



Additional 2023 Council Priority Objectives

April 10, 2023

www.cityofpaloalto.org/councilpriorities



2023 Council Priorities & Objectives

January 28, Council Retreat

- Approved 4 Priority Areas

February 13, Retreat Follow-Up Meeting

- Council approved 61 Priority Objectives
- Proposed follow-up discussion to incorporate identified topic areas from retreat and additional 8 Priority Objectives

April 10, Council to consider additional Priority Objectives

- With an opportunity to resource during FY 2024 Budget Adoption in June 2023

2023 Council Priorities & Objectives

Attachment A: objectives approved by Council

- 61 Council Objectives
- 21 Objectives not resourced
- Calendar year Q1 projects are on track

#	Objective	Estimated Completion				Resourced	Council Priority			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		EN	COB	HA	CH
ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND TRANSITION (ERET)										
Support Economic Recovery and Business Transition										
a	Adopt a comprehensive Economic Development Strategy		x			\$	x	x	x	
b	Implement or upgrade economic plan review software without interruption to the permitting process (ERT 6)			x			x	x	x	
c	Implement economic resilience building and Permit Review Report conducted by the City Auditor			x			x	x	x	
d	Begin stakeholder engagement and implementation of new business tax (Revenue 6)			x		\$	x	x	x	
Focus on Commercial Corridor, Downtown and California Ave										
e	Begin implementation of first phase of parking regulations in the community		x			\$	x			
f	Evaluate incentives for new parking facilities in the Midtown Area Downtown and direct next steps (ERT 30)		x				x			
g	Align Business Improvement District (BID) priorities and investments to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (ERT)			x			x			
h	Select consultant to conduct a study that informs the development of a permit set on these streets entrance (ERT 6 & 7)			x		\$	x			
i	Approve concept plan for University Ave streetscape and provide direction on capital project funding (ERT 5)			x			x			
j	Extend temporary closure for car-free streets (ERT 6 & 7)			x			x			
k	Provide direction on bicycle retail zoning code change including retail preservation and neighborhood commercial district specific regulations and CUP thresholds (ERT 6, 12, 13)									2024
CLIMATE CHANGE & THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT (CC&NE)										
Climate Change Protection										
l	Implement Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) through purchase of meters/equipment for installation (CCP&P)		x				x			
m	Approve contract to update Electric and Pedestrian Transportation Plan		x				x			
n	Approve municipal code amendments for advancing 1) Cap gas use 2) locally facilitate photovoltaic, energy storage systems, electric vehicle charging stations, and heat pump (heats) (residential) installation (CCP&P)			x			x			
o	Approve 1) C&P Update and 2 year warranty (CCP&P)			x			x			
p	New: Begin first phase construction for grid use decarbonization and connect resources to plan for gas transition				x		x			
q	Install first 1,000 heat pump water heaters through the advanced pilot program and approve expanded full-scale program				x		x			
r	Approve advanced pilot program for whole residential home electrification by the end of 2023 (targeted award)				x		x			
s	Approve contract to offer HVAC electrification advanced pilot program				x		x			
t	Accept Electric Vehicle Strategy Plan				x	\$	x			
u	Accept Reliability and Resiliency Strategic Plan				x	\$	x			
v	Review preliminary draft 1) C&P study discussing resiliency resource needs and project funding opportunities				x	\$	x			
Climate Change Adaptation, Flood Protection										
w	New: Advance the San Francisco's Creek Flood Protection capital project (Reach 3) by the end of 2023, through Council's PR				x		x			
x	Secure funding and approve construction for the Shred Bridge replacement project; advocacy with state legislators regarding on project				x	\$	x			
y	Funding needs (ERT 30)				x	\$	x			
Natural Environment										
z	Approve operations and maintenance agreement with utility water purified water facility at C&P Area B (CCP&P)			x			x			
aa	Adopt appropriate changes to the natural fire protection ordinance			x			x			
HOUSING AFFORDABILITY & ECONOMIC BALANCE (H&EB)										
Advance Rental Protection Policies										
ab	Approve a new rental unit by establishing security deposit funds			x			x			
ac	Provide protection to renters by considering expansion of the just cause eviction ordinance (H&EB 10)			x			x			
ad	Implement a methodology to inform future rental protection policies (H&EB 11)						2024			
Advance Housing Plans										
ae	Expand housing opportunities through the inclusion of a Downtown Housing Plan; approval of project funding and a consultant contract (H&EB 16)			x		\$	x			
af	Advance local and state housing interest through a HUD compliant Housing Element (H&EB)				x		x			
ag	Advance vision for North Valley's Consolidated Area by adopting a coordinated area plan (H&EB 14)				x		x			
ah	Create new affordable housing opportunities through funding such as a housing land trust, in particular, C&P&A						2024			
ai	Explore opportunities to explore short term rentals with Council committee						2024			
Improve Housing Production Policies										
aj	Continue process and standards related to the City local MR implementation ordinance (H&EB 14)			x			x			
ak	Approve advanced housing (H&EB) that MR implementation to local state production and meet MR requirements (H&EB)			x			x			
al	Respond to various board and executive decisions related to housing (H&EB 6, 17, 24)				x		x			
am	Review implementation of City's MR objective development and other local standards (H&EB 14)				x		x			
an	Adopt an ordinance amending the development standards for Market-oriented housing opportunities				x		x			
ao	Secure city-owned housing opportunity sites for by-right development when developed with 20% lower income affordable housing units						x			
ap	Adopt an ordinance to implement revised development standards for certain properties located in the C&P&A to allow for densities up to 90 units/acre				x		x			
Support Unsheltered Person Initiatives										
aq	Begin construction in partnership with the Move for Palo Alto non-profit project to provide transitional housing and services for unsheltered residents (H&EB 13)			x			x			
ar	Develop a citywide strategy to connect unsheltered residents to housing and services			x		\$	x			
COMMUNITY HEALTH & SAFETY (CH&S)										
Mental & Physical Health and Wellbeing										
as	Complete re-opening libraries to budgeted level (remains below pre-pandemic levels) (CH&S)			x			x			
at	Approval of multi-year agreement for provision of mental health services (CH&S)			x		\$	x			
au	Expand and enhance community special events with focus on inclusive (based on activities in ERT)			x		\$	x			
av	Approve agreement with PASAD walking team use of the California property (CH&S)				x		x			
aw	Evaluate Pasadena Wellness Center Feasibility (CH&S)				x	\$	x			
Invest in Public Safety Infrastructure and Systems										
ax	Support public police presence by ensuring stable staffing (recruiting and retention) through hiring ahead program (CH&S)			x		\$	x			
ay	Support public police presence through expansion of the Public Safety Emergency Response Team (PERT) program; services to the community through a combination of combined City financial support			x		\$	x			
az	Update without interruption 911 dispatch system (C&P provider) once selected through procurement process (CH&S)			x			x			
ba	New: Begin construction of the San Mateo Replacement Project (2024)				x		x			
bb	Approve updated local Hazard Mitigation Plan and Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CH&S)				x		x			
bc	Implement Palo Alto Fire Management Plan (CH&S)				x		x			
bd	Advance final construction phase of Public Safety Building and begin preparations for move-in (CH&S)				x		x			
be	Approve final design for the rebuild of Fire Station No. 4 project (final design and construction) (CH&S)				x		x			
bf	Approve resources and consultant to study and develop a book and online library ordinance (CH&S)				x	\$	x			
Reduction of Noise and Air Quality Pollution										
bg	Update gas-powered bus fleet ordinance and enforcement plan (CH&S)			x			x			
bh	Implement a strategy for the provision and preservation of outside food at Palo Alto Airport (CH&S)				x		x			
bi	New: Approval of quiet zone implementation (only bike crossings)				x		x			
bj	Engage with the MPO Association on MPO's proposed Roadway Safety System (RSSS) project and other potential opportunities to decrease MPO noise impacts on Palo Alto (CH&S)						2024			

