

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: 4/25/2023 Time: 6:00 p.m.

Locations: Teleconference and

City Council Chambers

751 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

A. Call To Order

Mayor Wolosin called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Combs, Doerr (remote – AB 2449 Just Cause, exited at 10:58 p.m.), Nash, Taylor,

Wolosin

Absent: None

Staff: City Manager Justin I. C. Murphy, City Attorney Nira F. Doherty, Assistant to the City

Manager/City Clerk Judi A. Herren

C. Agenda Review

The City Council pulled item 15.

D. Report from Closed Session

No reportable action.

E. Public Comment

- Alheli spoke in support of a smoke-free multi-unit housing ordinance.
- Patrick Killelea spoke in opposition of masks and masking requirements in city facilities.
- Millie spoke in support of naming the new community center after Onetta Harris.
- Herbert Barkus spoke in opposition of overnight parking enforcement.
- Candice Buttler spoke in support of naming the new community center after Onetta Harris.
- Jennifer Fairily spoke in support of naming the new community center after Onetta Harris.
- Onetta Harris spoke in support of naming the new community center after Onetta Harris.
- Linh Dan Do spoke in support of urgent action to address climate change and requested a report on the Climate Action Plan (CAP) updates.
- Kelly Kirby spoke in support of naming the new community center after Onetta Harris.
- Chester Palesoo spoke in support of naming the new community center after Onetta Harris.
- Diane Bailey spoke in support of Love Our Earth festival and requested a report on the CAP updates
- Ken Harris spoke in support of naming the new community center after Onetta Harris and described the difference between economic and fiscal currencies.
- Raquel Harris spoke in support of naming the new community center after Onetta Harris.
- Rhona Harris spoke in support of naming the new community center after Onetta Harris.
- John McKenna spoke in support of prioritize climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Agnes Harris spoke in support of naming the new community center after Onetta Harris.

- Sheena Marie Castro read a letter to the record related to their resignation from Menlo Park.
- Jayanta Dey spoke in support of accelerating the work on climate change.
- JT Faraji spoke in support of naming the new community center after Onetta Harris.
- Greg Goodwin spoke in support of naming the new community center after Onetta Harris.
- James Pistorino spoke in support of reviewing the CAP and city efforts of electrification and the natural gas appliances ban.
- Yahsmeen Abdusami spoke in support of naming the new community center after Onetta Harris.
- Warren Hayman spoke in support of naming the new community center after Onetta Harris.

The City Council received clarification on the status and process of the naming of the community center.

O. Closed Session

O1. Closed session conference with labor negotiators pursuant to Government Code §54957.6 regarding labor negotiations with the Service Employees International Union Local 521 (SEIU), American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees Local 829 (AFSCME), and Confidential employees

Attendees: City Manager Justin I.C. Murphy, Administrative Services Director Brittany Mello, Assistant City Manager Stephen Stolte. Legal Counsel Charles Sakai

• Whit Loy, with donated time from Sokny Sy and Joanna Chen, spoke on employee pension subsidies or "cost-share" (Attachment).

The City Council received clarification on the acronyms and percentages listed in the attachment.

F. Presentations and Proclamations

F1. Proclamation: Recognizing April 28, 2023 as National Arbor Day (Attachment)

Mayor Wolosin introduced the proclamation (Attachment).

G. Advisory Body Vacancies and Appointments

G1. Consider applicants and make appointments to fill vacancies on various advisory bodies (Staff Report #23-098-CC)

City Clerk Judi A. Herren made a presentation (Attachment).

- Andrew Ehrich spoke in support on their serving on the Planning Commission.
- Brian Kissel spoke on their application to the Environmental Quality Commission.

The City Council discussed the voting process for the various appointments.

The City Council directed staff to pursue Option No. 3 for the Finance and Audit Committee, which included three appointments tonight, extending the recruitment period and returning to fill the

remaining two vacancies.

The City Council made appointments to fill vacancies on the Complete Streets, Environmental Quality, Housing, Library, Parks and Recreation, Planning Commissions and the Finance and Audit Committee:

Planning Commission:

Andrew Ehrich – term expiring April 30, 2027 Katie Ferrick – term expiring April 30, 2027

Complete Streets Commission

Jacqui Cebrian – term expiring April 30, 2027

Ross Silverstein – term expiring April 30, 2024

Environmental Quality Commission Brian Kissel – term expiring April 30, 2027 Eduardo Pelegri-Llopart – term expiring April 30, 2027

Finance and Audit Committee

Jeff Leroux – term expiring April 30, 2025

Matthew Normington – term expiring April 30, 2025

Carol Wong – term expiring April 30, 2025

Housing Commission
Virginia Portillo – term expiring April 30, 2027

Library Commission Carol Orton – term expiring April 30, 2027 Jennifer Wise – term expiring April 30, 2027

Parks and Recreation Commission
Jessica Gilmartin – term expiring April 30, 2027
Wonman Lee – term expiring April 30, 2027

The City Council took a recess at 7:57 p.m.

The City Council reconvened at 8:04 p.m.

The City Council reordered the agenda.

J. Continued Public Hearing

J1. Consider the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve the vesting tentative map extension and adopt a resolution to approve a two-year extension of a vesting tentative map to merge the existing SP-ECR/D (El Camino Real/Downtown Specific Plan) lots, abandon a portion of

Alto Lane, and create a two-lot subdivision for condominium purposes, with 12 residential units, one restaurant space and up to three retail spaces on one lot in the SP-ECR/D zoning district, at 201 El Camino Real, and two townhouses on the second lot in the R-3 (Apartment) zoning district, at 612 Cambridge Ave. (Staff Report #23-102-CC) – **Continued from March 14, 2023**

Associate Planner Matthew Pruter made a presentation (Attachment).

Applicant Nariman Teymourian made a presentation.

Mayor Wolosin opened the public hearing.

Mayor Wolosin closed the public hearing.

The City Council received clarification on the applicant's meetings with the neighbors of the proposed project.

The City Council discussed community engagement with the property owner.

ACTION: Motion and second (Nash/ Taylor), to approve a tentative map extension request and adopt a resolution to approve a two-year extension of a vesting tentative map associated with a major subdivision to merge the existing SP-ECR/D (El Camino Real/Downtown Specific Plan) lots, abandon a portion of Alto Lane, and create a two-lot subdivision for condominium purposes, with 12 residential units, one restaurant space and up to three retail spaces on one lot in the SP-ECR/D zoning district, and two townhouses on the second lot in the R-3 (Apartment) zoning district, passed unanimously.

H. Study Session

H1. Provide direction on the Caltrain quiet zone study (Staff Report #23-097-CC)

Assistant Public Work Director Hugh Louch made the presentation (Attachment).

- John Woodell spoke in support of full grade separation.
- Amy Mushlin spoke in support of pursuing guiet zones.
- Adrian Brandt spoke in support of pursuing quiet zones and seeking funding from the California High Speed Rail Authority.
- Roland LeBrun provided information on train regulations from different agencies and grade separation.
- Marcy Abramowitz spoke in support of pursuing quiet zones.
- Sally Cole spoke in support of pursuing guiet zones.
- Adina Levin spoke in support of pursuing quiet zones.
- Jenny Michel spoke in opposition to pursuing quiet zones.

The City Council received clarification on commuter and freight train horn requirements, train crash data, bollards on the north side of tracks and potential south side mitigations, costs and possible funding, impacts to future grade separation, and the number of residential units near the tracks.

The City Council discussed the fiscal year 2023-24 budget process, impacts to timeline if direction is held until hearing the budget, safety elements, and suicide prevention signage.

The City Council directed staff to pursue an agreement with Caltrain to advance final design, pursuing four quadrant gates at two crossings to implement a quiet zone more quickly including design work and budget impacts for all four gates, drafting a letter to seek reimbursement from California High-Speed Rail Authority, and pursing a left-turn restrictions from Oak Grove Avenue to Merrill Street and Garwood Way including community outreach.

I. Consent Calendar

- I1. Update City Councilmembers subcommittee appointments (Staff Report #23-099-CC)
- 12. Adopt a resolution certifying compliance with State housing laws to be eligible for One Bay Area Grant funding for the Middle Avenue Caltrain crossing project (Staff Report #23-096-CC)
 - Adina Levin spoke on concerns related to the city's eligibility for One Bay Area Grant funding for the Middle Avenue Caltrain crossing project.

The City Council received clarification on the city's eligibility for One Bay Area Grant funding for the Middle Avenue Caltrain crossing project.

- I3. Authorize the city manager to execute an amendment to the Belle Haven School Joint Use Agreement (Staff Report #23-095-CC)
 - Pam Jones request more information on the proposed health clinic.

The City Council received clarification on the Ravenswood health clinic.

- I4. Receive and file the Single Audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022 (Staff Report #23-100-CC)
- I5. Authorize the city manager to execute agreements with Sloan Sakai and Liebert Cassidy Whitmore for legal services related to human resources (Staff Report #23-101-CC)

The City Council discussed potentially updating the agreement term and lessening the not to exceed amount, request for qualification (RFQ) impacts to staff, and potential legal service disruption.

The City Council received clarification on the initial Sloan Sakai Yeung and Wong, LLP and Liebert Cassidy Whitmore not to exceed amounts and contract terms, as well as the triggers of an RFQ.

The City Council directed a RFQ for labor legal services to be returned to the City Council at a later time.

ACTION: Motion and second (Nash/ Taylor), authorize the city manager to execute an agreement with

Sloan Sakai Yeung and Wong, LLP (Sloan Sakai) in the amount not to exceed \$175,000 and with Liebert Cassidy Whitmore (LCW) in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 for legal services related to human resources, including labor relations, employee relations, staff trainings, and workplace investigations over a three-year, two-month period to align with the end of the fiscal year, passed unanimously.

ACTION: Motion and second (Wolosin/ Doerr), to approved the consent calendar with the exception of item 15., passed unanimously.

K. Regular Business

K1. Approve fiscal year 2023-24 budget principles, review five-year General Fund forecast (Staff Report #23-103-CC)

Administrative Services Director Brittany Mello and Interim Finance Director Marvin Davis made the presentation (Attachment).

The City Council received clarification on equity, impacts from lowering policy limits on reserve balances, and vacancy rates.

The City Council discussed equitable tools and action and revenue chart based on Districts.

