level (rr)
75	R	Approval of multi-year agreement for provisions of animal shelter services (ss)
76	R	Develop a workplan to enhance community special events with focus on inclusion (tt)
77	R	Reach a tentative agreement with PAUSD on long term use of the Cubberley property (uu)
78	R	Evaluate Recreation Wellness Center Feasibility (vv)
79	R	Evaluate HSRAP funding allocation as a percent (%) of the General Fund (11)
80	R	Facilitate a location for La Comida in North Palo Alto (12)
81	R	Increase support and funding for youth mental health (13)
82	N	Complete Trusted Response Urgent Support Team (TRUST) Augmentation pilot and evaluate the effort
83	Inv	rest in Reliable Safety Infrastructure and Systems
84	R	Support visible police presence by ensuring stable staffing (recruiting and retention) through hiring ahead program (ww)
85	N	Initiate upgrade of Police Department field based video hardware \$\$\$
86	R	Approve vendor selection for 911 dispatch system (CAD provider) (yy)
87	R	Approve updated Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and Community Wildfire Protection Plan (aaa)
88	R	Update Foothills Fire Management Plan (bbb)
89	R	Complete construction of the new Public Safety Building including department move-in (ccc)
90	R	Council award of a construction contract for Fire Station No. 4 Replacement (ddd)
91	R	Approve consulting contract to initiate work, including stakeholder engagement, related to the Seismic and Resiliency Ordinance (eee)
92	Red	duction of Noise and Air Quality Pollution
93	N	Initiate work to conduct a Quiet Zone study at Churchill Ave, Meadow Drive, and Charleston Rd and begin initial analysis and regional stakeholder outreach.
94	R	Implement strategies for promoting unleaded fuel and phasing out leaded fuel (ggg)
95	R	Continue engagement with San Francisco Airport on SFO's Ground Based Augmentation System (GBAS) project and other potential opportunities to decrease SFO noise impacts on Palo Alto (iii)

### Finance and Policy & Services Standing Committee Workplans

• Standing committee workplans reflect annual agenda items and current referrals (to the best of our knowledge) from Council

 As work progresses on the 2024 Objectives, these committees will be used for review and feedback as appropriate to ensure continued progress

 Council may discuss and identify any adjustments to the Standing Committee Workplans including updates on the status of Council referrals

### **Summary and Potential Council Direction**



### **Summary**

- Council Priorities reflect Council action from retreat on January 29th
- Proposed Objectives continue work from previous year and support Council Priorities adopted at the retreat.
- Proposed Objectives described to reflect organization's capacity to accomplish and advance within the calendar year
- Council has the flexibility of a two-step process to review the Objectives and Standing Committee Workplans: tonight and March 11th

### **Potential Action:**

- Council approval of Council Objectives
- Council approval of Finance and Policy & Services Standing Committee workplans



### **Lupita Alamos**

Assistant to the City Manager

Lupita.Alamos@cityofpaloalto.org

### **Kiely Nose**

Assistant City Manager/CFO

Kiely.Nose@CityofPaloAlto.org



From: Thomas Agramonte
To: Council, City

Subject: Agenda Item #8 March 4th meeting
Date: Sunday, March 3, 2024 11:01:48 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from tgrant.agramonte@gmail.com. <u>Learn why this</u> is important

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

### Hello Palo Alto City Council,

On behalf of the Agramonte Family, a four-generation Palo Alto family and landowners of 2951 El Camino Real (ECR) and 470 Olive Avenue. We are writing regarding Agenda Item 8 of the March 4th City Council Meeting. We ask the City Council to extend the Housing Focus Area to the East Side of ECR and to collaboratively work with landowners, developers, the planning department and the community to find a balance for the City of Palo Alto that respects the desperate need for housing by making guidelines that support economically viable multifamily residential development. I am 30 years old and grew up in this community playing sports and I do not have a single friend or teammate that still lives here. We need more housing to allow to the people who work in this community, grow up in this community, provide for this community a place to live in this community.