Additional 2023 Council Priorities & Objectives

TABLE 1											
2023 Council Priority Objectives for Consideration						Estimated Completion			Council Priority		
#	New Objective	CY 2023				2024 or Later	Resources Needed	ER &T	CC & NE	HS & EB	CH &S
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4						
Economic Recovery and Transition (ER & T)											
1	Evaluate implementing a business vacancy tax to incentivize activity					x	\$\$\$	x			
Climate Change & the Natural Environment (CC & NE)											
2	Engage youth in implementation of climate change initiatives, objectives, and goals				x		-		x		x
3	Naturalize Matadero Creek and evaluate setbacks					x	\$\$\$		x		x
4	Initiate zoning changes consistent with the Comprehensive Plan regarding creek corridor setbacks					x	\$		x		x
5	Determine next steps for the sea level rise and adaptation plan				x		\$		x		x
6	Evaluate and recommend strategies to protect natural habitats such as bird safe glass, wildlife protection from light pollution, etc.					x	\$		x		
7	Discuss plans for commercial dewatering requirements				x		\$		x		
Housing for Social & Economic Balance (HS & EB)											
8	Construct preliminary schedule for starting new coordinated area plans for San Antonio Road, California Ave, Downtown, and El Camino Real				x		\$	x		x	
9	Evaluate RHNA housing allocation and encourage housing production that reflects the needs of the community		x				\$			x	
10	Establish a committee on housing to review housing policies *					x	\$			x	
Community Health & Safety (CH & S)											
11	Evaluate increasing HSRAP funding during the FY 2024 budget process		x				\$-\$\$\$				x
12	Facilitate a location for La Comida in North Palo Alto *			x			\$-\$\$				x
13	Increase support and funding for youth mental health		x				\$-\$\$\$				x
14	Evaluate funding and plan to return library services to pre-pandemic levels					x	\$\$\$				x
15	Increase police foot and bike patrol in the Downtown core					x	\$\$\$				x
16	Complete phase 1 of developing a safe system policy: Safe Streets for all Action Plan and identify resources needed for policy implementation *					x	\$		x		x
17	Establish a Council ad hoc airplane noise committee to advance policies that protect residents from airplane noise and air pollution *					x	\$\$		x		

*Clarification of scope and expectations of City role needed in order to confirm feasibility

- 17 NEW Council Objectives
- 16 of these items are not resourced
- 9 of the new objectives would not be able to start until 2024 or later
- Total number of priority objectives not currently resourced is **37**

Our City at Work

- Council priorities and projects reflect only a small fraction of staff's work
- There is an inherent tension in reviewing priority objectives with a desire to get more done
- Priority descriptions are brief and intended to reflect outcomes the community will see





Next Steps

- Council to approve final list of priority objectives for 2023 [tonight]
- Opportunities to discuss and fund objectives not resourced:
 - May Budget Workshops
 - June Budget Adoption
- Calendar year Q2 Priority Objective update to Council in August 2023

Council Motion Recommendation

Approval of additional priority objectives listed in Table #1 and identified to be completed in calendar year 2023:

- New objectives # 2, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13 in table 1.



CITY OF
**PALO
ALTO**