



CITY COUNCIL DRAFT ACTION MINUTES

Special Meeting
February 10, 2025

The City Council of the City of Palo Alto met on this date in the Council Chambers and by virtual teleconference at 5:30 P.M.

Present In Person: Burt, Lauing, Lu, Lythcott-Haims, Reckdahl, Stone, Veenker

Present Remotely:

Absent:

Special Orders of the Day

1. Santa Clara County 2024 Synopsys Championship Science Fair STEM Winners from Palo Alto

NO ACTION

2. Appointment of Candidates to the Planning and Transportation Commission

MOTION: Councilmember Burt moved, seconded by Councilmember Stone, to appoint seat 5 effective immediately tabulating the two highest vote getters. If candidates receive a majority, they would be appointed to the two full year positions. The highest vote getter among those two will be appointed to seat 5.

MOTION PASSED: 7-0

Planning and Transportation Commission

First Round of Voting for Two (2) vacancies on the Planning and Transportation Commission with full terms ending March 31, 2029.

Forest Olaf Peterson: Veenker, Lythcott-Haims, Lu

Daniel Hekier:

William Glazier:

Arthur Keller:

Kevin Ji: Reckdahl, Burt, Lythcott-Haims, Veenker, Stone, Lauing

Salim Parak:

Thomas Kellerman: Lu

Declan King:

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Michael Regula:

Todd James: Reckdahl, Burt, Stone, Lauing

Candidate Kevin Ji receiving 6 votes is appointed to a full-term (Seat 5) expiring March 31, 2029.

Candidate Todd James receiving 4 votes is appointed to a full-term (Seat 6) expiring March 31, 2029.

First Round of Voting for One (1) vacancy on the Planning and Transportation Commission with a partial term ending March 31, 2026.

Forest Olaf Peterson: Stone, Lythcott-Haims, Veenker, Lu

Daniel Hekier: Burt

William Glazier:

Arthur Keller:

Salim Parak:

Thomas Kellerman:

Michael Regula:

Terrance Holzemer: Reckdahl, Lauing

Henrik Morkner:

Candidate Forest Olaf Peterson receiving 4 votes is appointed to a partial term (Seat 4) expiring March 31, 2026.

Agenda Changes, Additions and Deletions

Public Comment

Council Member Questions, Comments and Announcements

Study Session

3. Housing and Homelessness in Palo Alto: Review of current efforts including the 2024 Gap Analysis Report, Update on Enforcement Work, Overview of Engagement Framework to Develop an Implementation Plan, and Discussion of Other Potential Next Steps

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NO ACTION

Consent Calendar

MOTION: Councilmember Lu moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Veenker to approve Agenda Item Numbers 4-12.

MOTION PASSED: 7-0

4. Approval of Minutes from January 21, 2025 and January 25, 2025 Meetings
5. Approval of Contract Amendment Number 2 to Contract Number S24189598 with Good City Company in the Amount of \$24,930 for a Stream Corridor Protection Ordinance Update; CEQA Status: Exempt Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15061(b)(3)
6. Approval of Contract Amendment Number Three to Contract Number C21177024 With Veolia Sustainable Buildings USA West, Inc. to Extend the Contract Time Through August 14, 2026 With No Change in the Amount Not-to-Exceed of \$1,985,000 for the Commercial & Industrial Energy Efficiency Program. CEQA - Not a Project
7. Approval of Amendment Number Three (3) to Contract Number C19174648 with WaterSmart Software, Inc. (dba WaterSmart) for the WaterSmart Utilities Customer Portal, to Extend the Contract Term for 18 Months, for the Total Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$537,763 Over the Seven-Year Term; CEQA status –Exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15308.
8. Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Approve the Verified Emission Reduction (VER) Master Agreements with AQC Environmental Brokerage Services, Inc. and SCB Brokers, LLC and Authorizing the City Manager to Purchase VERs from AQC Environmental Brokerage Services, Inc. and SCB Brokers, LLC Under Specified Terms and Conditions During Calendar Years 2025 Through 2034, Inclusive, Subject to Limitations; CEQA Status: Not a Project, CEQA Guidelines 15378(b)(5)
9. Approval of Professional Services Contract Number C25189597 with Rutherford & Chekene in an Amount Not to Exceed \$207,812 for Development of a Seismic Hazard Identification and Mitigation Program for a Period of Three Years. CEQA Status: Exempt under CEQA Guidelines 15262.
10. Approval of Two Professional Service Agreements: Contract No. C25190944A with 4Leaf, Inc. and Contract No. C25190944B with Park Engineering, Inc in the Aggregate Amount Not-to-Exceed \$3.75 Million for a Period of Five Years for On-Call Field Inspections and Construction Management Services to Support Utilities Water, Gas, and Wastewater Capital Improvement Projects; CEQA Status: Not a project.

