

2024 City Council Priorities and Objectives: Q2 Update

		Estimated Completion			
#	Objective	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Economic Development & Transition (ED&T)					
Focus on Commercial Corridors, Downtown and California Ave					
1	Facilitate the establishment of sustainable business organization in the Cal Ave, DT, and Midtown districts				x
2	Engage Cal Ave merchants on high priority, rapid implementation projects, i.e. barrier replacement, street cleaning, maintenance, access, signage and outdoor dining guidelines		x	*	
3	Develop permanent Cal Ave car-free steetscape design through engagement with Cal Ave merchants and community stakeholders (h)			x	
4	Initiate preliminary analysis and stakeholder engagement on a car-free streetscape design for Ramona Street				x
5	Approve preferred alternative for the University Ave Streetscape Plan in preparation for environmental review and funding options (i)			x	
6	Develop pre-approved parklet designs with stakeholder outreach, for Council approval		x		
7	Implement ongoing parklet program in compliance with adopted parklet standards, leveraging pre-approved designs (e)				x
8	Advance Downtown Parking garage in conjunction with advancement of affordable housing in the Downtown				x
9	Advance complete build out of fiber pilot phase 1 with grid modernization				x
Support Economic Development and Business Transition					
10	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				x
11	Research and evaluate options for implementing a public-private small and local business and incubation and vacant storefront program connecting landlords experiencing vacancy with small and local-businesses that may be seeking brick and mortar spaces			x	
12	Conduct business stakeholder outreach and present to Council recommendations for a citywide retail zoning strategy and receive direction for zoning ordinance implementation (k)		x	*	
CLIMATE CHANGE & THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT: PROTECTION & ADAPTATION (CC&NE)					
Climate Change Protection					
13	Deploy 65,000 residential Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) meters by end of 2024 (l)				x
14	Conduct community engagement and data collection and analysis to develop a Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Safety Action Plan for Council approval in 2024				x
15	Continue community engagement efforts to inform the update and receive Council feedback on the 2025 Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan (BTP) characteristics in preparation for next steps including environmental review and adoption in 2025 (m)				x
16	Complete initial pilot area of electric grid modernization (p)				x
17	Initiate development of a model to transition gas utility including community outreach and policy discussions				x
18	Continue to improve the Advanced Heat Pump Water Heater Pilot Program in preparation for a full-scale program (q)				x
19	Adopt a residential whole home electrification pilot program (r)				x
20	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)			x	
21	Develop and approve an Electric Vehicle Strategic Plan (t)				x
22	Develop an EV Replacement Program for the City Fleet				x
23	Develop and initiate implementation of a Reliability and Resiliency Strategic Plan (u)		x		
24	Develop draft S/CAP funding study with Council input (v)				x
25	Evaluate and report out Palo Alto Link pilot performance and consider continuation and/or expansion of future services		x	*	
26	Begin community engagement to consider parking policy updates that enhance customer satisfaction, improve program sustainability, and aligns with S/CAP mobility goals		x	*	
27	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		x		
28	Initiate the 2026 California Building Standards Code update, including the California Green Building Standards Code				x
29	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			x	
30	Council selection of a locally preferred alternatives for City Rail/Grade Separation project at Churchill Avenue, Meadow Drive, and Charleston Rd				x
Climate Change Adaptation: Flood Protection					
31	Advocate for the San Francisquito Creek Flood Protection capital project (Reach 2) through Council’s JPA representation and any Council approvals involved (w)				x
32	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)		x	*	
33	Coordinate with Federal and regional partners on a path forward exploring the development of a Sea Level Rise Adaptation Plan (5)				x
Natural Environment					
34	Approve stream/creek corridor setback ordinance (4)			x	*
35	Approve a bird safe glass and wildlife light pollution protections ordinance (6)		x	*	