Below are points we would like to convey to the City Council and ask that you make decisions for the betterment of our community.

- 1. We request the City of Palo Alto implement a Housing Focus Area on the East side of El Camino to promote high-density multifamily development, which would include 2905 El Camino, 2951 El Camino, 2999 El Camio, and 470 Olive (the "Project"). Implementing this Focus Area supports the City of Palo Alto's Housing Element objectives, including high-density multifamily housing located along transit corridors, within ½ mile of Caltrain, and on underutilized sites.
- 2. We request the City mirror the East Side Focus Area's zoning standards, including a maximum height of 85' and Floor Area Ratio of 4.0. However, a 35' height transition zone must be no greater than 75'. A transition zone of greater than 75' would render this and other projects unfeasible. Of note, Palo Alto City Planning Staff and expert consultants supported a 75' transition zone for the Housing Focus Areas, due to similar feasibility concerns.
- 3. The proposed Project would provide affordable housing units at 50% of AMI, allowing local teachers, first responders and city staff who serve in the community, to live in community.
- 4. We strongly recommend the City of Palo Alto implement a Housing Focus Area for the East side of El Camino, including this Project, in support of the Housing Element objectives to create over 6000 new housing units by 2031.

Thank you!

Best,

Thomas Agramonte

Please Contact the Clerk's Office to View Additional Pages, Attachments, or Images Related

From: Kristi Bascom

To: <u>Clerk, City</u>; <u>Council, City</u>

Cc: a m mason@yahoo.com; Sharlene Carlson; Julie Baskind

Subject: Request/comment on Agenda Item #8, PACC mtg on 3/14/2024

**Date:** Sunday, March 3, 2024 7:57:44 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

PAR Proposed Amendments to PAMC Section 18.16.040.b.docx PAR Proposed Amendments to PAMC Sec 18.16.060 Dev Stds.docx

Some people who received this message don't often get email from kbascom@smwlaw.com. <u>Learn why this is important</u>

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Honorable City Councilmembers,

This correspondence is related to Agenda Item #8 on the 3/4/2024 City Council agenda and is provided on behalf of the Palo Alto Redwoods Homeowner's Association. PAR is requesting that the City Council direct Staff to consider the zoning amendments suggested by PAR, and supported by the City Council at the November 13, 2023 meeting, during the upcoming fiscal year.

At the City Council meeting on November 13, 2023, the City Council unanimously supported a request from PAR to consider specific amendments to the City's Zoning Ordinance, and directed Staff to review the amendments that PAR proposed. The proposed amendments were written to ensure that higher density housing constructed on properties zoned for commercial uses are buffered from impacts created by commercial neighbors such as noise, reduction in access to daylight, and impacts to privacy. These are the protections that are provided to residentially-zoned properties throughout the City. In a letter to the City Council dated November 7, 2023, I outlined PAR's request and provided the specific text amendments proposed for PAMC Sections 18.16.040(b) and 18.16.060 (attached to this email for reference).

Earlier this month, we inquired of the Planning Director when PAR's proposed amendments were going to be reviewed by Staff and moved forward for consideration, as supported by the City Council. Mr. Lait responded that "Based on available long range planning staff resources and competing Council priorities, I do not anticipate this item being recommended for the upcoming year." Mr. Lait suggested that if PAR would like to see the proposed amendments completed in the next fiscal year, that we should ask the City Council to direct this be included in the FY 24-25 Planning and Development Department work plan.

PAR's proposed zoning ordinance amendments are minor in nature, are already drafted, and can simply be included in one of the Zoning Ordinance amendments already identified as a Council priority to be undertaken in the next fiscal year. PAR isn't asking for a separate, additional Council priority to be identified or a special action to be taken. We hope that this can be simple and straightforward and folded into another housing-related amendment being processed by the Planning Department. PAR is asking for the Council's support to direct that this be done.

We are happy to discuss PAR's request further or provide any additional explanation as to why this is important. I plan to attend the City Council meeting and make this request during public comment on this agenda item. As always, PAR greatly appreciates the Council's ongoing support and consideration.