The City Council directed updating the following budget principles:

- "Proactively maintain and improve existing infrastructure to minimize maintenance costs, decrease the City's greenhouse gas emissions, <u>and increase the City's long-term disaster and climate resilience."</u>
- "Implement ordinances and City Council adopted initiatives and strategies to contribute to the quality of life in Menlo Park now and in the future."
- "Strive to achieve City Council cost recovery goals for all fee-based services."

The City Council also directed staff to research if amendments are needed to the reserve policy.

ACTION: Motion and second (Wolosin/ Nash), to approve budget principles with edits as presented for fiscal year 2023-24 and review the five-year General Fund forecast, passed unanimously.

ACTION: By acclamation, the City Council continued the meeting beyond 11 p.m.

L. Informational Items

- L1. City Council agenda topics: May 9 May 23 (Staff Report #23-104-CC)
- L2. Transmittal of city attorney billing (Staff Report #23-105-CC)
- L3. Update on City's Housing Element Update project status and next steps (Staff Report #23-106-CC)

The City Council received clarification on the status of the below market rate (BMR) administration

request for proposal and future meetings and public noticing requirements.

The City Council requested an opportunity to update the BMR policy.

M. City Manager Report's

City Manager Justin Murphy reported out on Middlefield Road pilot.

N. City Councilmember Reports

City Councilmember Combs reported out on the annual egg hunt at Flood Park.

City Councilmember Nash reported out on Stanford Community Resources Group meeting.

Vice Mayor Taylor reported out on OneShoreline (Attachment), C/CAG, Peninsula Traffic Congestion Relief Alliance (Commute.org), and the Menlo Park Community Campus working group meetings.

City Councilmember Doerr reported out on the HEART Board Member Agency Committee and Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency meetings.

Mayor Wolosin reported out on the Commute.org meeting and the Progress Seminar.

O. Closed Session

O1. Closed session conference with labor negotiators pursuant to Government Code §54957.6 regarding labor negotiations with the Service Employees International Union Local 521 (SEIU), American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees Local 829 (AFSCME), and Confidential employees

Attendees: City Manager Justin I.C. Murphy, Administrative Services Director Brittany Mello, Assistant City Manager Stephen Stolte. Legal Counsel Charles Sakai

P. Adjournment

Mayor Wolosin adjourned to the closed session at 11:20 p.m.

Mayor Wolosin adjourned the meeting at 12:19 a.m.

Judi A. Herren Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk

These minutes were approved at the City Council meeting of June 13, 2023.

MA II-Step C

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	Classic	
	Annual salary	\$115,505.00
	bi-weekly	\$4,442.50
From UKG	Rate	
CP M1 (Employee share)	8.00%	\$355.40
CP PU AFSCME(Emplyoee portion of cost share)	6.04%	\$268.33
City portion-M1	3.66%*	
City portion-M1 ER UAL	18.18%*	ľ

*estimate

Middle-tier	
Annual salary	\$115,505.00
bi-weekly	\$4,442.50
Rate	
7.00%	\$310.98
6.04%	\$268.33

PEPRA	
Annual salary	\$115,505.00
bi-weekly	\$4,442.50
Rate	
6.75%	\$299.87
6.04%	\$268.33

MP Benefit Summary

https://menlopark.gov/files/sharedassets/public/ administrative-services/documents/humanresources/benefits/2022-benefits-summary.pdf Retirement System (CalPERS) for Miscellaneous Members 2.0% at age 62 formula, highest three years.

- 14.4 The City shall pay none of the employee's contribution to CalPERS. The full unit member's contribution shall be deducted from the unit member's pay by the City and forwarded to CalPERS in accordance with the rules and regulations governing such contributions.
- 14.5 The City will continue to apply Internal Revenue Code 414 (h)(2) on the employee's contribution to CalPERS.
- Beginning with fiscal year 2011-12, should the employer rate rise above 15.850%, the increase shall be shared equally between the employee and the employer. As an example, if the employer rate for 2011-12 is 16.000%, the City shall pay 15.925% and the employee shall pay 8.075% (inclusive of the 8.000% fixed employee contribution).
 - 14.7 Effective as soon as practicable and after January 1, 2014, the employee contribution towards the employer's contribution to the Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) shall be taken as a pre-tax deduction from the employees' paycheck each payroll period. The City and the Union agree that the employee contribution towards the employer's contribution will continue past the expiration of the MOU. If for any reason the City is precluded from making this deduction or the deduction cannot be made on a pre-tax basis, the parties agree to meet and confer regarding ways to cure the defect.
 - 14.8 Committee for Employee Cost Share Reduction

The City and AFSCME will establish a labor management committee no later than 180 days prior to the expiration of the contract to study in good faith the impact of the additional cost share in section 14 of AFSCME MOU. AFSCME and the City will each appoint two (2) members to the committee, with additional members to be added by mutual agreement. The Parties intend the committee to inform negotiations over potential modification of the Cost Share as part of a successor MOU.

ARTICLE 15: GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

15.1 Definitions

- 15.1.1 A grievance is an alleged violation, misinterpretation, or misapplication of the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding, policy and/or procedure manuals affecting the working conditions of the employees covered by this Agreement
- 15.1.2 A "Disciplinary appeal" is an appeal from a disciplinary action of a Letter of Reprimand or higher, against an employee covered by this Memorandum of Understanding.



RECOGNIZING APRIL 28, 2023 AS NATIONAL ARBOR DAY

WHEREAS, National Arbor Day is observed on the last Friday of April each year by many states across the country for the community planting of trees; and

WHEREAS, the benefits of trees as part of a stable global environment are well recognized; and

WHEREAS, the special importance of trees in urban areas must be maintained to improve air quality, provide shade, prevent erosion of topsoil and sedimentation in waterways, maintain climatic balance, and decrease wind velocities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Menlo Park was historically forested by stands of oak, bay and other trees; and

WHEREAS, the preservation and planting of trees is necessary for the continued health and welfare of the citizens of this City in order to preserve the scenic beauty and historical value of trees; and

WHEREAS, the City of Menlo Park is well known for its numerous and beautiful trees which truly enhance the desirability of Menlo Park to live, work and play; and

WHEREAS, this is the twenty-fourth anniversary of City of Menlo Park being recognized as a member of the Arbor Day Foundation's "Tree City USA" group; and

WHEREAS, the planting of five trees with Mayor Wolosin, Vice Mayor Taylor, and the Environmental Quality Commission symbolizes the strong relationship, values, and the historical significance of Menlo Park's trees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Jen Wolosin, Mayor of the City of Menlo Park, on behalf of the City Council and City, acknowledges the plantings of one 'Sky Climber' Southern live oak (Quercus virginiana 'Sky Climber'), one Marina strawberry tree (Arbutus marina), and three Chinese pistache (Pistacia chinensis) at Karl E Clark at 313 Market Place on April 29 in recognition and celebration of National Arbor Day and affirm the City Council's commitment to safeguard and enhance Menlo Park's urban forest.

CETY OF MENIO PARK

Jen Wolosin, Mayor April 2023



RECONOCIMIENTO DEL 28 DE ABRIL DE 2023 COMO DÍA NACIONAL DEL ÁRBOL

CONSIDERANDO que el Día Nacional del Árbol se celebra el último viernes de abril de cada año en muchos estados de todo el país para la plantación comunitaria de árboles; y

CONSIDERANDO que los beneficios de los árboles como parte de un medio ambiente global estable son bien reconocidos; y

CONSIDERANDO que la especial importancia de los árboles en las zonas urbanas debe mantenerse para mejorar la calidad del aire, proporcionar sombra, evitar la erosión de la capa superior del suelo y la sedimentación en las vías fluviales, mantener el equilibrio climático y disminuir la velocidad del viento; y

CONSIDERANDO que la ciudad de Menlo Park ha estado históricamente poblada de robles, laureles y otros árboles; y

CONSIDERANDO que la preservación y plantación de árboles es necesaria para la salud y el bienestar continuos de los ciudadanos de esta ciudad a fin de preservar la belleza escénica y el valor histórico de los árboles; y

CONSIDERANDO que la ciudad de Menlo Park es bien conocida por sus numerosos y hermosos árboles, que verdaderamente realzan el atractivo de Menlo Park para vivir, trabajar y divertirse; y

CONSIDERANDO que éste es el vigésimo cuarto aniversario del reconocimiento de la ciudad de Menlo Park como miembro del grupo «Tree City USA» de la Fundación Arbor Day; y

CONSIDERANDO que la plantación de cinco árboles con la alcaldesa Wolosin, el vicealcalde Taylor y la Comisión de Calidad Medioambiental simboliza la sólida relación, los valores y la importancia histórica de los árboles de Menlo Park.

POR LO TANTO, SE RESUELVE, que yo, Jen Wolosin, Alcaldesa de la Ciudad de Menlo Park, en nombre del Ayuntamiento y de la Ciudad, reconozco la plantación de un roble del sur «Sky Climber» (Quercus virginiana «Sky Climber»), un madroño de Marina (Arbutus marina), y tres pistachos chinos (Pistacia chinensis) en Karl E Clark en 313 Market Place el 29 de abril en reconocimiento y celebración del Día Nacional del Árbol y ratifico el compromiso del Ayuntamiento para proteger y mejorar el bosque urbano de Menlo Park.

