



## City Council Supplemental Report

CITY OF  
**PALO  
ALTO**

From: Ed Shikada, City Manager

Meeting Date: January 28, 2023

Item Number: 2

### TITLE

Supplemental Information: 2023 Council Retreat Presentation and Supporting Materials

### RECOMMENDATION

Supplemental Information to assist in the 2023 Council Retreat and selection of the 2023 City Council priorities. Materials include presentation, project status updates, and feedback from Councilmembers and the community

### DISCUSSION

The following meeting materials are being transmitted to assist the City Council and public in preparation for the 2023 Council retreat discussion and selection of 2023 Council priorities.

- 1) 2022 City Council Priorities Major Project Quarterly Update (February 6, 2023 Informational Report)
- 2) Priorities recommendations that were not included in the original Policy and Services report on December 13, 2022
- 3) Emails from constituents to the City Council on 2023 Council Priorities (attachment a)
- 4) Presentation materials (attachment b)

*2022 City Council Priorities Major Project Quarterly Update (February 6, 2023 Informational Report)*

Staff routinely issues City Council Priority project status updates on a quarterly or semi-annual basis in alignment with the Council approved workplan. Included as an informational item on the February 6, 2023 agenda is the most current status of the 2022 City Council Priorities and the major projects approved in the workplans. For ease of reading and reference materials for the Council and community, staff wanted to draw attention to this helpful report.

[2022 City Council Priorities Major Project Quarterly Update \(February 6, 2023 Information Report\)](#)

*Priorities recommendations that were not included in the original Policy and Services report on December 13, 2022*

Subsequent to the issuance of the Policy and Service December 13, 2022 report, staff received additional recommendations from Councilmembers regarding initial suggestions for 2023 Council priorities. Below, reflects those additional suggestions.

Councilmember initial suggestions not included in the December 13, 2022 report:

Veenker:

1. Climate action and adaptation
2. Housing, with an emphasis on affordable housing
3. Public services, with an emphasis on public safety

Kou: I would like to continue the 2022 priorities into 2023:

- Economic Recovery and Transition
- Climate Change – Protection and Adaptation (with a focus on biodiversity)
- Housing for Social and Economic Balance
- Community Health and Safety

For ease of review, the complete list of Councilmember (and Council-elect) initial suggestions were:

1. Cormack: For a new priority, add "Redevelop Cubberley Community Center"; for a retained priority, "Climate action mitigation and adaptation"
2. Lauing: Maintain current priorities
3. Lythcott-Haims:
  - Avoid Triggering Builders Remedy
  - Develop Area Plans for regions slated to get bulk of housing
  - Determine Grade Separation Designs
4. Kou: Continue the 2022 priorities into 2023
5. Veenker:
  - Climate action and adaptation
  - Housing, with an emphasis on affordable housing
  - Public services, with an emphasis on public safety

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A: Emails to the City Council on 2023 Council Priorities

Attachment B: City Council Retreat Presentation

## **APPROVED BY:**

Ed Shikada, City Manager



## **ATTACHMENT A**

### **Emails to the City Council on 2023 Council Priorities**

The following email messages were received through the City Council email inbox and are being transmitted as part of the City Council's retreat discussion on City Council 2023 Priorities.

The combined email messages are those received as of January 26, 2023 at 10 a.m.

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**From:** neva yarkin <nevayarkin@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 25, 2023 2:48 PM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** from neva, ideas for City Council Retreat

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Jan. 25, 2023

For the city council retreat on Jan. 28, 2023.

I would like to see more crime prevention – more police hired.  
Why should I feel afraid of going into the Apple Store or Stanford Shopping Center? What about the Midtown area or Charleston Shopping Area.

My concerns are as follows:

- 1) Robberies at the Apple store on University Ave.– more patrols around University Ave.
- 2) Robberies at Stanford Shopping Center – more patrols around the area
- 3) Home burglars at dinner time
- 4) Midtown area - 7 Eleven store, Safeway, and Baskin Robbins Ice Cream.
- 5) More traffic police hired – speeding at 60mph on Alma
- 6) People going through stop signs on Thursday night after Paly games.
- 7) Elderly having purses/wallets stolen or being targeted.
- 8) More police presence around town (visibility).

Thank you.

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**From:** Carole Mallowney <carole.mallowney@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 24, 2023 4:08 PM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** San Franciscoquito Creek Flooding

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from carole.mallowney@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

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Dear City Council,

Please make flood protection a priority for 2023 and beyond. Specifically, please renew your city priority of Climate Change and Adaptation for 2023. This year please add the following projects under this priority: the Newell Bridge replacement, explicit support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek and clearing debris before flood season.

I live in the flood zone and improved flood prevention and protection of my home from flooding is imperative for my family's safety and well being.

Thank you,  
Carole Mallowney  
1291 Pitman Avenue

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**From:** caroline hicks <cyhicksmail@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 24, 2023 6:18 AM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** FLOOD PROTECTION CRUCIAL REMEDIATION IN 2023

Some people who received this message don't often get email from cyhicksmail@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear City Council.

Please make flood protection a priority in 2023. We live in the flood zone and saw knee deep flooded streets at the nearby Duveneck Elementary school during these recent storms.

I am grateful that our storm drains worked so well on our street. However it is imperative that we prioritize the following projects for 2023:

1. The Newell Bridge replacement
2. full support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek
3. clearing debris before flood season.

Thank you!

Respectfully yours,

Caroline Hicks  
Bert Fingerhut  
195 Heather Lane  
Palo Alto, CA 94303

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**From:** Jane Millman <jane.millman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 23, 2023 3:09 PM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** Speed up flood protection PLEASE

Some people who received this message don't often get email from jane.millman@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear City Council,

My name is Jane Millman and I live on De Soto Drive in Palo Alto. I was flooded in 1998 and subsequently went to 5 years of JPA meetings following that traumatic event. In 2003 I realized that nothing was going to be done to help me....it was ALL talk, studies, money concerns, more studies, etc. 25 years later, on Dec 31, the creek overflowed again and my street filled contaminated water. My husband and I both had covid at the time so were isolating per the protocol. Fortunately the water did not enter our house, but we were inches away from that happening.

Please, please, please please make flood protection a priority for 2023. Specifically, please renew your city priority of Climate Change and Adaptation for 2023. This year add the following projects under this priority: the Newell Bridge replacement, explicit support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek and clearing debris before flood season. Living in the flood zone, improved flood prevention and protection of our home from flooding is an imperative for our family's safety and well being.

Thank you.

Jane & Paul Millman

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**From:** William Reller <wereller@664gilman.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 23, 2023 2:40 PM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Cc:** William Reller  
**Subject:** Flood Control-2023 Priority

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Dear City Council,

Please make flood protection a priority for 2023.

As a long time Palo Alto resident, my home and neighborhood were greatly affected by the recent storms and associated flooding.

Specifically, please renew the city's priority of Climate Change and Adaptation for 2023.

This year, please add the following projects under this priority:

- Newell Bridge replacement
- Explicit support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek
- Clearing debris before flood season.

Improved flood prevention and protection of our homes from future flooding is an imperative for all.

Thank you for your urgent attention to this matter.