Kind regards, Kristi Bascom

On behalf of the PAR HOA Board Members Julie Baskind, Anne Mason, and Sharlene Carlson



Kristi Bascom, AICP Urban Planner Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP 396 Hayes Street San Francisco, CA 94102-4421

office: 415/552-7272 x 202 | direct: 925/872-6327 www.smwlaw.com | A San Francisco Green Business From: Palo Alto Forward

To: Council, City

Subject: Council Priorities - Agenda Item #8 on 3/4

Date: Sunday, March 3, 2024 6:32:48 PM

Attachments: Housing Priorities Support Ltr (03.03.24).pdf

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

Please find our letter to Council (related to agenda item #8 on the 3/4) attached.

--

Amie Ashton Executive Director, Palo Alto Forward 650-793-1585



March 3, 2024

SUBJECT: Agenda Item #8 - Council Priorities, El Camino Housing Focus Area

Honorable Mayor Stone and City Council,

Thank you for prioritizing policies that will result in additional housing units being built in Palo Alto. In particular, **expansion of the Housing Focus Area on El Camino Real could prove critically powerful in moving housing projects forward.** We know the regulations being considered will lead to economically viable projects in areas near jobs, transit, schools, and local retail. Many of the projects submitted under Builder's Remedy provisions (we are now at 2,000+ units) have heights and floor area ratios (FARs) that are close to those being considered as part of the Housing Focus Area; thus, proving economic viability.

With regard to the Housing Focus Area regulations, we urge you to also adopt the 3-story height transition zone of 75 feet (as a maximum) from R-1 neighborhoods, as originally recommended by the Planning Department. The 100-foot transition zone being contemplated (the equivalent of two single-family lots) is incredibly onerous given the generally limited width of many lots facing El Camino Real. If the goal of the El Camino Housing Focus Area is to build housing, then we need to remove barriers to construction and adopt the 75-foot setback, as originally recommended by the Planning Department.

In support of other priorities being considered, housing can be a solution and help make them happen. From meeting our climate goals to prioritizing park and infrastructure improvements to securing the economic future of our fragile local retail centers. Housing near transit, jobs, and services can help us meet our goals with reduced vehicle miles traveled (VMT); millions of dollars for parks, roads, and utility upgrades; and thousands of new customers.

Please move forward as quickly as possible with the Housing Focus Area expansion. Allow our city to demonstrate its commitment to facilitating housing in advance of the 3rd draft of the Housing Element being submitted to the State Department of Housing and Community Development.

Sincerely,

Amie Ashton

Executive Director, and on behalf of the Board of Palo Alto Forward

From: Kathleen Curran
To: Council, City

Subject: Allocation of Grant to AbilityPath

Date: Friday, March 1, 2024 7:02:10 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from kcurran@abilitypath.org. <u>Learn why this is important</u>

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

Dear Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members,

I am writing to express wholehearted support for a grant to AbilityPath from the City of Palo Alto to offer programs and services for people with developmental disabilities and the Palo Alto community at large on the ground level of **Mitchell Park Place**, an exciting project to provide much-needed inclusive programs to our community. As we collectively strive for progress, this initiative stands out as a testament to your commitment to uplifting the lives of community members of all abilities.

The services offered by **AbilityPath** within Mitchell Park Place are all transformative. Here's why they matter:

### 1. Exercise, Mindfulness, and Wellness Programs:

 Nurturing physical and mental well-being, these programs empower participants to lead healthier lives.

### 2. Career Development Services:

 Equipping individuals with skills, confidence, and opportunities to thrive in the workforce.

### 3. Independent Living Skills Services:

 Empowering individuals with the practical skills needed for independent living. From daily routines to self-advocacy, these services foster autonomy and confidence.

### 4. Education Initiatives:

 Lifelong learning is essential. These initiatives foster growth, curiosity, and a sense of achievement.

### 5. Financial Literacy Workshops:

 Empowering financial independence and responsible decision-making.