Jen Wolosin, Alcaldesa

Abril de 2023

CETYOF MENIO PARK







UPDATES

- Complete Streets Commission term length
 - Regular through April 2027
 - Unexpired through April 2024
- Finance and Audit Committee incumbent
 - Mathew Normington
- Applications received after April 7 deadline





STAFF RECOMMENDATION

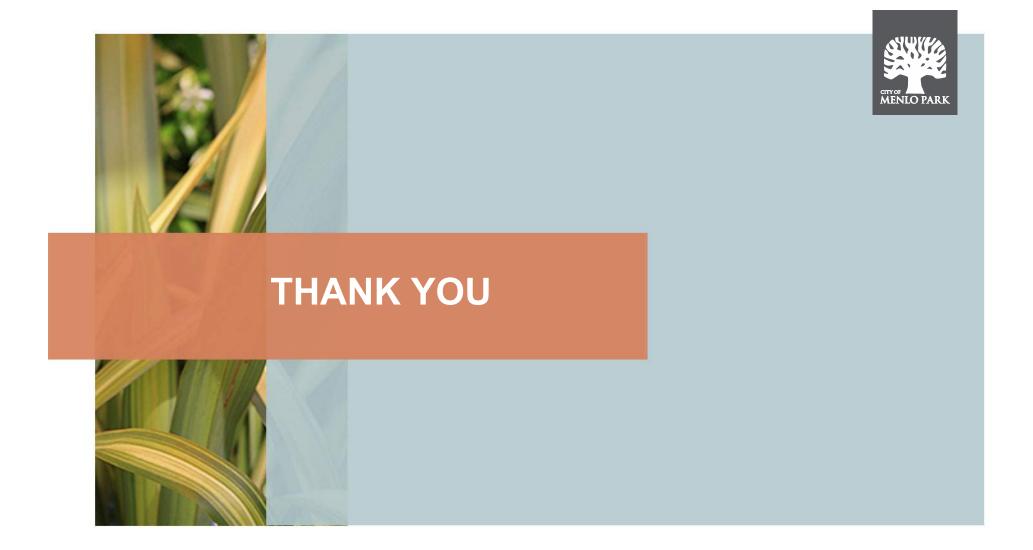
Advisory body	Vacancies	Term length	No. of applicants
Complete Streets Commission	2	April 30, 2024 (regular) April 30, 2027 (unexpired)	5
Environmental Quality Commission	2	April 30, 2027	8
Finance and Audit Committee	5	April 30, 2025	4
Housing Commission	1	April 30, 2027	4
Library Commission	2	April 30, 2027	4
Parks and Recreation Commission	2	April 30, 2027	4
Planning Commission	2	April 30, 2027	5

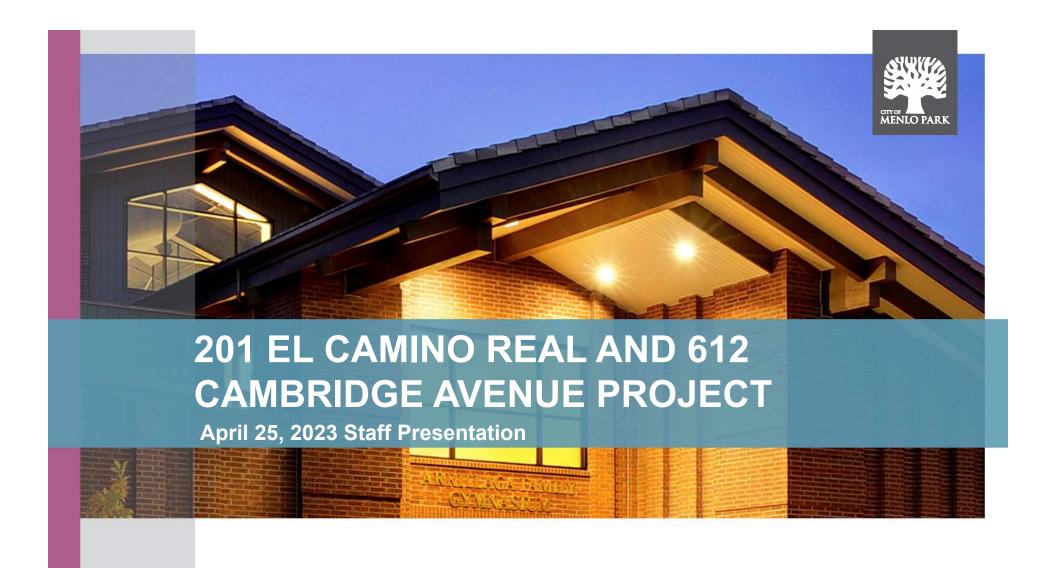


FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE (FAC) OPTIONS



Option	Action	Result
 Appoint FAC applicants and select an applicant from the current pool of applicants that applied to another advisory body. 	-Appoint one or all applicants from FAC and all advisory body pools	Seven member body
2. Direct staff to update City Council Policy CC-23-004 changing the FAC composition from seven to five members and appoint three applicants to the FAC	-Appoint three applicants -Direct update of policy CC-23-004	Five member body
3. Appoint current applicant(s) to the FAC and extend the FAC recruitment period for two weeks.	-Appoint one or all applicants -Extend FAC recruitment 2-weeks	Potential seven member body
4. Refrain from appointing applicant(s) to the FAC, extend the FAC recruitment period for two weeks, and request the expiring members to continue serving on the FAC until appointments are made.	-No appointments tonight -Extend FAC recruitment 2-weeks -Request three expiring members to continue serving	Potential seven member body















- Original project approval on October 27, 2020
 - Mixed use building with 12 housing units, one restaurant unit, and up to three retail units, two detached townhouses, and underground parking
- Extension request continued on March 14, 2023
- Extension request to receive City
 Council action today, April 25, 2023





MARCH 14, 2023 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

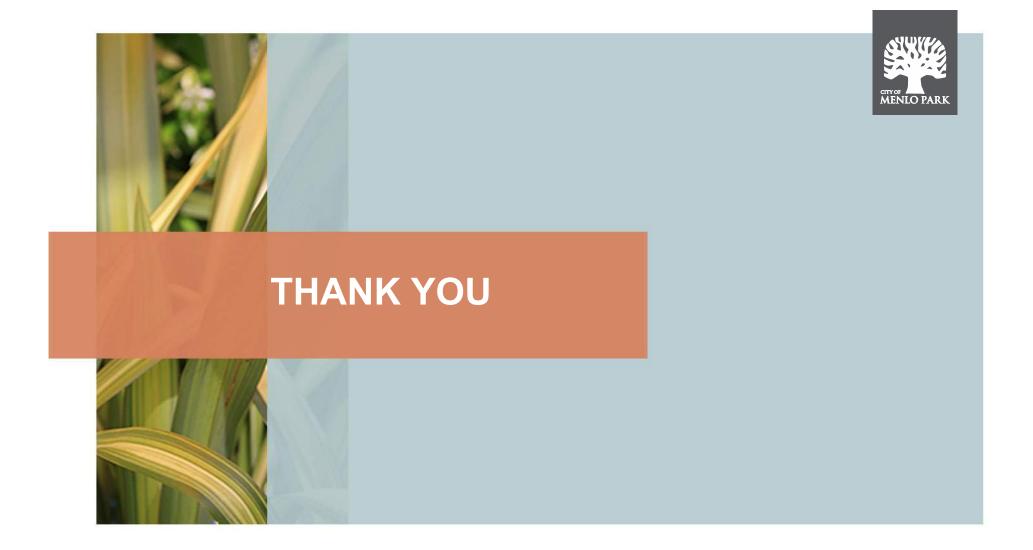
- Two-year vesting tentative map request continued by City Council on March 14, 2023 based on the following concerns:
 - Progress of project development
 - Trash and debris on site
 - Occupation of the site by unhoused individuals
 - Safety
 - Tree health





APPLICANT RESPONSE

- Applicant progress since March 14, 2023
 - Removed trash and installed fencing
 - Covered damaged points of entry
 - Reinstated demolition permit applications
 - Preparing additional reports and documentation for issuance of demolition permit
 - This includes a nesting bird survey, a bat survey, and noise and vibration analysis, among others
 - Held community meeting on April 22
 - Scheduling tree trimming
 - Daily site monitoring



City of Menlo Park / City of Palo Alto Quiet Zone Study

Kimley » Horn



- Quiet zone basics
- Quiet zone process

Overview 3. Study area

- 4. Proposed safety improvements
- 5. Next steps

Why do trains sound their horns?

- Railroads are regulated by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
- Train horns are required by the FRA
- Decibel level requirements for horns
- Advance notice (20 seconds)



What is a Quiet Zone?

- A Quiet Zone exists where a train horn does not need to sound
- The crossings need to be upgraded to be safer without horns than they are in current state with horns.
- Achieved via:
 - Supplemental Safety Measures (SSM) at every crossing; or
 - Proposed design's Quiet Zone Risk Index (QZRI) qualifying for Quiet Zone



Most crossings, as they exist today, would not meet the safety thresholds to implement a Quiet Zone.

Quiet Zone Study The Process

PHASE I Study (CURRENT)

- Agency Coordination
- Conceptual Design / Safety Analysis
- Public Outreach
- Final Report

PHASE II Implementation (FUTURE)

- Permitting (CPUC, Caltrain)
- Final Design
- Funding
- Construction
- FRA Certification

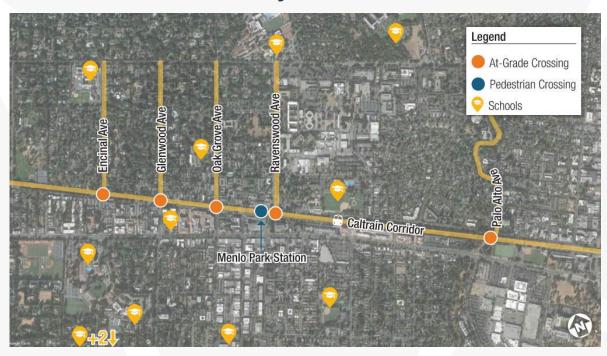
The Menlo Park / Palo Alto Quiet Zone Study Area

Menlo Park Study Area

- Encinal Ave
- Glenwood Ave
- Oak Grove Ave
- Menlo Park Station (pedestrian crossing)
- Ravenswood Ave

Palo Alto Study Area

Palo Alto Ave



Safety Improvements

Four-quadrant gates

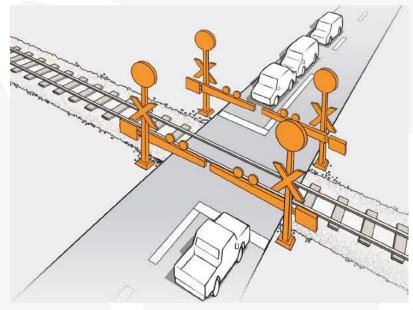
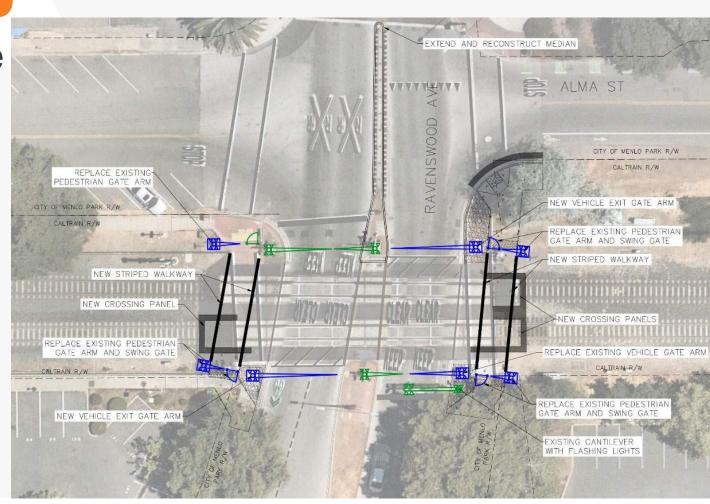