Sincerely,  
Bill Reller



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**From:** Tom Glenwright <tom@glenwright.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 23, 2023 9:18 AM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** Flood protection priority for 2023

Some people who received this message don't often get email from tom@glenwright.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear City Council,

Please make flood protection a priority for 2023. Specifically, please renew your city priority of Climate Change and Adaptation for 2023. This year please add the following projects under this priority: the Newell Bridge replacement, explicit support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek and clearing debris before flood season. I live in the flood zone and improved flood prevention and protection of our home from flooding is an imperative for our family's safety and well being. Thank you.

Tom Glenwright  
261 Iris Way

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**From:** Henry Fang <henryfang@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 22, 2023 9:20 PM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** Request setting flood control as a 2023 priority

Some people who received this message don't often get email from henryfang@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear City Council,

Please make flood protection a priority for 2023. Specifically, please renew your city priority of Climate Change and Adaptation for 2023. This year please add the following projects under this priority: the Newell Bridge replacement, explicit support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek and clearing debris before flood season.

I live in the flood zone, improved flood prevention and protection of our home from flooding is an imperative for our family's safety and well being.

Thank you,  
Henry Fang

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**From:** Fernando Pereira <fernando.pereira@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 22, 2023 8:10 PM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** 2023 Climate Protection & Adaptation Priorities

Some people who received this message don't often get email from fernando.pereira@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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To the Palo Alto City Council,

As Downtown North homeowners at the edge of the historical San Francisquito Creek flood zone, as shown in the [city's own 1998 flood map](#), we are very concerned with the lack of progress in flood control measures, especially with respect to the Newell and Chaucer bridges.

The urgency of this critical climate adaptation work was made clear by the recent atmospheric river close call, which was just an early warning of the [growing California climate instability](#) that has been [investigated in depth](#) by UCLA/NCAR/Nature Conservancy scientist Daniel Swain.

We very much hope and expect that the City Council and its Finance Committee impart all the required urgency and funding priority to these climate adaptation public works that will protect our homes and civic infrastructure from unfortunately inevitable increases in flood risk.

Thank you for your service to our community

Fernando Pereira and Ana Carvalho  
335 Webster St, Palo Alto, CA 94301  
650-262-4372

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**From:** Mitch Gevelber <docmitch63@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 22, 2023 7:12 PM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** Please prioritize flood planning/ prevention

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Dear City Council,

First:

Thank you for working so hard to make Palo Alto such a great place to live!

Second:

Please make flood protection a priority for 2023. Our street, Kings Lane, was really flooded on New Years eve and I'm worried about our street.

Specifically, please renew your city priority of Climate Change and Adaptation for 2023. This year please add the following projects under this priority: the Newell Bridge replacement, explicit support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek and clearing debris before flood season.

Clearly our street is in the flood zone and improved flood prevention and protection of our home from flooding is an imperative for our family's safety and well being.

Thank you.

Mitch Gevelber

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**From:** Susan Mittmann <mittfamily@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 22, 2023 6:16 PM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** Prioritize flood protection, Newell and Chaucer Bridges

Some people who received this message don't often get email from mittfamily@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear City Council,

My home was flooded in 1998 because the Chaucer Bridge wasn't safe. My daughter, who was turning two and had been looking forward to moving to a bed rather than a crib, decided to stay in her crib until summer because everything touching the floor soaked up dirty flood water and was ruined.

That daughter graduated from college five years ago, and Palo Alto still hasn't fixed Chaucer Bridge. The same creek overtopped on New Year's Eve. My daughter called to check if we were safe. Twenty-five years is a ridiculous delay in fixing a hazard that traumatized a generation of children and families, not to mention other costs to the city and residents.

Please make flood protection a city priority for 2023 and each following year until the Chaucer Bridge is fixed.

In particular, please add the following projects under priorities for Climate Change and Adaptation: the Newell Bridge replacement, the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek, clearing debris before flood season, and the Chaucer Bridge replacement.

Thank you,  
Susan Mittmann  
2377 Saint Francis Dr.  
Palo Alto, CA 94303

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**From:** Charles Munger <charlestmungerjr@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 22, 2023 3:53 PM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** Flood Control on San Francisquito Creek is an urgent priority

Some people who received this message don't often get email from charlestmungerjr@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Honorable Members of the City Council:

25 years ago in 1998 my wife and I were roused by our neighbors in the dead of night to haul carpets and furniture upstairs as the muddy overflow from San Francisquito creek filled the street, rose over our lawn, topped the step up to our front door, and then mercifully subsided, having however totaled the minivan we used to take our 3 children (ages 2, 5, and 7) to school and about. We were assured that the replacement of the Pope/Chaucer bridge, the principal chokepoint for the creek because of its low arch, would be a matter of urgent priority.

Our children are grown and out, and this year neighbors sent us video of the muddy overflow from the creek rising half over our lawn, before mercifully subsiding. This time. Our neighbor across the street had her basement flood. She is from China, and I doubt she views with admiration a modern nation that can't accomplish a modest bit of civil engineering in 25 years---even accounting for the various projects downstream that must also have been improved to handle more flow down the creek. This is a *creek* we are trying to handle, not the Mississippi river.

We now have proof that flooding from San Francisquito creek is not a once-in-a-century-or-two sort of problem. It is a two-or-three-times-in-your-lifetime problem. I wish to escape #3.

Yes, the city needs to maintain all the standard services: police and fire, water and power, and the rest. But otherwise replacing this bridge and allowing for more safe flow down the creek is *the* single project that will most improve residents' quality of life, here in Palo Alto and across the creek.

Residents can't do it. Residents can address shortfalls in many other places: in the funding of the libraries; we can clean up and maintain parks; we can pick up trash on the streets. We residents *can't* do civil engineering on a volunteer basis; we can't even make the creek better by ourselves hiring people to help, as we could with other problems. Getting that bridge and creek fixed is something only our government---of which the Palo Alto City Council is a part---can do. Please make your first priority what we residents cannot do for ourselves.

Sincerely yours,  
Charles T. Munger, Jr.  
1423 Hamilton Avenue

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**From:** Pamela Hakl Economos <pamhakl@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 22, 2023 3:49 PM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Cc:** Economos Evan  
**Subject:** Flood protection now

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Dear City Council, Please make flood protection a priority for 2023.

I live on De Soto Drive. In 1998, we woke up in the middle of the night to find one foot of water in our home, which rapidly increased to two feet as sewage spilled out of our toilets and bathtubs. We were out of our home for 8 months, and lost both our cars, furniture and many possessions.

Imagine our worry as we saw De Soto Drive flood once again on New Year's Eve. Fortunately water did not enter our home this time, but one block away, the garages on Alester were flooded. It's hard to believe that after 25 years the bridges at Newell and Chaucer still put our homes at risk of flooding.

It is imperative that the city priority of Climate Change and Adaptation for 2023 is renewed. In addition add the following projects under this priority:

the Newell Bridge replacement  
Explicit support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek  
Clearing debris BEFORE flood season.

Improved flood prevention and protection of our home from flooding is an imperative for our family's safety and well being. Thank you.

Pamela Economos  
753 De Soto Drive  
Palo Alto CA. 94303

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**From:** m l <sjmarylee@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 22, 2023 3:09 PM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** Flood protection in 2023

Some people who received this message don't often get email from sjmarylee@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear City Council, Please make flood protection a priority for 2023. Specifically, please renew your city priority of Climate Change and Adaptation for 2023.

This year please add the following projects under this priority: the Newell Bridge replacement, explicit support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek and clearing debris before flood season. I live in the flood zone and improved flood prevention and protection of our home from flooding is an imperative for our family's safety and well being.