### 6. Art Classes and Music Classes:

 Creative expression knows no bounds. These classes unlock hidden talents, provide joy, and help individuals communicate their thoughts and feelings.

### 7. Computer Training:

 Digital literacy opens doors to communication, education, and independence.

### 8. Services for Stroke and Brain Injury Clients:

Compassionate care for those navigating unique

### challenges.

### 9. Office Space for Social Services:

 A hub where individuals can access vital resources, connect with others, and receive personalized support.

By supporting AbilityPath's work at Mitchell Park Place, you are investing in a future where everyone has a seat at the table. Our community thrives when we embrace diversity, celebrate abilities, and create spaces that uplift everyone.

Thank you for championing this cause. Together, we will build a stronger, more inclusive Palo Alto.

Sincerely,

Kathleen (Cassy) Curran 185 Union Avenue #53 Campbell, CA 95008

Kathleen (Cassy) Curran (she/her/hers) <u>Learn more about pronouns</u>. Case Manager
Cell: 650-509-2455 | Office: 650-259-0157

350 Twin Dolphin Dr., Suite 123, Redwood Shores, CA 94065

abilitypath.org



Via Services is now affiliated with AbilityPath, thriving together to provide a lifetime of opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities. Learn more at <u>abilitypath.org/affiliationFAQ</u>.

From: Nancy Parker
To: Council, City

**Subject:** Grant Proposal to AbilityPath

Date: Thursday, February 29, 2024 7:17:22 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from nparker09@gmail.com. <u>Learn why this is important</u>

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

February 29, 2024

Dear Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members,

I am writing to express wholehearted support for a grant to AbilityPath from the City of Palo Alto to offer programs and services for people with developmental disabilities and the Palo Alto community at large on the ground level of **Mitchell Park Place**, an exciting project to provide much-needed inclusive programs to our community. As we collectively strive for progress, this initiative stands out as a testament to your commitment to uplifting the lives of community members of all abilities.

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 Compassionate care for those navigating unique challenges.

### 9. Office Space for Social Services:

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By supporting AbilityPath's work at Mitchell Park Place, you are investing in a future where everyone has a seat at the table. Our community thrives when we embrace diversity, celebrate abilities, and create spaces that uplift everyone.

Thank you for championing this cause. Together, we will build a stronger, more inclusive Palo Alto.

Sincerely, Nancy Cutter Parker Former Board President of Abilities United From: Ellen Turbow
To: Council, City
Subject: AbilityPath

**Date:** Thursday, February 29, 2024 2:32:17 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from emturbow@sbcglobal.net. <u>Learn why this is</u> important

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

Dear Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members,

I am writing to express wholehearted support for a grant to AbilityPath from the City of Palo Alto to offer programs and services for people with developmental disabilities and the Palo Alto community at large on the ground level of **Mitchell Park Place**, an exciting project to provide muchneeded inclusive programs to our community. As we collectively strive for progress, this initiative stands out as a testament to your commitment to uplifting the lives of community members of all abilities.

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Thank you for championing this cause. Together, we will build a stronger, more inclusive Palo Alto.

Sincerely,

Ellen Turbow

1870 Hamilton Ave., Palo Alto 94303

P.S. Although this letter is a boilerplate, I want you to know that I have personally experienced the important contribution that this organization continues to provide to our community,

From: Per Maresca
To: Council, City

**Subject:** AbilityPath Grant Proposal

Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 4:50:44 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from perw66@comcast.net. <u>Learn why this is</u>

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

Dear City Council Members,

I hope that you will do all you can to support the grant proposal to help AbilityPath build offices at Mitchell Park Place.

That place would be so valuable for ID/DD people like me to access services, even if we are not residents.

Thank you, Per Maresca Palo Alto From: Linnea WICKSTROM

To: Council, City

Cc: Linnea WICKSTROM

**Subject:** March 4, Item 8: Support for AbilityPath Grant Proposal

**Date:** Wednesday, February 28, 2024 4:39:48 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from ljwickstrom@comcast.net. <u>Learn why this is important</u>

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Mayor Stone, Vice-Mayor Lauing, Council Members

As you discuss the 2024 City Council Priority Objectives and Finance Committee and Policy & Services Committee Workplans, and as the Finance Committee does its work, I hope all will support Council Member Kou's grant proposal for AbilityPath.