Image: https://hsr.ca.gov/about/safety/quad-gates/

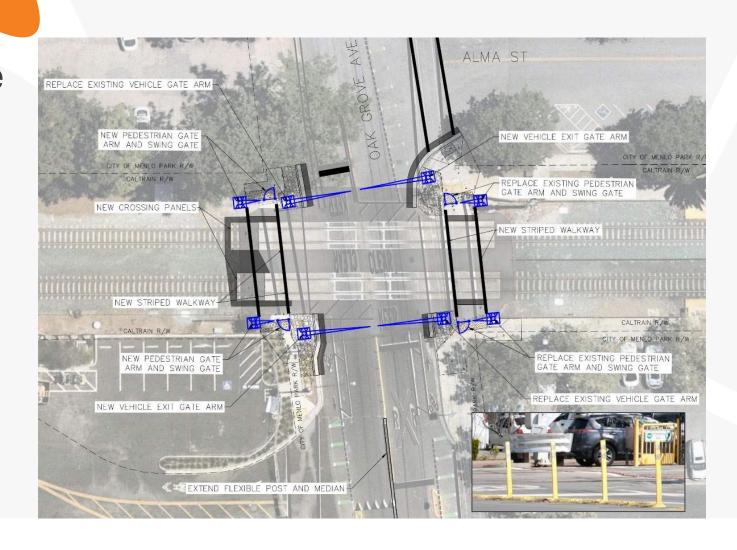
Ravenswood Ave

- Four-quadrant gates
- Sidewalk realignment
- Refreshed striping and signage



Oak Grove Ave

- Four-quadrant gates
- Sidewalk realignment
- Refreshed striping and signage
- Extend median





- Permitting (CPUC, Caltrain)
- Final Design
- Funding
- Construction

Crossing/scenario	Cost estimate
Ravenswood Avenue	\$1,900,000
Oak Grove Avenue	\$2,100,000
Glenwood Avenue	\$2,100,000
Encinal Avenue	\$2,100,000
Risk method - Ravenswood + Oak Grove	\$4,000,000
SSM method - all four crossings	\$8,200,000



- Pursue a service agreement with Caltrain to advance final design
- Pursue four quadrant gates at two crossings to implement a quiet zone more quickly
- Letter to the CAHSR to seek a commitment to reimburse
- Pursue left-turn restrictions from Oak Grove Avenue to Merrill Street and Garwood Way



Expect More. Experience Better.

Questions?





AGENDA



- 5-Year Forecast Purpose
- Key Economic Issues
- General Fund 5-Year Forecast
 - Revenue assumptions
 - Expense assumptions
 - General Fund projects
 - Reserve impacts
- City Council approval and direction







BUDGET PRINCIPLES

- 1. Promote the City's long-term fiscal sustainability
- 2. Provide city services and infrastructure that contribute to quality of life in Menlo Park
- 3. Revenue sources and grant accounting



PURPOSE OF THE 5-YEAR GENERAL FUND FORECAST



- Reflects adopted budgeting principles and assists the City Council with long-term strategic decisions for the City's largest operating fund.
- Provides outlook for a sustainable General Fund over the next five years.
- Revenue and expenditure assumptions in the forecast are based on current financial projections.
- The model received input from a variety of sources, including the executive team and expert consultants.





KEY ECONOMIC ISSUES

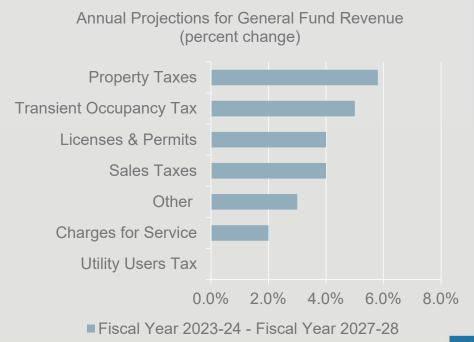
- General Fund revenues have started to recover from pandemic impacts
 - Forecast is based upon current financial projections
 - Most revenues have recovered to pre-pandemic levels, except for Sales Tax
 - Utility Users Tax (UUT) removed from forecast
- Economic uncertainty





REVENUE ASSUMPTIONS

- Revenue assumptions:
 - Property Taxes: 5.8% growth (HdL)
 - Transient Occupancy Tax: 5% growth
 - Sales Tax: 4% growth (MuniServices)
 - Licenses & Permits: 4% growth
 - Other revenues: 3%
 - UUT removed from forecast
- Additional information:
 - Transfers in include:
 - Approximately \$1M OPEB Trust disbursement
 - \$3.7 million in ARPA funds *final determination of uses pending City Council direction

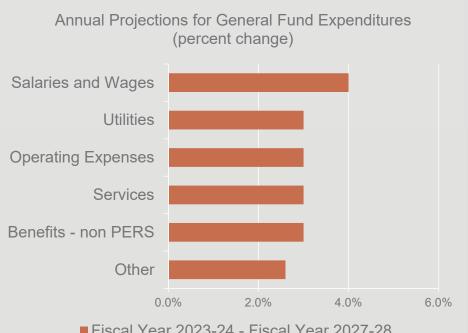






EXPENDITURE ASSUMPTIONS

- Expenditure assumptions:
 - 250 total full-time equivalents (FTEs)
 - · Placeholder wage adjustments *subject to labor negotiations
 - 7.5% vacancy factor (equal to 19 FTEs) included in forecast
 - 3% CPI inflation adjustment to benefits, capital improvements, and operating expenses
 - Note: Pension costs trend downward in outer years. Approximately \$1 million payment annually to reduce unfunded accrued liability (UAL)





GENERAL FUND 5-YEAR FORECAST





The forecast projects General Fund revenues to be lower than expenses over the five-year period.



GENERAL FUND 5-YEAR RESERVES



Reserve Impacts

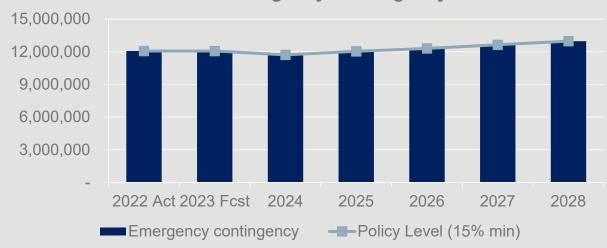
- Total reserve balance trends downward from \$32.5 million to \$24.2 million over the five-year period
- Emergency Contingency Reserve: Maintained at minimum policy level of 15% of the adopted budget
- Economic Stabilization Reserve: Falls below minimum policy level of 20% of the adopted budget after fiscal year 2024-25
- Unassigned Fund Balance: Decreases to \$0.25 million for the last three years of the forecast to maintain necessary liquidity for cash flow



GENERAL FUND: EMERGENCY CONTINGENCY RESERVE







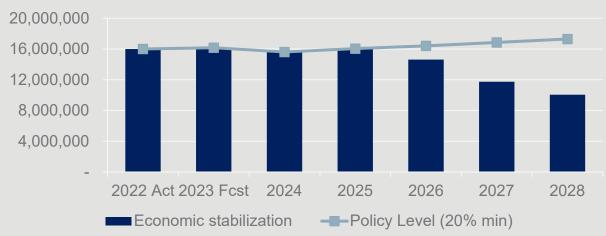
- The Emergency Contingency Reserve was established by resolution in 2011 and updated in 2014 with a policy goal of maintain 15-20% of the General Fund's annual operating budget.
- Use of the reserve is limited to declared emergencies.
- The forecast maintains this reserve at the minimum policy level.



GENERAL FUND: ECONOMIC STABILIZATION RESERVE







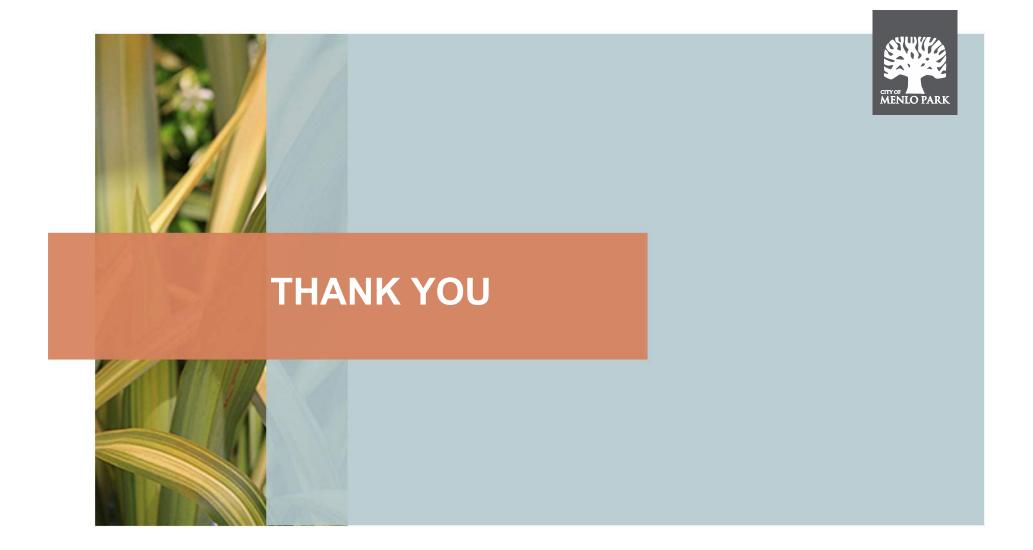
- The Economic Stabilization Reserve was established by resolution in 2011 and updated in 2014 with a policy goal of maintain 20-25% of the General Fund's annual operating budget.
- The reserve can be used for severe operational budget deficits or to mitigate effects from unforeseen changes in revenues and/or expenditures.
- The forecast uses reserves to cover projected deficits and falls below the minimum policy level after Fiscal Year 2024-25. Council may consider alternative strategies to structurally balance the budget over time.



CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL AND DIRECTION



- Approve the fiscal year 2023-24 budget principles
- Review the General Fund 5-Year forecast assumptions



City County Association of Governments of San Mateo County Board Meeting

April 13, 2023

KEN BROWN
Strategic Consulting



Overview of Firms

More than 25 years of experience working in Washington, DC.

Specialize in representing local governments.

Extensive experience and knowledge on federal sustainability programs.

Helped secure over \$1 billion in federal grants and appropriations for clients.

Our Government Affairs Approach

Develop full understanding of our clients and their priorities.

Work collaboratively each year to set an agenda of federal priorities.

Hold strategy meeting in fall prior to next year.

Match your priorities with federal funding and legislative opportunities.

Set up process to make you effective and successful -- You are your best advocates.

Organize regular meetings with your House and Senate offices and with key federal agencies.

Meet monthly to discuss progress, strategy, next steps.

Our 2023 Focus for C/CAG

- Congressional Appropriations.
- Federal Grants.
- Track legislation of interest.

FY 2024 C/CAG Federal Appropriations Requests

- \$480,000 for San Mateo County Laundry-to-Landscape Pilot Project.
- \$800,000 for San Mateo County E-Bike Strategic Plan.
- \$1.53 million for San Mateo County Sustainable Streets Pilot.
- \$450,000 for San Mateo County Carbon Neutrality Plan.
- \$1.2 million for Multi-Agency Adaptive Signal Timing.

Status of FY 2024 Appropriations Requests

- Rep. Mullin requested funding for Sustainable Streets Pilot.
- House Appropriations Subcommittees will begin consideration of legislation in May.
- Don't know yet which projects Senators will request.
- Senate appropriations subcommittees will likely begin consideration of legislation in May/June.
- Timing of funds will depend upon ability of divided Congress to pass budget.

Climate in DC

- Divided government.
- Republicans now have majority in House.
- House will cut FY 2024 funding don't know how much.
- Significant resources for local governments remain through Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act.

Key Themes for Expanded Opportunities

- Provide substantial investment in underserved communities: Rural, lower income, communities of color, tribes.
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants.
- Create American jobs and American businesses.

DOT Opportunities

- RAISE Grants \$7.5 B, includes \$75 M / year for planning.
- SMART Grants -- \$500 M for demonstrations that incorporate innovative technologies or data uses to improve transportation efficiency and safety.
- Reconnecting Communities -- \$1 B
- PROTECT Grants -- \$1.4 B for resiliency
- Safe Streets for All -- \$5 B for safety especially cyclists and pedestrians
- Healthy Streets Grants -- \$500 M for cool or porous pavements, tree cover
- Bridge Discretionary Grants -- \$12.5 B
- Airport Terminal Program -- \$5 B
- Carbon Reduction Program -- \$6.4 B
- Charging and fueling Infrastructure -- \$7.5 B (\$2.5 B competitive grants)

Transit and Para-Transit: \$39 Billion Increase

- Formula Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities \$3.2 Billon.
- Competitive Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities \$2 Billion.
- Low-No Emission Bus Competitive Grants \$5.625 Billion.
- Transit Accessibility for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities (Formula Grants) \$2.2 Billion goes through states for small and rural communities.

EPA Programs

- Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund -- \$27 billion
- Clean Water and Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Funds -- \$23.4 billion
- Western Water -- \$7.1 billion
- EPA Stormwater and Sewer Overflow Grants -- \$1.4 B
- Clean School Bus Program -- \$7.5 billion
- Brownfields Revitalization -- \$1.5 billion
- Solid Waste Infrastructure and Recycling Grants -- \$275 million

Resilience

- Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Grants (\$8.7 billion)
- Wildfire Management (\$8.25 billion)
- Investments in Resilience through the Army Corps of Engineers (\$7 billion)
- Western Water (\$3.8 billion)
- Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (\$3.5 billion)
- Weatherization (\$3.5 billion)
- Cybersecurity (\$1.3 billion)
- FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC) -- \$1B.

Broadband

- Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (\$42.45 billion)
- Affordable Connectivity Program (\$14.2 billion)
- Digital Equity Planning, Capacity and Competitive Grants (\$2.75 billion)
- Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program (\$2 billion)
- Rural Broadband Programs at Department of Agriculture (\$2 billion)
- Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program (\$1 billion)
- Private Activity Bonds (\$600 million)

Other Upcoming Federal Opportunities

- Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grants \$550 M for deployment of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies and practices – San Mateo County receiving \$330 K.
- State Energy Programs -- \$500 million.



Equity Assessment and Framework Development Project

C/CAG Board Meeting - March 9, 2023





Overview

Project Updates

Equity Focus Area Mapping

Existing Conditions Analysis

Discussion and Feedback



Progress and Timeline

Phase I: Fall 2022	Phase II: Winter 2022/2023	Phase III: Spring 2023	Phase IV: Late Spring-Early Summer 2023
 Equity definitions Historical perspective Connections between C/CAG's program areas and equity 	 Equity metrics & EFA mapping Identification of equity impacts, issues, and needs connected to C/CAG's work 	 Peer review of equity practices Existing C/CAG equity integrations Focused delineation of C/CAG's role in equity 	 Final Reports, Policies, Statements, and Framework



Rooted and uprooted in North Fair Oaks, May 16, 2022, Don Shoecraft Source: https://climaterwc.com/2022/05/16/rooted-and-uprooted-in-north-fair oaks/



Phase II Progress: Defining & Mapping EFA's & Assessing Existing Conditions



Reviewed C/CAG's existing Equity Priority
Community/demographic indicators, maps, & tools



Identified C/CAG interest in consistency across agencies, as well as specificity to C/CAG's programs



Developed initial & updated indicators for geographic assessment & existing conditions analysis



Mapping strategy & draft and updated maps



Produced draft and updated existing conditions (disparity) analysis





Mapping & Existing Conditions Input

- Make applicable to C/CAG's diverse program areas
- Establish a process and timeline for updating C/CAG's Equity Focus Areas (EFA's) on a recurring basis with the latest data and potentially with new indicators of interest.
- Additional demographic indicators considered:
 - Undocumented people
 - Linguistic isolation
 - Unbanked
 - Unhoused
 - Overcrowding
 - Low-income seniors
 - Single parent households

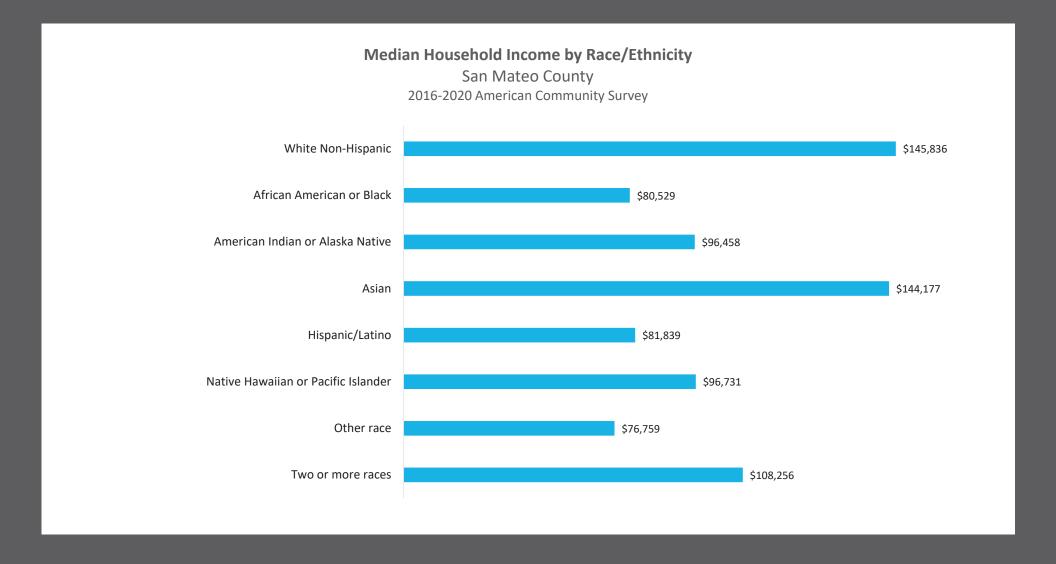


"A view from the St. Francis neighborhood in Daly City. (Sebastian Miño-Bucheli/KQED)"
Source: https://www.kqed.org/news/11883382/in-daly-city-the-bayanihan-spirit-is-alive



Existing Conditions Analysis



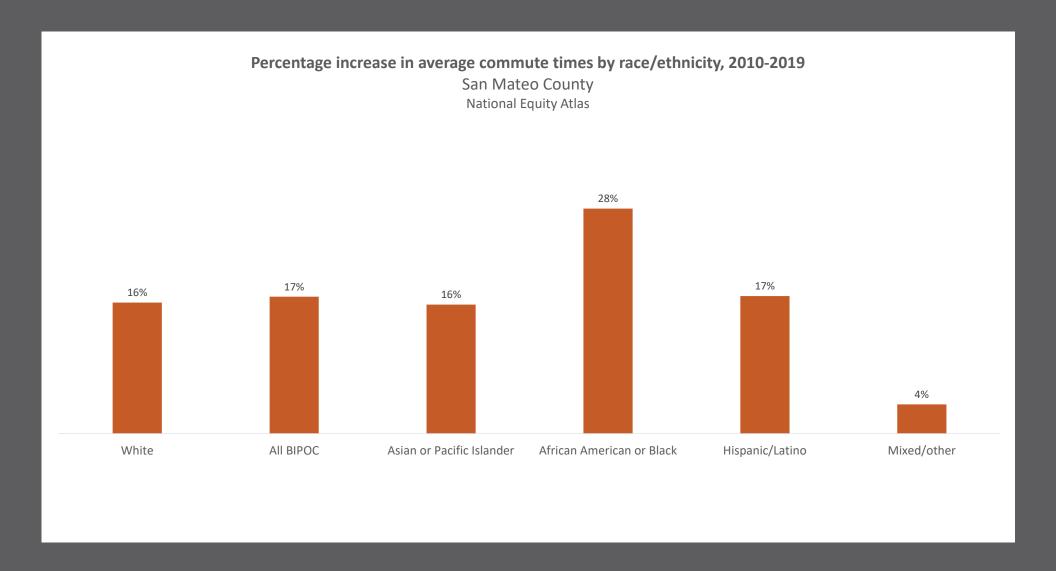


Means of transportation to work by race/ethnicity in San Mateo County 2016-2020 American Community Survey