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11. Adoption of a Resolution Amending the Conflict of Interest Code for Designated City Officers and Employees as Required by the Political Reform Act and Regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission and Repealing Resolution Number 9937. CEQA Status -- Not a Project
12. SECOND READING: Ordinance of the Council of the City of Palo Alto Amending Various Chapters of Title 18 (Zoning) of the Palo Alto Municipal Code to Implement the 2023-2031 Housing Element (FIRST READING: January 21, 2025 PASSED 7-0)

City Manager Comments

Ed Shikada, City Manager

Recess City Council Meeting and Convene Public Improvement Corporation Meeting

Action Items

13. Approval of the FY 2024 Public Improvement Corporation's Annual Financial Report; CEQA Status: Not a Project

MOTION: Board Member Stone moved, seconded by Board Member Veenker to approve the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Annual Financial Report for the Palo Alto Public Improvement Corporation.

MOTION PASSED: 7-0

Reconvene City Council Meeting

Action Items

14. PUBLIC HEARING: Objections to Weed Abatement at Affected Properties and Approval of Affected Property List for Commencing Weed Abatement in 2025; CEQA status – exempt

MOTION: Mayor Lauing moved, seconded by Councilmember Lythcott-Haims to:

1. Adopt a determination that weed abatement activities in 2025, as described in Resolution 10201 (Attachment A) adopted by Council on December 2, 2024, are exempt under Class 8 (CEQA Guidelines section 15308);

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2. Hold a Public Hearing to hear and consider any objections to the proposed destruction and removal of weeds in 2025 at the properties listed in Attachment B; and
3. Approve the final list of affected properties for weed abatement in 2025 (Attachment B) following the public hearing, and direct weed abatement activities to commence at those properties in accordance with Resolution 10201.

MOTION PASSED: 7-0

15. PUBLIC HEARING / QUASI-JUDICIAL. 3265 El Camino Real [24PLN-00012]: Approval of an Ordinance Rezoning the Subject Parcel From Commercial Services (CS) to Planned Community Zoning (PC) and Adoption of a Record of Land Use Action to Construct a 100% Affordable, Five-Story, 55 Unit Residential Rental Project. Environmental Assessment: Initial Study/15183 Streamlined CEQA Review.

MOTION: Councilmember Stone moved, seconded by Councilmember Burt, to take the following actions:

1. Consider the Initial Study Checklist/Streamlined Environmental Review prepared in accordance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15183;
2. Adopt the Ordinance in Attachment B amending the zone district from CS to PC; and
3. Approve the Record of Land Use Action in Attachment C, with the following additions:
 - a. Future residents shall be notified that if a future Residential Parking Permit (RPP) will be enacted, that they may be excluded from it; and
 - b. The property manager shall provide an annual report to the City of the number of Palo Alto Unified School District employees that occupy the building and which unit types they are occupying.
4. Incorporate into the Regulatory Agreement:
 - a. Allow the Owner to designate the Low-Income Unit as a Moderate-Income Unit with a countervailing re-designation of a previously Moderate-Income Unit to Low-Income Unit; and
 - b. For PAUSD employees, if a tenant exceeds the maximum allowable income, they will be allowed to stay in the unit for a period of six months or through the end of the school year, whichever is later, subject to legal review; and
 - c. Include a preference for PAUSD employees; and

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- d. Allow up to 2 low-income units to transition to 100% AMI.

MOTION PASSED: 7-0

AMENDMENTS INCORPORATED INTO THE MOTION WITH THE CONSENT OF THE MAKER AND SECONDER

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 P.M.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

City Clerk

Mayor

NOTE: Action minutes are prepared in accordance with Palo Alto Municipal Code (PAMC) 2.04.160(a) and (b). Summary minutes (sense) are prepared in accordance with PAMC Section 2.04.160(c). Beginning in January 2018, in accordance with [Ordinance No. 5423](#), the City Council found action minutes and the video/audio recordings of Council proceedings to be the official records of both Council and committee proceedings. These recordings are available on the City's website.