That proposal, to support AbilityPath in creating and sustaining a Palo Alto headquarters in the new Mitchell Park Place apartments being built by Eden Housing will be a great benefit to our community.

AbilityPath provides so many services to intellectually and developmentally disabled people such as my son. This proposal will help build a local AbilityPath HQ so residents of Palo Alto, residents of Mitchell Park Place, and AbilityPath clients can access services easily.

Thank you for your support for Council Member Kou's grant proposal as it winds its way through the planning process,

Linnea Wickstrom Monroe Drive Palo Alto From: <u>Judith Richardson</u>
To: <u>Council, City</u>

Subject:Letter to PA Council on Ability Path.Date:Tuesday, February 27, 2024 9:44:10 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from jfdyrm4@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <a href="https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification">https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification</a>]

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

Dear Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members, I am writing you to encourage your support for a Grant to Honor one of our outstanding local service nonprofits, Ability Path and their recent development of a Community Center as part of the new Mitchel Park Place affordable housing complex. See my endorsement letter enclosed in the pdf below.

Sincerely, Judith F. Richardson

Sent from my iPad Judy Richardson 650 906-4773 jfdyrm4@gmail.com From: susan and hartzell
To: Council, City
Cc: Soheila Mozayan

**Subject:** Support new building 525 East Charleston by Abilitypath

**Date:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 8:02:28 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from hartzellhs@gmail.com. <u>Learn why this is important</u>

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I have been involved with services for the handicapped for 20 years with CAR, AbilityUnited and now Abilitypath. These services are so important to our citizens with the challenge of caring for a handicapped child. This need falls to the local community because there is very little support from the State or Federal program. We are fortunate to have an effective community agency committed to providing these services with local Board of Directors and effective fund raising. I ask that you recognize the value of this project providing services AND housing for handicapped clients.

Sincerely, Harry Hartzell MD. Susan and Harry Hartzell 850 Webster Street Apt 430 Palo Alto, CA 94301 From: Jenn Wagstaff Hinton
To: Council, City

Cc: Jennifer Wagstaff Hinton; jhinton

**Subject:** City of PA Grant for Mitchell Park Place - please support!

**Date:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 11:30:16 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from jennwaghinton@gmail.com. <u>Learn why this is important</u>

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

Dear Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members,

I am writing to you as a Palo Alto native resident and special needs parent served by AbilityPath to express my wholehearted support for a grant to AbilityPath from the City of Palo Alto to offer programs and services for people with developmental disabilities and the Palo Alto community at large on the ground level of **Mitchell Park Place**, an exciting project to provide much-needed inclusive programs to our community. As we collectively strive for progress, this initiative stands out as a testament to your commitment to uplifting the lives of community members of all abilities. Having participated in City Council and ARB project hearings for decades, I found that the unanimous support for this landmark mixed-use project at 525 E. Charleston Road has been extraordinarily positive! The services offered by **AbilityPath** within Mitchell Park Place are all transformative. Here's why they matter:

### 1. Exercise, Mindfulness, and Wellness Programs:

 Nurturing physical and mental well-being, these programs empower participants to lead healthier lives.

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 Compassionate care for those navigating unique challenges.

### 9. Office Space for Social Services:

 A hub where individuals can access vital resources, connect with others, and receive personalized support.

By supporting AbilityPath's work at Mitchell Park Place, you are investing in a future where everyone has a seat at the table. Our community thrives when we embrace diversity, celebrate abilities, and create spaces that uplift everyone.

Thank you for championing this cause. Together, we will build a stronger, more inclusive Palo Alto!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Wagstaff Hinton

3838 La Selva Drive, Palo Alto, CA 94306

Special needs parent and AbilityPath Board Director