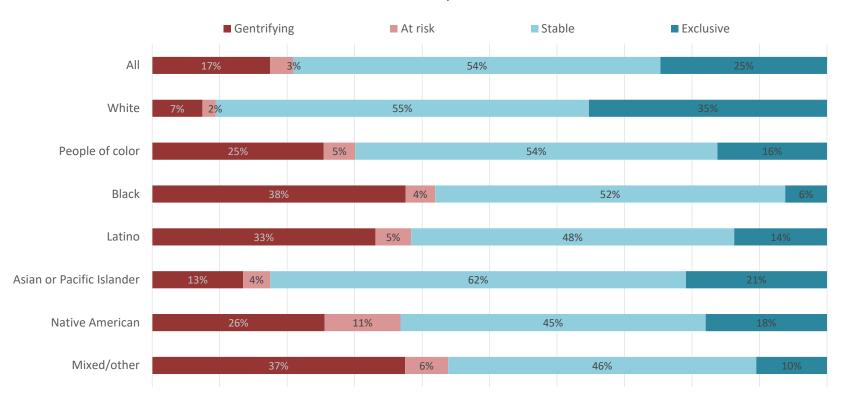
	Drive alone	Carpool	Public Transit	Walk	Bike or other	Work from home
White Non-Hispanic	69%	6%	7%	2%	4%	13%
African American or Black	61%	11%	12%	5%	4%	7%
American Indian or Alaska Native	60%	21%	6%	2%	7%	5%
Asian	60%	12%	14%	2%	2%	10%
Hispanic/Latino	65%	14%	10%	4%	3%	5%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	72%	12%	6%	3%	3%	5%
Other race	65%	13%	11%	4%	3%	4%
Two or more races	64%	8%	10%	3%	4%	11%

Means of transportation to work by household income in San Mateo County 2016-2020 American Community Survey

	Drive alone	Carpool	Public Transit	Walk	(Bike or other	Work from home
Under \$25K	59%	13%	11%		5%	4%	8%
\$25K-\$50K	65%	13%	10%		3%	3%	6%
\$50K-\$75K	69%	9%	9%		2%	3%	7%
Over \$75K	67%	7%	10%		1%	3%	12%



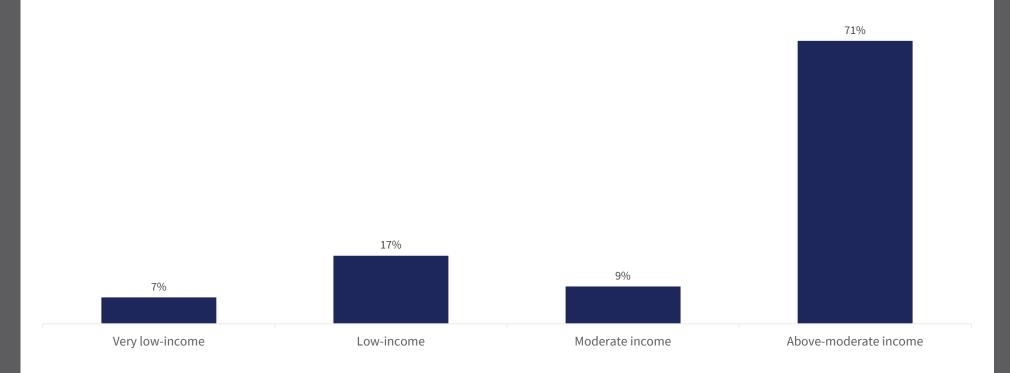
Gentrification Risk by Race (pct. of households) San Mateo County



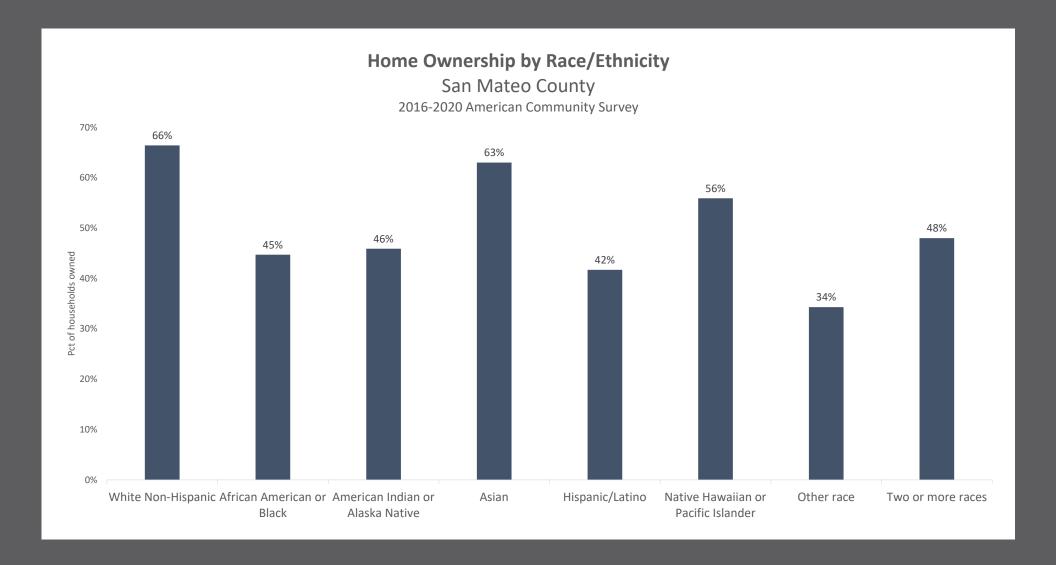
Source: UC Berkeley Urban Displacement Project; American Community Survey | Bay Area Equity Atlas

Affordable Housing Production in San Mateo County, 2015-2017

(Units created as a share of units needed during 2015-2023 cycle)



Source: Bay Area Equity Atlas | Bay Area Regional Housing Needs Allocation



Equity Indicator Mapping



✓ = Indicator included in corresponding agency's map

	C/CAG CBPP Equity Focus Areas*	SamTrans Equity Priority Areas	MTC Equity Priority Communities	CalEnviro- Screen	USDOT
Zero Vehicle Households	✓	✓	✓		
Low-income Population	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
People of Color	✓	✓	✓		
Housing cost burdened	✓		✓	✓	
Transportation cost burdened	✓				
Unemployment				✓	
Limited English proficiency			✓	✓	✓
Low education levels				✓	✓
Poor health outcomes				✓	✓
Environmental disparities				✓	✓
Climate change resilience disadvantage					✓
Lack of local jobs					✓
High inequality					✓
Seniors			✓		
People with disabilities			✓		✓
Single parent households			✓		

^{*}Comprehensive Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan

C/CAG Comprehensive Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (CBPP) Equity Focus Areas



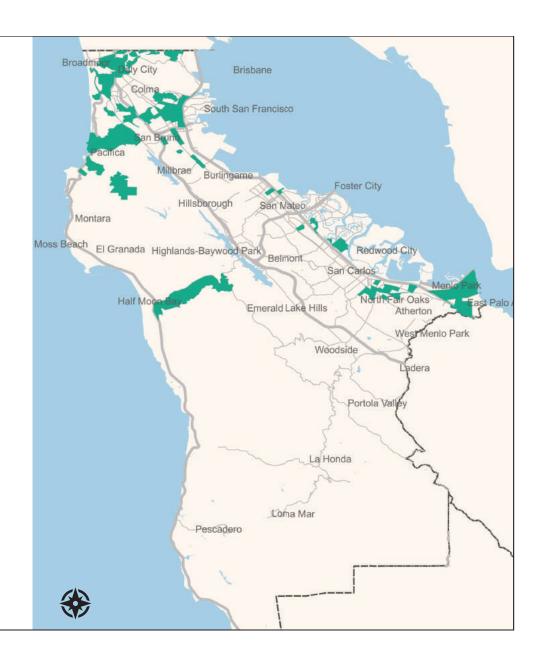
<u>Indicators</u>

• Low-income households

Arterial street

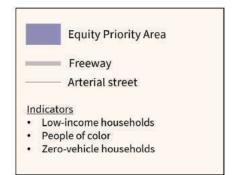
- People of color
- · Zero-vehicle households
- Transportation and housing cost-burdened households

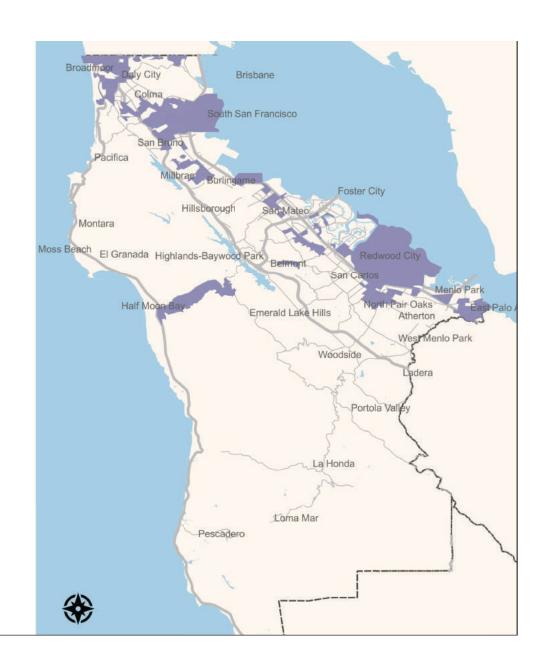
Source: 2014-2018 American Community Survey





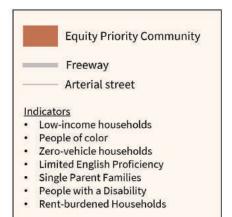
SamTrans Equity Priority Areas

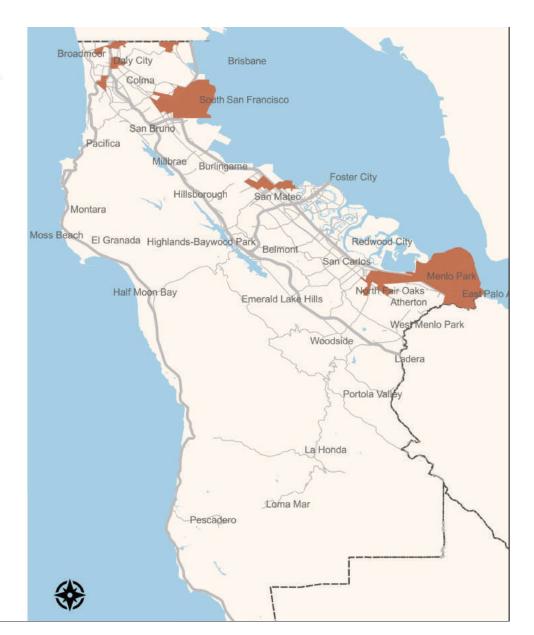






MTC Equity Priority Communities







C/CAG CBPP Equity Focus Areas & Limited English Proficiency



High % limited English proficient households (above 23%)