Thank you,  
Mary Lee



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**From:** V.K. Rajaram <vkrajaram@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 22, 2023 2:25 PM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** Please Make Flood Protection A Priority For 2023

Some people who received this message don't often get email from vkrajaram@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear City Council,

Please make flood protection a priority for 2023. Specifically, please renew your city priority of Climate Change and Adaptation for 2023. This year please add the following projects under this priority: the Newell Bridge replacement, explicit support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek and clearing debris before flood season. I live in the flood zone and improved flood prevention and protection of our home from flooding is an imperative for our family's safety and well being.

Thank you,

VK Rajaram  
Heather Lane Resident

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**From:** Ted Davids <tdavids@sonic.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 22, 2023 2:17 PM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** 2023 Priorities for the Council and its Finance Committee

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Dear City Council,

Please include Flood Protection under the Climate Protection & Adaptation Goal for 2023. Last year no flood protection projects were officially included under the Climate Protection & Adaptation Goal.

I am concerned that Palo Alto's basic sources and uses of cash do not address the risks highlighted by the recent rains and flooding. Specifically, please add the following projects under this priority: the Newell Bridge replacement, explicit support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek and clearing debris before flood season, especially cleaning channel debris BEFORE flood season.

Late last year Mr Neilson Buchanan suggested to the Finance Committee to clarify its concepts of financial issues. The list of issues was a great step forward. However, I continue to feel that the list of issues was incomplete. It did not communicate the inherent risks associated with each issue. A list of issues is passive A list of risks communicates urgency.

Now is the time to delegate two risks to the Finance Committee in the context of Climate Protection and Adaption. First, full commitment for the San Francisquito Creek flood zone's staged remedies. This means full and regular disclosure of funding and timelines.

Second, greater disclosure of Palo Alto's commitment to the system of levee protections around SF Bay. I could be mistaken but this risk has received minimal public attention.

Construction on the Newell Bridge was originally scheduled to start in 2021 but construction is now scheduled for the summer of 2024 due to various delays (e.g. lawsuits now dismissed). Please make it a priority to ensure there are no further delays, that the city is doing everything it can to complete this project and support full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek including channel widening and Chaucer bridge as fast as possible.

Thousands of homes are in the San Francisquito Creek flood zone and over the floor flooding means the home becomes inhabitable for 9 months to a year, like 400 homes were in the 1998 flood during an El Nino season. Next winter is predicted to be an El Nino winter so statistically higher risk.

The benefits of replacing Newell Bridge go far beyond flood control. This 113 year old bridge, was designated as functionally obsolete by CalTrans. It is a substandard narrow bridge with no traffic lights, no sidewalk and no bike path. Many parents from East Palo Alto push their baby carriages and walk small children across this bridge on their way to Eleanor Parde Park. The bridge is also used by many to commute to work from East Palo Alto. The new bridge will provide safe sidewalks for pedestrians, safe bike paths and improved car safety.

Thank you again for all the hard work you have done to move the Newell Bridge replacement project so far and please prioritize bringing it over the finish line as funded infrastructure win for the city.

Sincerely,  
Ted Davids  
475 Everett Avenue

Palo Alto

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**From:** Christy Telch <gforman806@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 22, 2023 11:36 AM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** Top Priority- Flood Prevention and Protection

Some people who received this message don't often get email from gforman806@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.**

Dear City Council Members,

I urge you to make Flood Prevention and Protection, specifically FIX the Pope-Chaucer Bridge!, the City's top priority in 2023! Our home at 1130 Hamilton Ave between Lincoln and Chaucer was flooded in 1998 and after 25 years we should not have to suffer that disaster again! It took us a year and significant financial costs to repair the damage to our home and property and much longer to recover from the emotional stress! Watching the muddy creek water roar down Hamilton Ave and head up our driveway, yards and sidewalk again this past New Year's Eve day was a nightmare! This could have been prevented and should not have happened again!

Your first priority and responsibility is the protection of the safety and well being of residents and their property. Therefore, I urge you to immediately implement whatever actions are necessary to prevent another flooding event. Make this your absolute top priority until the safety and well being of residents and their property is insured.

Respectfully,  
Christy Telch

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**From:** Harry Dennis <hledennis@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 22, 2023 11:26 AM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** Flood protection for Crescent Park.

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Hello,

Having had more than 2 feet of water in our basement in 1998, we were better prepared this winter with beefier sump pumps and a small Honda generator. Still, it IS frustrating that 24 years later I was back to filling sandbags a few weeks ago. Thankfully, our home on Pitman Avenue has so far not been flooded this year. I AM impressed with the city's work clearing streets and drains, and making sand and bags available to us. But please, don't let work on the Newell and Chaucer bridges get further delayed. Make flood protection and climate adaptation as high a priority as possible.

Thank you,

Harry Dennis  
1274 Pitman Ave.  
Palo Alto

P.S. - as an infant, in early 1955, I was evacuated from my family's home on Desoto Drive, too! This has been a known problem for WAY too long.

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**From:** Lisa Gevelber <lisagevelber@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 22, 2023 11:25 AM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** Flood protection priority

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Dear City Council,

Please make flood protection a priority for 2023. Our street, Kings Lane, was really flooded on New Years eve and I'm worried about our street.

Specifically, please renew your city priority of Climate Change and Adaptation for 2023. This year please add the following projects under this priority: the Newell Bridge replacement, explicit support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek and clearing debris before flood season.

Clearly our street is in the flood zone and improved flood prevention and protection of our home from flooding is an imperative for our family's safety and well being.

Thank you.

Lisa Gevelber

---

**From:** Carol Kenyon <carolskenyon@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 22, 2023 8:22 AM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** January flooding in Palo alto

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To The Palo Alto City Council,

I hope you as a City council are as concerned as I am about the flooding we have been living with this month. This issue must be a priority for our City as we continue to confront climate change in many areas. Please make flood protection a priority for 2023. Specifically, please renew your city priority of Climate Change and Adaptation for 2023. This year please add the following projects under this priority: the Newell Bridge replacement, explicit support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek and clearing debris before flood season. I live in the flood zone and improved flood prevention and protection of our home from flooding is an imperative for our neighborhood safety and well being. Thank you.

I appreciate you giving this issue your immediate attention.

Carol Kenyon

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**From:** Patricia Jones <pkjones1000@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 21, 2023 10:13 PM  
**To:** Council, City; City Mgr  
**Subject:** Priorities for 2023

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Dear City Council and City Manager,

As you determine the priorities for 2023, I propose that at the top of your list of 2023 priorities, you commit to the following under the Newell Bridge replacement:

(1) complete support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito creek and (2) clearing debris from the creek before flood season.

I understand that we face the risk of another El Niño next year, just as we did in 1998. Please, please find a way NOW to mitigate the possibility of the flooding that occurred in 1998 and partially occurred 12/31/22. Flood damage is absolutely devastating to those affected and completely unnecessary because it can be avoided.

To this end, I ask that you set measurable goals, such as “reduce the risk of local 100-year flooding from the San Francisquito Creek by 50% in 12 months and 100% in 24 months.”

