



**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

**Date:** 3/1/2021  
**Time:** 5:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Zoom

**Closed Session**

**A. Call To Order**

Mayor Combs called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

**B. Roll Call**

Present: Combs, Mueller, Nash, Taylor, Wolosin  
Absent: None  
Staff: City Manager Starla Jerome-Robinson, City Attorney Nira F. Doherty, Deputy City Manager Justin Murphy

**C. Closed Session**

- C1. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS (Government Code §54956.8)  
Property: 1283 Willow Road, Menlo Park  
Agency negotiator: Starla Jerome-Robinson, Justin Murphy, Nira Doherty  
Negotiating parties: Menlo Park Fire Protection District  
Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment

Web form public comment received on item C1. (Attachment).

No reportable actions.

- C2. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS (Government Code §54956.8)  
Property: 1467 Chilco Street, Menlo Park  
Agency negotiator: Starla Jerome-Robinson, Justin Murphy, Nira Doherty  
Negotiating parties: Menlo Park Fire Protection District  
Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment

No reportable actions.

- C3. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS (Government Code §54956.8)  
Property: 1165 Willow Road, Menlo Park  
Agency negotiator: Starla Jerome-Robinson, Justin Murphy, Nira Doherty  
Negotiating parties: Chung Ho Mou  
Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment

No reportable actions.

- C4. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS (Government Code §54956.8)  
Property: 1169 Willow Road, Menlo Park  
Agency negotiator: Starla Jerome-Robinson, Justin Murphy, Nira Doherty  
Negotiating parties: Chung Ho Mou

Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment

No reportable actions.

- C5. Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Government Code §54956.9:  
One case

The City Council will consider risks and agendize an open session discussion on this matter to obtain public comment, after newly appointed Police Chief David Norris arrives to advise on potential reallocation of police services.

**D. Adjournment**

Mayor Combs adjourned the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

Judi A. Herren, City Clerk

These minutes were approved at the City Council meeting of March 23, 2021.

## NOVEL CORONAVIRUS, COVID-19, EMERGENCY ADVISORY NOTICE

On March 19, 2020, the Governor ordered a statewide stay-at-home order calling on all individuals living in the State of California to stay at home or at their place of residence to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Additionally, the Governor has temporarily suspended certain requirements of the Brown Act. For the duration of the shelter in place order, the following public meeting protocols will apply.

Teleconference meeting: All members of the City Council, city staff, applicants, and members of the public will be participating by teleconference. To promote social distancing while allowing essential governmental functions to continue, the Governor has temporarily waived portions of the open meetings act and rules pertaining to teleconference meetings. This meeting is conducted in compliance with the Governor Executive Order N-25-20 issued March 12, 2020, and supplemental Executive Order N-29-20 issued March 17, 2020.

- How to participate in the meeting
    - Submit a written comment online:  
[menlopark.org/publiccommentMarch1](http://menlopark.org/publiccommentMarch1)\*
    - Record a comment or request a call-back when an agenda topic is under consideration:  
Dial 650-474-5071\*
- \*Written and recorded public comments and call-back requests are accepted up to 1-hour before the meeting start time. Written and recorded messages are provided to the City Council at the appropriate time in their meeting. Recorded messages may be transcribed using a voice-to-text tool.

Note: City Council closed sessions are not broadcast online or on television and public participation is limited to the beginning of closed session.

Subject to Change: Given the current public health emergency and the rapidly evolving federal, state, county and local orders, the format of this meeting may be altered or the meeting may be canceled. You may check on the status of the meeting by visiting the City's website [www.menlopark.org](http://www.menlopark.org). The instructions for logging on to the webinar and/or the access code is subject to change. If you have difficulty accessing the webinar, please check the latest online edition of the posted agenda for updated information ([menlopark.org/agenda](http://menlopark.org/agenda)).

According to City Council policy, all regular meetings of the City Council are to end by midnight unless there is a super majority vote taken by 11:00 p.m. to extend the meeting and identify the items to be considered after 11:00 p.m.

## Agenda item C1 Lynne Bramlett, Resident

The four District 1 properties that you are discussing today all lie in an earthquake liquefaction zone. The property at 1467 Chilco Street lies in a FEMA Flood zone. While I am putting my comments in under C1, they apply to all properties you will discuss.

Liquefaction takes place when loosely packed, water-logged sediments at or near the ground surface lose their strength in response to strong ground shaking. Liquefaction occurring beneath buildings and other structures can cause major damage during earthquakes.

Even a 6.0 earthquake can cause liquefaction. Scientists have studied the faults in California extensively and determined that the Hayward fault is probably the most dangerous. It has a 31.7% chance of rupturing in a 6.7 magnitude earthquake or greater in the next 26 years, and the Bay Area has a 63% chance of having at least a magnitude 6.7 earthquake in the same time period.

At a May 2018 Council study session, the USGS updated Council as to the probable risk to Menlo Park of a 7.0 magnitude earthquake on the Hayward fault. This scenario is referred to as the "HayWired Scenario." The impact will be felt the most in District 1 and we have yet to mitigate for the probabilities. I am putting them into a short "fact sheet" (that I will also get reviewed by the USGS) to help these garner more mitigation focus.

ASK #1: MP needs building codes aimed at reducing hazard risk when building in a known hazard zone, such as liquefaction or flood risk. All of MP faces some hazards.

### Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

The County of San Mateo is updating its Local Hazard Mitigation Plan on a fast-track process that started in Feb and will end by August 31, 2021. MP will be updating its 2016 annex and Brian Henry, Assistant Public Works Director, is the designated MP contact to the County planning process. FEMA has provided extensive grant money for mitigation purposes and the County-led process stresses that all projects are to be written in ways for which grant money exists. This process offers much potential to re-shape MP positively towards the current Council's of a more equitable and livable MP for all. (Please consider formally writing and agreeing on a vision, along with phases to get there. That would help start a needed overall strategic planning process.)

Ask #2: The MP Update to Its Local Hazard Mitigation Plan is a golden opportunity to broaden the approach into one that protects the whole community and that incorporates other planning processes. For example, you could include the Climate Action Plan, Housing Element Update, City Council's Goal-setting process and Water Management Plan

Please see the inspiring Portland, OR case study at this link: <https://www.fema.gov/case-study/protecting-whole-community-portland-oregon-incorporating-social-equity-and-equality>.

### Brief summary of Portland objectives:

While updating this plan, the plan authors focused on incorporating community needs to advance the city's overall vision for equity. The steering committee examined which hazard mitigation activities could also further other community goals by engaging a broad section of the community in the plan process, and by using an equity lens to evaluate all proposed mitigation actions. The MAP sought to build on other planning work; among the plans reviewed for this update project were the "2015 Climate Action Plan", "Portland Plan", "Public Health Plan", "Capital Improvement Plan", "Growth Management Plan", "Transportation Systems Plan", and various volcano-related interagency coordination plans. As part of the project, city bureaus were asked to identify codes, plans, and programs that provide opportunities for advancing shared goals, so these resources could be listed as mitigation actions in the MAP.

### Resources

- CAL OES all hazards look-up site <https://myhazards.caloes.ca.gov/>
- California Earthquake Hazards Zone map <https://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/geohazards/eq-zapp>
- FEMA Flood Zone Map <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>

I plan to follow the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update process closely and research grants and then propose mitigation projects for which grants exist. I offer to spend 8 hours per week, on behalf of Menlo Park, in writing and researching grants. The grant money is there and MP has missed out on getting grant money due to not having an in-house focus on pre-disaster mitigation planning.