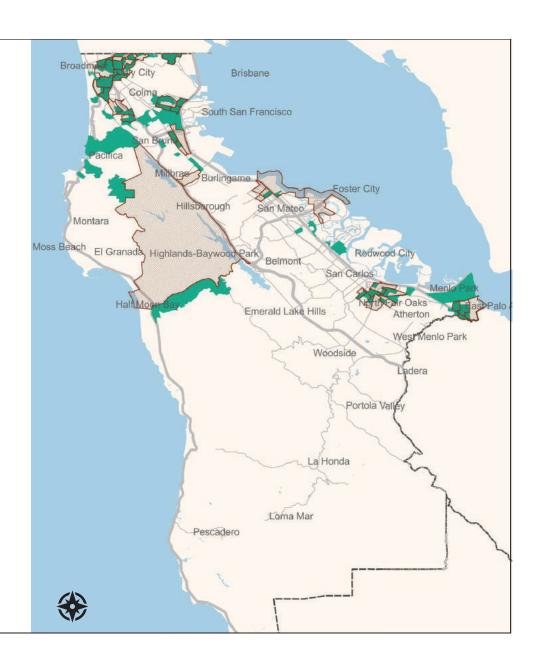
---- Freeway

Arterial street

Equity Focus Area Indicators

- Low-income households
- People of color
- · Zero-vehicle households
- Transportation and housing cost-burdened households

Sources: 2014-2018 American Community Survey, 2017-2021 American Community Survey





C/CAG CBPP Equity Focus Areas & Single Parent Households



High % Single Parent Households (above 11%)

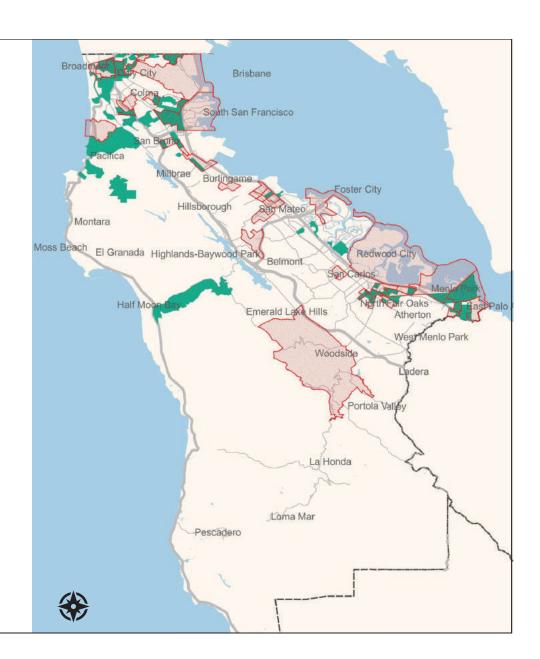
— Freeway

– Arterial street

Equity Focus Area Indicators

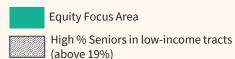
- · Low-income households
- People of color
- · Zero-vehicle households
- Transportation and housing cost-burdened households

Sources: 2014-2018 American Community Survey, 2017-2021 American Community Survey





C/CAG CBPP Equity Focus Areas & Seniors in Low-income Areas



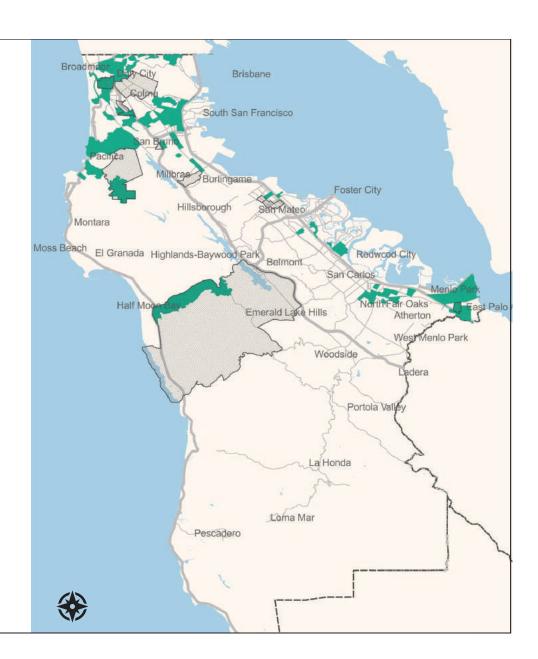
— Freeway

– Arterial street

Equity Focus Area Indicators

- · Low-income households
- People of color
- Zero-vehicle households
- Transportation and housing cost-burdened households

Sources: 2014-2018 American Community Survey, 2017-2021 American Community Survey





C/CAG CBPP Equity Focus Areas & Gentrification Risk



Gentrification & displacement risk tract

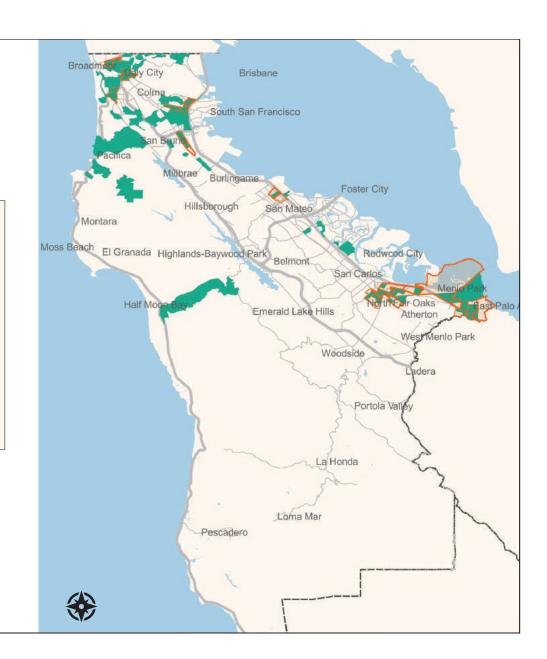
----- Freeway

Arterial street

Equity Focus Area Indicators

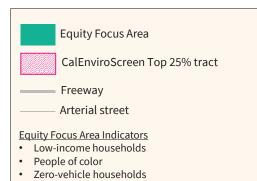
- · Low-income households
- People of color
- · Zero-vehicle households
- Transportation and housing cost-burdened households

Sources: 2014-2018 American Community Survey, Urban Displacement Project California Estimated Displacement Risk Model (2015-2019)





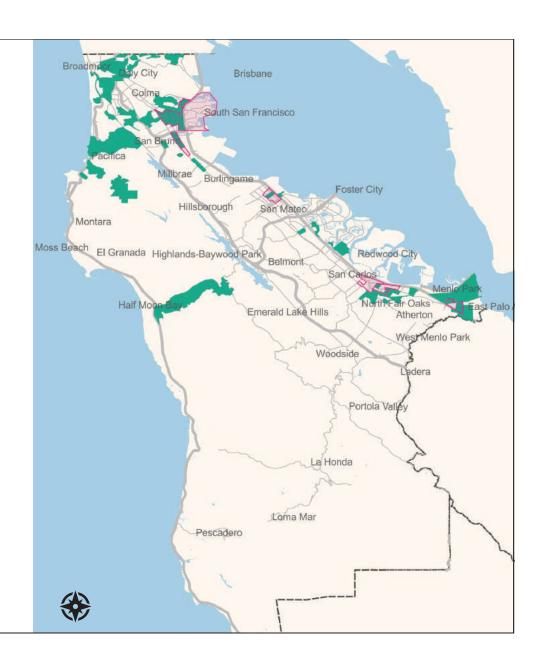
C/CAG CBPP Equity Focus Areas & Climate/Environment



households

Sources: 2014-2018 American Community Survey,
CalEnviroScreen 4.0

· Transportation and housing cost-burdened





C/CAG CBPP Equity Focus Areas & Climate/Environment



Climate & EJ Community

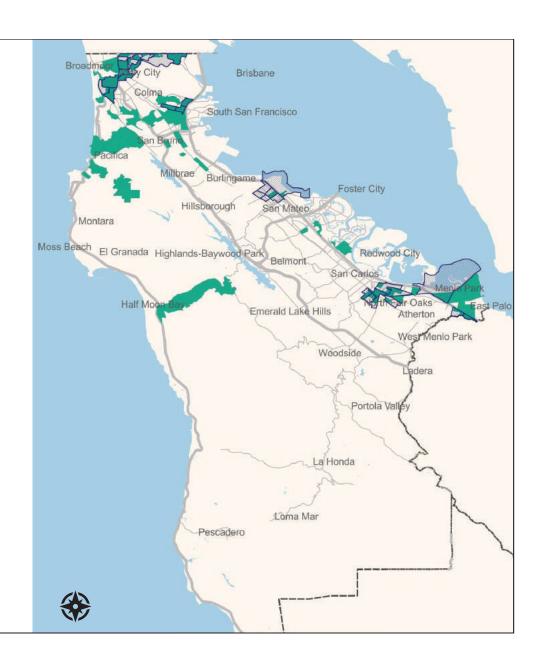
----- Freeway

Arterial street

Equity Focus Area Indicators

- · Low-income households
- People of color
- Zero-vehicle households
- Transportation and housing cost-burdened households

Sources: 2014-2018 American Community Survey, White House Council on Environmental Quality Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool





Draft Recommendations

- 1. Create new baseline, non-program specific Equity Focus Areas using these demographic indicators:
 - People of color
 - Low-income population
 - Limited English proficient population
 - Single parent households
 - Seniors
- 2. Adapt to program areas by adding relevant indicators on top of baseline (i.e. transportation, housing, climate)
 - Work with SamTrans to align on <u>Transportation</u> Equity Focus Areas
- 3. Create a dashboard to track conditions over time



moving to Discussion and Feedback ...