Achieving such goals would give those of us living under the constant threat of flooding much needed peace of mind.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Patricia Jones  
1407 Hamilton Avenue

Patricia Jones  
[www.pkjones.com](http://www.pkjones.com)  
[pkjones1000@icloud.com](mailto:pkjones1000@icloud.com)



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**From:** Mel Kronick <melkronick@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 21, 2023 7:55 PM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Cc:** Mel Kronick; Karen Kronick  
**Subject:** Flood Control as a City of Palo Alto Priority

Some people who received this message don't often get email from melkronick@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.**

We have lived in Palo Alto on Forest Avenue since 1976. We suffered modest damage in the horrible 1998 flood. We came close to damage again this year. We appreciate that the issue is complicated and that 6 different governmental agencies (Palo Alto, Menlo Park, East Palo Alto, the County of Santa Clara, the County of San Mateo, and the Army Corps of Engineers) are all involved. It is, nevertheless, shameful that the Chaucer Street bridge and solving the whole issue once and for all is still years away. My wife and I VERY strongly request setting flood control as a top 2023 priority by the City Council.

Mel and Karen Kronick

---

**From:** rob lipshutz@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 21, 2023 3:57 PM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** Priorities for 2023

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Dear City Council,

I live in the flood zone and improved flood prevention and protection of our home from flooding is an imperative for our family's safety and well-being.

Please make flood protection a priority for 2023. Specifically, please renew your city priority of Climate Change and Adaptation for 2023. In addition, this year, please add the following projects under this priority:

1. the Newell Bridge replacement,
2. explicit support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek and clearing debris before flood season.

Thank you.

Regards  
Robert Lipshutz

---

**From:** betty tse <btse04@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 21, 2023 3:23 PM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** 2023 priority of Palo Alto - flood protection

Some people who received this message don't often get email from btse04@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.**

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Dear City Council,

Please make flood protection a priority for 2023. Specifically, please renew your city priority of Climate Change and Adaptation for 2023. This year please add the following projects under this priority: the Newell Bridge replacement, explicit support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek and clearing debris before flood season. I live in the flood zone and improved flood prevention and protection of our home from flooding is an imperative for our family's safety and well being.

Thank you.  
betty tse and gabe kralik

---

**From:** Neilson Buchanan <cnsbuchanan@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 21, 2023 2:52 PM  
**To:** Council, City; Shikada, Ed; Nose, Kiely  
**Cc:** Hamilton Hitchings; Norm Beamer  
**Subject:** 2023 Priorities for the Council and its Finance Committee

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Dear City Council,

Please include Flood Protection under the Climate Protection & Adaptation Goal for 2023. Last year no flood protection projects were officially included under the Climate Protection & Adaptation Goal.

I am concerned that Palo Alto's basic sources and uses of cash do not address the risks highlighted by the recent rains and flooding. Specifically, please add the following projects under this priority: the Newell Bridge replacement, explicit support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek and clearing debris before flood season.

Late last year I suggested to the Finance Committee to clarify its concepts of financial issues. The list of issues was a great step forward. However, I continue to feel that the list of issues was incomplete. It did not communicate the inherent risks associated with each issue. A list of issues is passive. A list of risks communicates urgency.

Now is the time to delegate two risks to the Finance Committee in the context of Climate Protection and Adaptation. **First**, full commitment for the San Francisquito Creek flood zone's staged remedies. This means full and regular disclosure of funding and timelines.

**Second**, greater disclosure of Palo Alto's commitment to the system of levee protections around SF Bay. I could be mistaken but this risk has received minimal public attention.

Construction on the Newell Bridge was originally scheduled to start in 2021 but construction is now scheduled for the summer of 2024 due to various delays (e.g. lawsuits now dismissed). Please make it a priority to ensure there are no further delays, that the city is doing everything it can to complete this project and support full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek including channel widening and Chaucer bridge as fast as possible.

Thousands of homes are in the San Francisquito Creek flood zone and over the floor flooding means the home becomes inhabitable for 9 months to a year, like 400 homes were in the 1998 flood during an El Niño season. Next winter is predicted to be an El Niño winter so statistically higher risk.

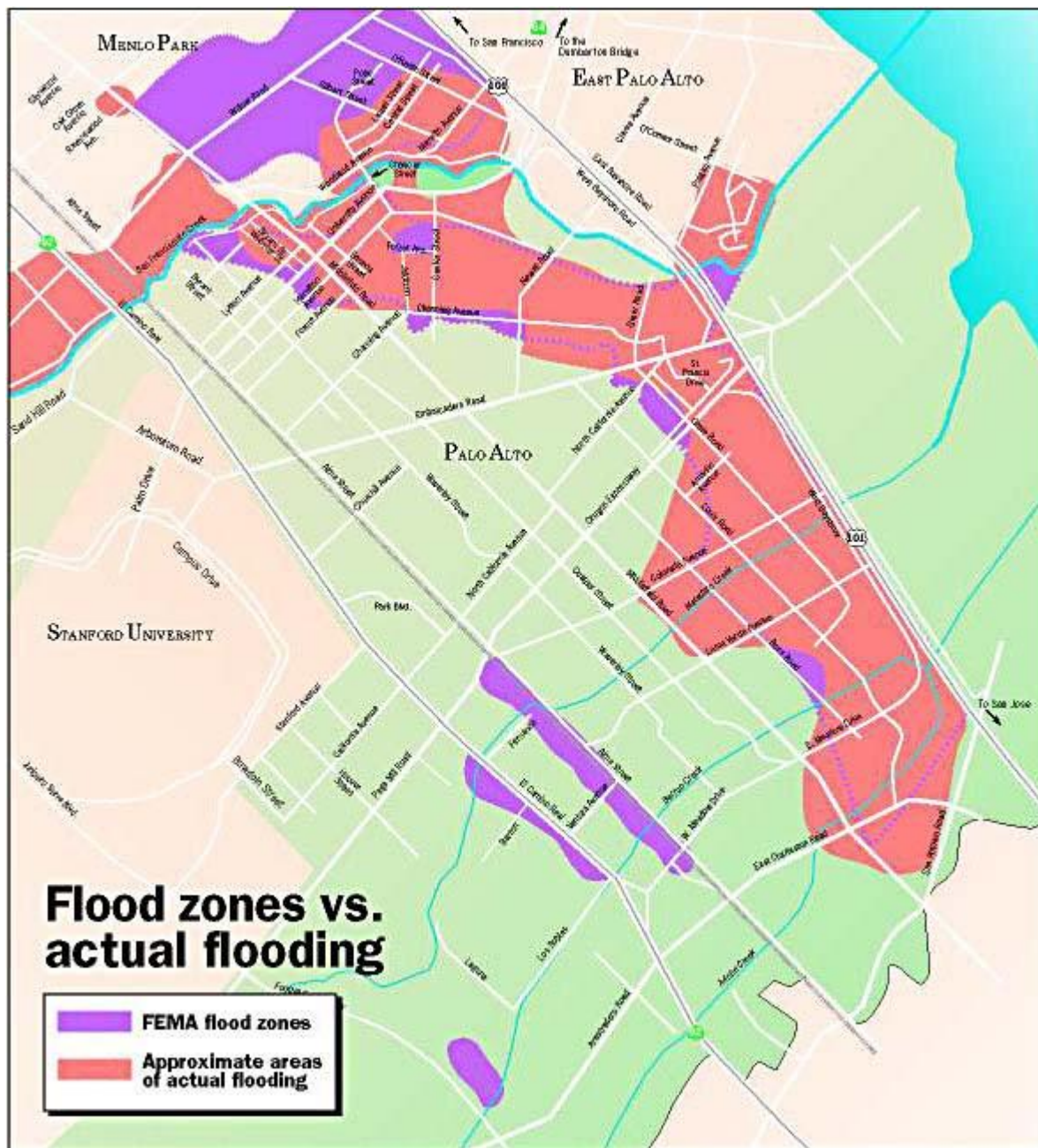
The benefits of replacing Newell Bridge go far beyond flood control. This 113 year old bridge, was designated as functionally obsolete by CalTrans. It is a substandard narrow bridge with no traffic lights, no sidewalk and

no bike path. Many parents from East Palo Alto push their baby carriages and walk small children across this bridge on their way to Eleanor Parde Park. The bridge is also used by many to commute to work from East Palo Alto. The new bridge will provide safe sidewalks for pedestrians, safe bike paths and improved car safety.