HOUSING FOR SOCIAL & ECONOMIC BALANCE (HS&EB)					
Advance Housing Plans					
36	Approve project funding and a consultant contract to develop and identify housing opportunity sites through the Downtown Housing Plan, including community outreach (dd)				x
37	Submit a compliant Housing Element to the state department of Housing and Community Development (ee)			x	
38	Approve final North Ventura Coordinated Area Plan (NVCAP) (ff)		x	*	
39	Receive Cal Poly San Luis Obispo student-led concept plan for San Antonio Corridor	x			
40	Approve consultant contract to initiate a Specific Plan for San Antonio Road Corridor including project goals and outcomes (8)				x
Implement Housing Production Policies					
41	Initiate a review and make recommendations for a possible extension of the Housing Focus area to other geographic locations along El Camino Real				x
42	Evaluate sources and methods for raising significant funding to support affordable housing				x
43	Conduct a policy review with criteria for Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)			x	
44	Approve a consultant contract to assess housing development impact fees for the conversion from a per unit to per square foot basis				x
45	Refine implementation of City’s SB9 objective development and urban lot split standards (HSEB 14) (ll)	x			
46	Adopt an ordinance that implements Housing Element Program 3.4 related to the housing incentive program				x
47	Amend the municipal fee schedule and prepare economic feasibility analysis that implements Housing Element Program 3.1 related to fee waivers and adjustments				x
48	Initiate a study implementing Housing Element Program 6.5 related to alternative housing types				x
49	Adopt an ordinance implementing various Housing Element Programs				x
50	Initiate analysis to amend the zoning code to implement Housing Element Program 3.9 related to commercial floor area				x
Support Unhoused Service Initiatives					
51	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 unhoused residents (pp)				x
52	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				x
53	Initiate research to understand Palo Alto unhoused population and explore feasibility of expanding safe parking options on Geng Road				x
Advance Renter Protection Policies					
54	Council discussion of possible ordinance related to fair chance renter policy			x	
55	Council discussion of possible anti-rent gouging policy			x	
56	Finalize development plan to maintain affordability and improve conditions at Buena Vista Mobile Park			x	
57	Approve a service contract to initiate Renter Registry implementation (cc)			x	
COMMUNITY HEALTH, SAFETY, WELLNESS & BELONGING (CHSW&B)					
Mental & Physical Health and Belonging					
58	Complete reopening of libraries to budgeted level (rr)				x
59	Approval of multi-year agreement for provisions of animal shelter services (ss)	x			
60	Develop a workplan to enhance community special events with focus on inclusion (tt)		x		
61	Reach a tentative agreement with PAUSD on long term use of the Cubberley property (uu)		x	*	
62	Evaluate Recreation Wellness Center Feasibility (vv)		x		*
63	Evaluate HSRAP funding allocation as a percent (%) of the General Fund (11)		x		
64	Facilitate a location for La Comida in North Palo Alto (12)	x			
65	Increase support and funding for youth mental health (13)		x		
66	Complete Trusted Response Urgent Support Team (TRUST) Augmentation pilot and evaluate the effort				x
Invest in Reliable Safety Infrastructure and Systems					
67	Support visible police presence by ensuring stable staffing (recruiting and retention) through hiring ahead program (ww)				x
68	Initiate upgrade of Police Department field based video hardware				x
69	Approve vendor selection for 911 dispatch system (CAD provider) (yy)			x	
70	Approve updated Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (aaa)			x	
71	Update Foothills Fire Management Plan and Community Wildfire Protection Plan (bbb)				x
72	Complete construction of the new Public Safety Building including department move-in (ccc)			x	
73	Council award of a construction contract for Fire Station No. 4 Replacement (ddd)				x
74	Enhance Caltrain Safety and security				x
75	Approve consulting contract to initiate work, including stakeholder engagement, related to the Seismic and Resiliency Ordinance (eee)				x
Reduction of Noise and Air Quality Pollution					
76	Initiate work to conduct a Quiet Zone study at Churchill Ave, Meadow Drive, and Charleston Rd and begin initial analysis and regional stakeholder outreach	x			
77	Implement strategies for promoting unleaded fuel and phasing out leaded fuel (ggg)				x
78	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)				x
Total	78 Objectives				