Jake Warr

Espousal Strategies - jake@espousalstrategies.com

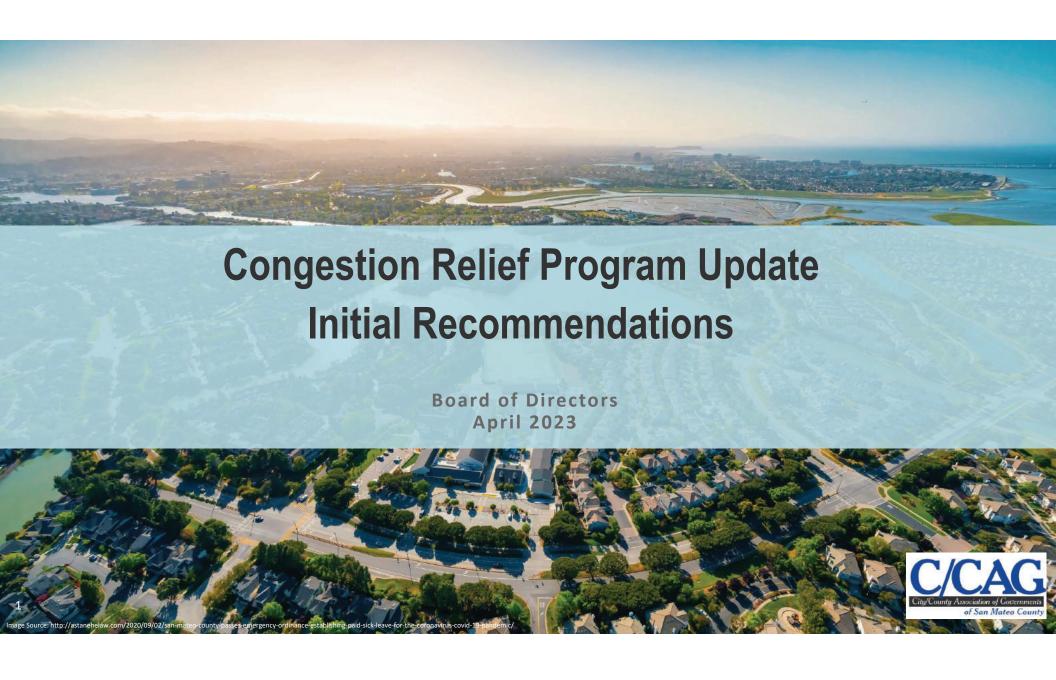
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Mariposa Planning Solutions - Chris@mariposaplan.com

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C/CAG - kspringer@smcgov.org







Agenda

- 01. Understanding the Congestion Relief Plan
- 02. CRP update progress to date
- 03. Insights and takeaways
- 04. Initial recommendations



Congestion Relief Plan

- Acts as a Countywide Deficiency Plan, relieving jurisdictions from state mandates to fix specific congested locations in a cost-efficient manner
- The C/CAG Board authorizes the CRP for a period of 4 years, with the current plan expiring June 30, 2023
- Collects \$1.85M/year based on population share and trip generation
- Fees have stayed flat since 2007
- To implement the CRP, C/CAG collects funding from the jurisdictions to support programs and projects across the county with the goal of **improving mobility countywide**.



Congestion Relief Plan (CRP) goals

Provide local transportation service to improve access and provide alternatives to driving

Reduce vehicle trips through Travel Demand Management and planning efforts

Improve mobility

Expand and support innovative mobility solutions

Support land use efforts that reduce GHG emissions



Current Adopted Plan – Annual Fee

	2019-2023 Adopted Congestion Relief Plan		
1	Local Transportation Services Program		\$500,000
2	Travel Demand Management		\$550,000
3	Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)/ Traffic Operational Improvement Strategies; \$200,000 Express Lane operations support; Smart Corridor Expansion		\$200,000
	Linking Transportation and Land Use		
	4A. Innovative Trip Reduction Strategies (Carpool 3.0)/ Mobility Action Plan	\$150,000	\$600,000
4	4B. Transportation Improvement Strategy to reduce GHG (GW TAP/743 toolkit/ Performance assessments)	\$150,000	
	4C. Climate Change and Resiliency Planning (RICAPS, Climate Action Plan, Sea level rise planning for Trans. Facilities)	\$150,000	
	4D. Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) Activities, Linking Housing with Transportation. (21 Elements/ Sub-RHNA/ Legislation compliance)	\$150,000	
	Total		\$1,850,000



Progress to date

- Reviewed financial data for funded projects and programs
- Interviewed program funding recipients
- Led workshop with Technical Advisory Committee to identify key priorities and challenges

	Strengths	Challenges
•	What is working well today and historically? Commute.org – business outreach, one on one coaching Momentum around connection between transportation and sustainability (GHG, climate resiliency planning, etc) A lot of trip reductions through telework	Are there any issues with improving mobility that should be addressed? Housing mandates (increasing housing 4-5x) leading to pre-pandemic levels of traffic on freeways. How will this be incorporated into the CRP update? Strategies for less dense towns in region where public transit is a smaller part of mobility Working with CalTrans to adjust times of review Addressing cut-through traffic, taking more comprehensive approach Focus heavily on bike and ped, which can lead to more SOV congestion Lack of infrastructure for active mobility in some areas Effect of development in surrounding areas Funding, collaboration Balancing wants and needs to make sure everyone gets a voice
	Opportunities/Options	Risks
•	What are opportunities or options could be deployed to improve mobility countywide? Countywide funding body Merging TDM with commute.org shuttle service – bring people to major transit corridors Public transit to come forward, improve the network as a whole How we collaborate, a lot to learn from one another. Potential for information sharing Additional technical resources, county-wide to avoid undue stress on smaller cities Collaboration and coordination between jurisdictions for cross-jurisdictional segments	 What risks around mobility planning should be captured in the strategic planning process for CRP? Balance of grow/diet projects with increased/decreased congestion Limited right-of-way Maintenance funding Climate change resilience (ex: sea level rise, recent storms) for infrastructure



Key Takeaways



CRP stakeholders see value in the current broad goals



Current "ongoing" programs continue to be priorities for stakeholders



Additional priorities continue to evolve (aligned with goals) based on changes to emerging mobility and innovation, regulatory enhancements, etc.



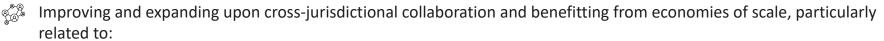
As rates have not increased since 2007, spending power has decreased



Program Priorities

Key priorities identified through stakeholder conversations include:





- Data collection
- Response to cross-border and cut through traffic
- Delivery of countywide resources for jurisdictional use
- Countywide planning efforts, particularly those that unlock funding opportunities
- Support for a shared micromobility program
- Advocacy for active transportation modes that reduce vehicle trips, increase safety and enhance vehicle connectivity, while considering realities of right of way limitations
- Focusing on trip reduction efforts, including telework and virtual services provision
- Responding to ITS and Smart Corridor development and maintenance needs
- Ensuring funded projects can be maintained long-term



Escalating Inflation

Why propose an increase?

- Program fees were originally intended to increase with inflation
- The difference in inflation between 2022 and 2007 is 51.4%.
- Currently utilizing CRP surplus to meet program needs

Consumer Price Index Difference

Year	Annual CPI Index
2022	327.060
2007	216.048
Change in Index Points	111.012
Percent Change	51.4%

Source: CA Dept. of Industrial Relations, Base year is 1982-1984.



Recommendation 1: Future year increases

# YRS	Baseline	Staff Recommendation
Year 1- FY 23/24	No change ¹	No change ¹
Year 2- FY 24/25	No change	5% Increase
Year 3- FY 25/26	No change	Increase of lesser of CPI or 3%
Year 4-FY 26/27	No change	Increase of lesser of CPI or 3%
Aggregate Increase in Year 4	\$0	\$394,8272
Total Increase in cost per jurisdiction over 4 years	\$0	Ranges from \$2,240 to \$57,923 ²
Highest and Lowest Average Annual Increase	\$0	\$560 to \$14,481 ²

¹⁾ Individual jurisdictions' payments may vary due to changes in population or share of Countywide trips.

²⁾ Estimates assume a 2% CPI increase

Recommendation 2: Simplification of funding designation

Previous: Four 'buckets,' some of which were tied to specific annual expenditures, others were not

Local Transportation Services

Countywide shuttle program

ITS/Traffic Operational Improvement Strategies/

- SMCEL-JPA express lanes policy and management
- Smart Corridor Project and Maintenance

Travel Demand Management

Commute.org program

Linking Transportation and Land Use

- 21 Elements program
- C/CAG's Climate Fund
- Legislative consulting
- Alternative Fuel Readiness Plan
- MAP 101
- VMT whitepaper & estimation tool
- Shared Mobility Feasibility Study
- Local Road and Safety Plan

- CRP expenditures are approved by the Board as part of the annual budget process
- Challenging for expenditure data to neatly align with buckets
- Need to justify project bucket designation in some cases

Consistent contribution
Amount paid varies by year
One time project



Recommendation 2: Simplification of funding designation

Proposed: Consistent funding for qualified programs, and a broad pot for one-time projects, guided by CRP goals and agreed upon priorities

Dedicated Annual Support

- Countywide shuttle program
- Commute.org program
- 21 Elements program
- C/CAG Climate Initiatives

Flexible Projects and Programs

- Must be able to demonstrate alignment with CRP goals
- Allocation determined based on needs and opportunities, to be approved by Board in annual budget
- Updated Authorization will list more targeted priorities based on stakeholder input to guide expenditure

- Removes roadblocks to supporting programs that meet broad goals but don't have room left in that 'bucket'
- Allows for flexibility to changing needs within the authorization periods
- Four continuous programs, will facilitate better and more consistent reporting, allowing C/CAG to better demonstrate impact of CRP
- Board still approves overall budget so will have oversight on flexible pot

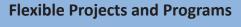


Recommended Overall Funding Breakdown

Dedicated Annual Support (FY 23-24)

Countywide Shuttle Program	\$500,000	
Commute.org TDM Program	\$550,000	
21 Elements Program	\$200,000	
Climate Initiatives	\$150,000	

Flexible Projects and Programs (FY 23-24)



- Must be able to demonstrate alignment with CRP goals
- Annual allocation determined based on needs and opportunities, to be approved by Board in annual budget
- Updated Authorization will list priorities

\$450,000



Thank you

Please contact:

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