Thank you again for all the hard work you have done to move the Newell Bridge replacement project so far and please prioritize bringing it over the finish line **as funded infrastructure win** for the city.

PS

As a resident of Downtown North, I tend to be passive about flood risks. However, the recent creek flooding of El Camino Real underpass at University Avenue is a shocking reminder of infrastructure collapse and risk. I had to remind myself of actual DTN flooding. Attached is the 1998 flood map of water that literally went only to a few DTN neighbors' front doors.



Neilson Buchanan  
155 Bryant Street  
Palo Alto, CA 94301

650 329-0484  
650 537-9611 cell  
[cnsbuchanan@yahoo.com](mailto:cnsbuchanan@yahoo.com)

---

**From:** Margot Lockwood-Stein <mommylockwood\_stein@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 21, 2023 12:18 PM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** Fw: Please Make Flood Protection for Crescent Park, Duveneck/St. Francis & Greer Park a priority

Some people who received this message don't often get email from mommylockwood\_stein@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.**

Dear City Council,

Please make flood protection a priority for 2023. Specifically, please renew your city priority of Climate Change and Adaptation for 2023. This year please add the following projects under this priority: the Newell Bridge replacement, explicit support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek and clearing debris before flood season. I live in the flood zone and improved flood prevention and protection of our home from flooding is an imperative for our family's safety and well being. Thank you.

Thank you,  
Margot Lockwood-Stein  
Duveneck/St. Francis neighborhood

---

**From:** Mehmetf <mehmetf@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 21, 2023 10:14 AM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** Flood priority

Some people who received this message don't often get email from mehmety@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.**

Dear City Council,

Please make flood protection a priority for 2023. Specifically, please renew your city priority of Climate Change and Adaptation for 2023. This year please add the following projects under this priority: the Newell Bridge replacement, explicit support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek and clearing debris before flood season.

I live in the flood zone (Oregon Ave) and improved flood prevention and protection of our home from flooding is an imperative for our family's safety and well being. Thank you.



---

**From:** Pat Kinney <pkkinney48235@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 21, 2023 9:54 AM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** Please make flood control a priority for 2023

Some people who received this message don't often get email from pkkinney48235@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.**

Dear City Council,

Please make flood protection a priority for 2023. Specifically, please renew your city priority of Climate Change and Adaptation for 2023. This year please add the following projects under this priority: the Newell Bridge replacement, explicit support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek and clearing debris before flood season. I live in the flood zone and improved flood prevention and protection of our home from flooding is an imperative for our family's safety and well being. We were not impacted as much this year as we were in 1998, but we still carry memories of that flood.

I understand that the Newell Bridge project is constrained to only working in the creek for four months each year, but are there other roadside improvements that could start in 2023 that could speed up the overall project?

Thank you.  
Patricia Kinney  
Willwood Lane

---

**From:** Barbara Riper <tobin8@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 21, 2023 9:43 AM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** Flood protection

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from tobin8@sbcglobal.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

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As a resident in the flood zone, I ask that you renew your City priority of Climate Change and Adaptation for 2023. Please add these projects under that priority:

- Newell Bridge replacement
- Clear support for the complete Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquiro Creek
- Pre-flood season clearing of debris from the creek

We narrowly missed a much worse outcome recently. Let's not waste time before the next one.

Sincerely,

Barbara Riper

---

**From:** Nadine Terman <nadineterman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 21, 2023 9:19 AM  
**To:** Council, City  
**Subject:** City Priorities

Some people who received this message don't often get email from nadineterman@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.**

Dear City Council,

Please make flood protection a priority for 2023.

We have lived near the Creek since 2008 and remain confused and frustrated over the lack of progress from our leaders.

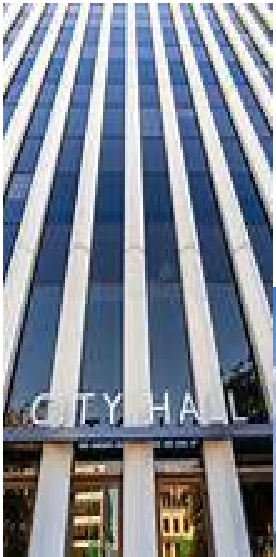
Specifically, please renew your city priority of Climate Change and Adaptation for 2023. This year please add the following projects under this priority: the Newell Bridge replacement, explicit support for the full Reach 2 upgrade of San Francisquito Creek and clearing debris before flood season. The city was not prepared and only was removing debris when it was too late—a baffling situation for a known issue.

I live in the flood zone and suffered flooding from the New Year's flood of the Pope Chaucer Bridge. Improved flood prevention and protection of our home and streets from flooding is an imperative for our family's safety and well being.

If you choose not to be proactive on the above initiatives, then please (i) find a way to clean sidewalks so that people do not slip (or be forced to walk in the streets and dodge cars) and (ii) also set aside funds to reimburse us for our damage while we wait and for doing your job in cleaning up the neighborhood. You probably noticed that most of us were cleaning up our neighborhoods...while inspiring as a neighborhood, it is representative of the shortcomings of the council.

Thank you,

Nadine



# FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

CITY COUNCIL RETREAT 2023

January 28, 2023

[www.cityofpaloalto.org](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org)

# AGENDA

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9:00 am	Roll Call & Welcome from Mayor
9:45	Council Retreat Overview and Discussion of Community Survey Results Status
10:00	Overview of 2022 Council Priorities
11:30	Public Comment
12:15 pm	Lunch Break
1:00	Selection of 2023 City Council Priorities
2:00	Discussion/Revision to 2023 Standing Committee Topics
2:30	Retreat Debrief, Take Away and Next Steps
3:00	Adjournment

# TO ENSURE A PRODUCTIVE DAY

---

We allow time for **candid** and **honest** feedback

We seek to hear **ideas** and **perspectives** of residents in our public comments before deliberations

We will adhere to schedule and allow the facilitator to move the conversation along



# City Council



**Lydia  
Kou**  
*Mayor*

**Greer  
Stone**  
*Vice  
Mayor*

**Pat  
Burt**  
*Council  
Member*

**Ed  
Lauing**  
*Council  
Member*

**Julie  
Lythcott-  
Haims**  
*Council  
Member*

**Greg  
Tanaka**  
*Council  
Member*

**Vicki  
Veenker**  
*Council  
Member*



# What's Your December 31, 2023 Headline?







CITY OF  
**PALO  
ALTO**

# INTRODUCTION TO ANNUAL GOAL PROCESS

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# AGENDA

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# COUNCIL PRIORITIES OVERVIEW

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- Since 1986, this Council has established Policy Priorities
- Policy anticipates between 1 - 3 Council identified topics will receive, unusual **and significant** attention in 2023. Topics may remain priorities for up to 3 years
- Goal setting is supplemented by input through 2022 Open City Hall, staff input, the National Community Survey, review of work plans and resident testimony today





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# Feedback

## Themes from Community Input

# SURVEY STRUCTURE

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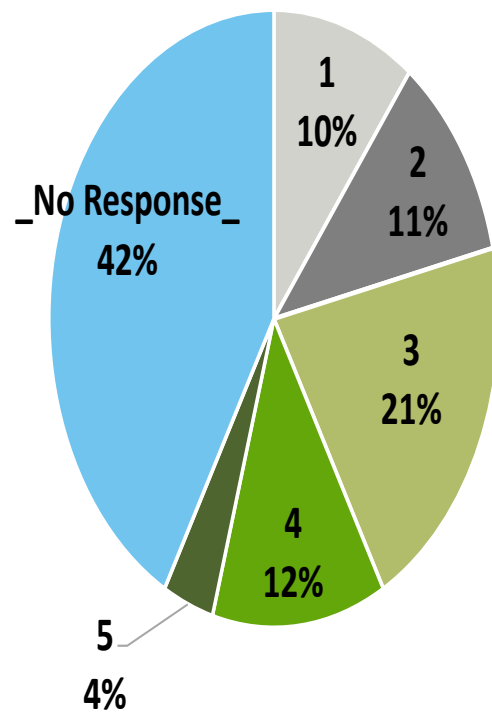
- Over the past several years, the survey has typically asked the community to share feedback as an open field.
- This year we added additional questions/rankings to gain a sense of community perceptions about each 2022 Council priority
- 10 questions in total

# SURVEY STRUCTURE



## Question 2.

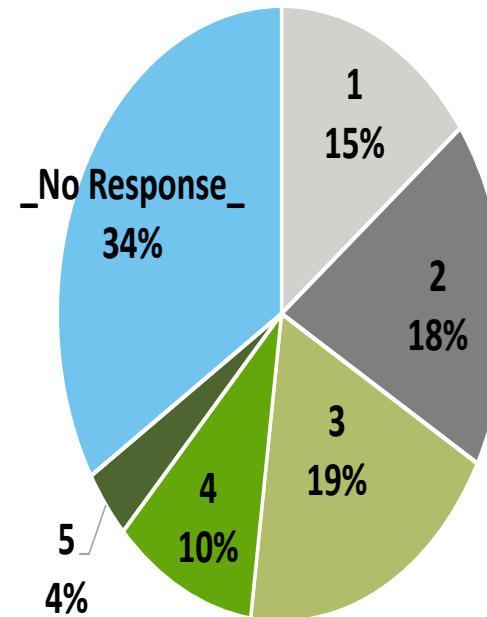
Please rate how we are doing on the 2022 Priority  
"Economic Recovery and Transition"  
[5 being the best]



37% ranked 3-5  
21% ranked 1-2  
42% no response

## Question 4.

Please rate how we are doing on the 2022 Priority  
"Climate Change - Protection and Adaptation"  
[5 being the best]



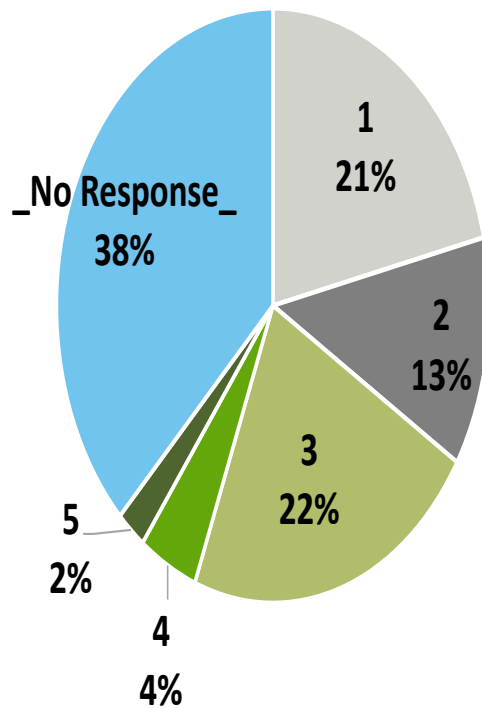
33% ranked 3-5  
33% ranked 1-2  
34% no response

# SURVEY STRUCTURE



## Question 6.

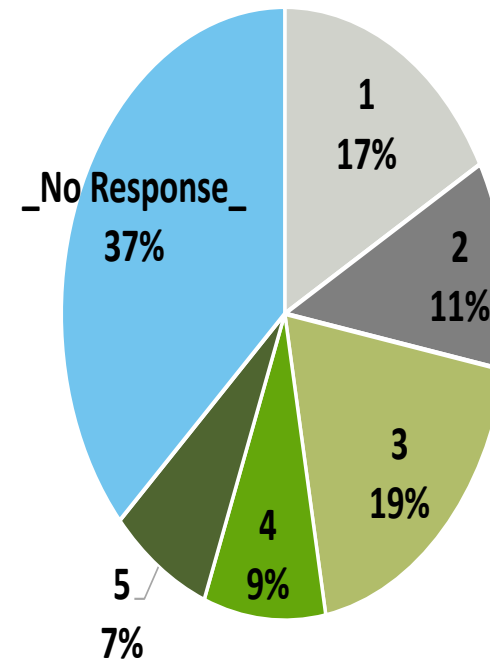
Please rate how we are doing on the 2022 Priority  
"Housing for Social and Economic Balance"  
*[5 being the best]*



28% ranked 3-5  
34% ranked 1-2  
38% no response

## Question 8.

Please rate how we are doing on the 2022 Priority  
"Community Health and Safety"  
*[5 being the best]*



35% ranked 3-5  
28% ranked 1-2  
37% no response

# COUNCIL PRIORITIES SURVEY THEMES

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## Economic Recovery and Transition

- Focus on small business, supporting business in general, and creating a more business friendly city
- Increase service levels in Planning
- Diverse opinions on increasing business taxes and reducing or eliminating business taxes
- Fill vacant retail and office spaces
- Have more events and fun/entertainment options
- Diverse opinions on keeping streets closed and to re-open closed streets

## Climate Change – Protection and Adaptation

- More resources for climate change programs
- Expand Safe Routes to School and other mobility items
- Strengthen public transportation, active transportation, and bike infrastructure
- Increase recreation and open space
- Focus on electrification
- More electric vehicle charging incentives and options
- Focus on S/CAP execution
- Replace Pope/Chaucer and Newell Creek bridges and address flooding issues

## Community Health and Safety

- More focus on Public Safety
- Reduce airplane noise and traffic
- Improvements to major thoroughfares and other infrastructure (road conditions, crosswalks, sidewalks, bike-ability, tree upkeep)
- More wellness programs
- Budget for more police officers and firefighters
- More police presence in the community
- Emphasis on residential burglaries and criminal activity
- Code enforcement (leaf blowers, parking, speeding)



# SURVEY THEMES

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## Housing for Social and Economic Balance

- Diverse opinions on increasing and building more housing and removing housing as a priority for the Council in the coming year
- Transit-oriented development – housing near jobs, shopping, services, transit
- Make affordable housing easier, less expensive to build
- Affordable and affordable senior housing
- Rent control
- Remove short-term rentals
- Approve a compliant Housing Element
- Promote more types of housing (multi-family, small apartment, ADUs)
- Convert office space and empty buildings to housing
- Establish short-term housing options for homeless population
- Safe RV parking program

## Other Themes

- More public services for the low-income community
- Move forward with the Grade Separation project
- Hire more staff resources in these areas: Transportation, Planning, Police, Fire, Palo Alto Junior Museum & Zoo, HR
- Focus on local issues only
- Balanced focus of priorities geographically across the City
- Address car traffic along major arteries
- Less focus on electrification and reducing natural gas use
- Diversity
- Climate Change, Housing, and Community Health & Safety should not be priorities.
- Climate change issues should be left to the state/federal
- Removing housing was sometimes related to including it in addressing climate change or removing it.



## 2022 ADOPTED PRIORITIES

Economic Recovery and Transition (ERT)

Climate Change - Protection and Adaptation (CCPA)

Housing for Social /Economic Balance (HSEB)

Community Health and Safety (CHS)



# 2022 Priority – ERT

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Economic Recovery and Transition

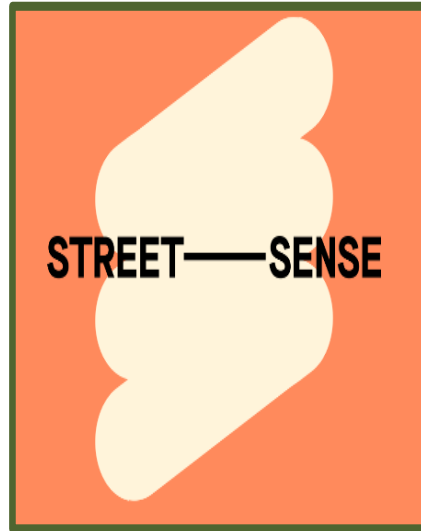
# ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND TRANSITION (ERT)



- || 1. Downtown Business Improvement District (BID)
- ✓ 2. Economic Development Request for Proposal (RFP)
- 🕒 3. Economic Dev Committees for Downtown & California Ave.
- ✓ 4. Retail and Retail-Like Land Uses and CUP Thresholds
- 🕒 5. University Avenue Streetscape Design Project
- 🕒 6. California Avenue Closure and feasibility study (car-free streets)
- 🕒 7. Ramona Street Closure and feasibility study (car-free streets)
- 🕒 8. Build Out Fiber Backbone as Foundation for Fiber-to-the-Premises (FTTP)
- 🕒 9. Electronic Plan Review RFP to integrate with Accela
- ✓ 10. New Parking Facilities in the University Avenue Downtown (potential BMH site)
- || 11. California Avenue Subscription Parking (Commercial)
- 🕒 12. Citywide Retail Recovery Ordinance
- 🕒 13. Retail Preservation

**85% of 2022 ERT Projects  
are either Complete ✓  
or On Track 🕒**

# ERT: Accomplishments



- Award of contract for comprehensive economic development strategy (ERT2)
- 'Car-Free Streets' on Cal Ave. and Ramona interim design standard updates (ERT6 & ERT7)
- Issuance of Request for Information for New Parking Facilities in University Avenue Downtown and Below Market Rate housing (ERT 10)
- Extension of interim ordinance for Retail and Retail-like land uses through June 2024 (ERT 12)



# ERT: Work to Continue in 2023

- Developing plan to reimplement Business Improvement District (ERT1)
- Economic Development Committees (Downtown and California Ave.)(ERT3)
- University Avenue Streetscape Impv. (ERT5)
- Fiber Backbone to facilitate Fiber-to-the-premises (ERT8)
- Improve Electronic Plan Review (ERT9)
- Evaluating Citywide Retail Recovery Ordinance and efforts at retail preservation (ERT12)



# ERT: 2023 Changes & New Priority Projects

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## Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy by Streetsense - Implementation

- Council review and direction on the priorities within the strategy
- Implementation of strategy recommendations



## Implementation of Measure K, new Business Tax: outreach & stakeholder engagement, development, implementation, and administration



## Parklet Standards: integrating into other City efforts (Car-Free streets, University Ave Streetscape)

- Downtown parking & below market housing RFI responses
- Council review and direction on next steps and priorities



## 2022 Priority – CCPA

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Climate Change-Protection & Adaptation





# CLIMATE CHANGE: PROTECTION & ADAPTATION (CCPA)

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- 🕒 1. Municipal Code Amendments to Facilitate PV, ESS, EVCS and Heat Pump (Water/Furnace) Installations
- 🕒 2. Permit/Inspection Streamlining for Electrification Projects
- 🕒 3. Valley Water Purified Water Facility at LATP Area B
- 🕒 4. Sustainability/Climate Action Plan (S/CAP) update
- ✓ 5. Advance Residential Home Electrification Strategy
- 🕒 6. Grid Modernization to Prepare for Electrification
- 🕒 7. Implement Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)
- ✓ 8. Advance Commercial Electrification Retrofit

**100% of CCPA Projects**  
are either   
**Complete**  **On Track**

# CCPA: Accomplishments



- Community Engagement:
  - S/CAP Ad Hoc Committee meetings
  - Working Group and Teams
  - Making Better Choices in Your Home workshop
- Heat Pump Water Heater Program (development and approval, CCPA5)
- Launched commercial rooftop heating/cooling pilot (CCPA8)
- Reach Code items (development & approval)
- S/CAP Goals & Key Actions (Council acceptance, CCAP4)
- Established new carbon neutrality goal

# CCPA: Work to Continue in 2023

## Where are we headed in 2023?

- Implementation & scaling of HPWH program
- S/CAP 3-yr workplan CEQA analysis and workplan approval by Council
- Pivot S/CAP work to the implementation of approved strategies and programs

## Governance and Council Engagement

- S/CAP Ad Hoc Committee for 3<sup>rd</sup> year (appointed by Mayor)
- Council guidance needed:
  - Scope of 2023 S/CAP Ad Hoc Committee
  - Council and Board & Commission engagement
  - Longer- term governance





# CCPA: 2023 Changes & New Priority Projects

## Key projects for 2023 (S/CAP 3-Yr WorkPlan):

- Gas and Electric Utility Electrification Infrastructure Changes
- Heat Pump Water Heater Program Implementation and Expansion
- Commercial Rooftop HVAC Prog. Launch
- 🏠 EV Strategic Planning
- 🏠 Reliability & Resiliency Strategic Planning
- 🏠 S/CAP Resource Needs & Funding Sources Study
- Bicycle & Pedestrian Transportation Plan Update



## Additional 2023 Project Areas:

- 🏠 Newell Road Bridge Replacement (CHS)
- San Francisquito Creek Reach 2 Flood Protection Project Support



## 2022 Priority – HSEB

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Housing for Social & Economic Balance

# HOUSING FOR SOCIAL & ECONOMIC BALANCE (HSEB)



58% of 2022 HSEB Projects are either Complete ✓ or On Track ⌚

- ✓ 1. HomeKey Application
- ✓ 2. Parking in Lieu Downtown Office Parking Ban
- ✓ 3. SB35 Objective Standards Ordinance
- ⌚ 4. North Ventura Coordinated Area Plan (NVCAP)
- ⌚ 5. Housing Element Update & Implementation
- ⌚ 6. Grand Jury Rec. Affordable Housing
- ✓ 7. SB-9 Urban Lot Split / SB-9 Historic Res. Policy
- ✓ 8. City/Sobrato Ad Hoc Regarding 340 Portage
- ⌚ 9. Accessory Dwelling Unit Regulations (Ordinance)
- 10. Downtown Housing Master Plan
- ✓ 11. Renter Protections Tenant Relocation Assist
- ✓ 12. Safe Parking Program
- ⌚ 13. LifeMoves Operating/Lease Agreement (HomeKey)
- 14. SB-9 Permanent Ordinance
- ⌚ 15. Renter Protection - Rental Survey
- 16. Renter Protection - Just Cause Eviction
- 17. Grand Jury Report Recommendation #3
- 18. Retail and Residential Parking Adjustment
- 19. PHZ/PC Amendment - Allow Greater Height
- 20. Inclusionary Housing Program
- 21. Streamline App Pre-Screening
- 22. Commercial Office Zoning Adjustments
- 🗑️ 23. Residential Zoning Name Change
- ⌚ 24. Grand Jury Report Recommendations #4 and #8

# HSEB: Accomplishments

## Policy Direction & Ordinances

- Draft Housing Element submitted to HCD (HSEB5)
- Council endorsed North Ventura Coordinated Area Plan preferred plan (HSEB4)
- Tenant relocation assistance ordinance (HSEB11)
- Accessory dwelling units amendment (HSEB9)
- SB 9 interim implementation ordinance (HSEB7)



Housing Unit Type	Pending	Entitled	Permitted
Affordable Housing	209	73	1
Market Rate Housing	548	134	8
J/ADUs	86	-	120
Homeless Shelter	88 beds	-	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>843 + 88</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>129</b>



# HSEB: Services Accomplishments



**WANT TO BECOME A  
PALO ALTO MEDIATOR?**

Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity?  
Do you want to get more involved in your community?  
Do you enjoy helping people resolve their disputes?

The Palo Alto Mediation Program is now accepting applications for volunteer mediators. Visit [paloaltomediation.com/apply](https://paloaltomediation.com/apply) for more information.

Catholic Charities supported **262 residents** in **long term care facilities**

**151 residents** received **SRO support** (Alta Housing)

**56 unhoused residents** received **support services** from the Opportunity Center (LifeMoves)

**38 residents** received **fair housing services** (Project Sentinel)

**26 adults with disabilities** received **housing and emergency services** (SVILC)

**6 residents** received critical health and safety **home repair services** (Rebuilding Together Peninsula)



# HSEB: Accomplishments / 5<sup>th</sup> Cycle RHNA

Income Level	RHNA Allocation	Units Permitted	<i>Total Remaining RHNA Allocation</i>	<i>% of RHNA Permitted</i>
Very Low	691	218	473	31.55%
Low	432	65	367	15.05%
Moderate	278	29	249	10.43%
Above Moderate	587	687	-100	117.05%
Totals	1,988	999	989	<b>50.25%</b>



# HSEB: 2023 Changes & New Priority Projects



## 1. Housing Element Implementation

- Stanford-owned housing opportunity sites
- Certain GM/ROLM properties to 90 units/acre
- Carryover sites zoned for by-right development w/20% lower income
- Housing Incentive Program: revise and expand to multi-family zones
- Fair housing tenant protections: just cause and security deposit ordinances, rental registry



## 2. Downtown Housing Master Plan (partially funded)

## 3. Housing-Related Services

- Outreach and engagement with unhoused residents
- Evaluation of housing and housing services offered by the City

2023-2031 Housing Element  
City of Palo Alto



December 2022  
Draft





## 2022 Priority – CHS

---

Community Health & Safety

(mental health, crime reduction,  
air quality, noise, sense of belonging)

# COMMUNITY HEALTH & SAFETY (CHS)



100% of CHS Projects are either  
Complete ✓ or On Track ⌚

- ⌚ 1. Palo Alto Animal Shelter Services Review
- ⌚ 2. Cubberley Next Steps
- ⌚ 3. Improve Fire Safety in Foothills
- ⌚ 4. Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) Upgrade
- ⌚ 5. Complete Reopening of Libraries
- ⌚ 6. Hire Ahead up to Five Police Officers
- ✓ 7. Rinconada Park Improvement Project
- ✓ 8. Tree Protection Ordinance Update
- ⌚ 9. Public Safety Building Capital Project
- ⌚ 10. Newell Road Bridge Replacement (MOVE TO CCPA)
- ⌚ 11. Monitor and Respond to SFO/FAA Airplane Noise Issues
- ⌚ 12. Provide and Promote Use of Unleaded Fuel at Palo Alto Airport
- ⌚ 13. Sewer System Replacement Project 30
- ⌚ 14. Evaluate Gym Feasibility
- ⌚ 15. Emergency Plans Updates
- ⌚ 16. Gas-Powered Leaf Blower Amendment
- ⌚ 17. Fire Station 4 Project
- ⌚ 18. Sewer System Laterals Repair and Replacement throughout the City
- ⌚ 19. Water Main Replacement Project 28
- ⊖ 20. Seismic and Resiliency Ordinance



# CHS: Accomplishments



- Tree Protection Ordinance Update
- Rinconada Park Renovations & Reopened Park
- Foothills Roadside Clearing - Fire Safety
- Library Reopening
- Palo Alto Libraries Rated 5-Star Library
- Expanded Library Open Hours
- Capital Projects in Motion:
  - Public Safety Building 63% complete,
  - Advanced critical regulatory steps for Newell Bridge Replacement Project

# CHS: Work to Continue in 2023

---

## Libraries and Community Services:

- Continue to expand Library open hours
- Continue discussions on community space expansion (e.g., Cubberley and Gym/Wellness Center)

## Public Safety

- Progress the CAD project and emergency services plans
- Continue progress on Hire Ahead for officers

## Capital Projects


- Continue progress on Public Safety Building and other capital





# CHS: 2023 Changes & New Priority Projects

 Expand focus on sense of belonging / inclusion with programs for human connectedness

 Assess human service needs in Palo Alto and explore best practices for human services funding processes (HSRAP process)

- Rename "Evaluate Gym Feasibility" to "Evaluate Wellness Center Feasibility"
- Expansion of Emergency Services Volunteer (ESV) program
- Continue flood protection actions through moving the Newell Bridge Project to Climate Action Priority



# AGENDA

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9:00 am	Roll Call & Welcome from Mayor
9:45	Council Retreat Overview and Discussion of Community Survey Results Status
10:00	Overview of 2022 Council Priorities
11:30	Public Comment
12:15 pm	Lunch Break
1:00	Selection of 2023 City Council Priorities
2:00	Discussion/Revision to 2023 Standing Committee Topics
2:30	Retreat Debrief, Take Away and Next Steps
3:00	Adjournment







# Public Comment



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**PALO  
ALTO**

# LUNCH BREAK

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**12:15 – 1:00 pm**

# Council Discussion 2023 Priorities

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Revisiting Current Priorities

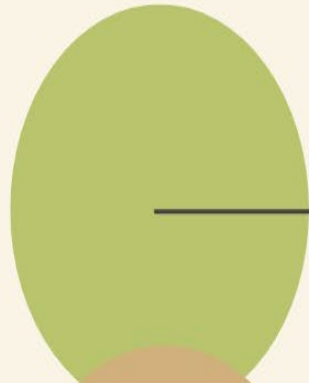
Feedback on Staff Update

Do any need to be modified

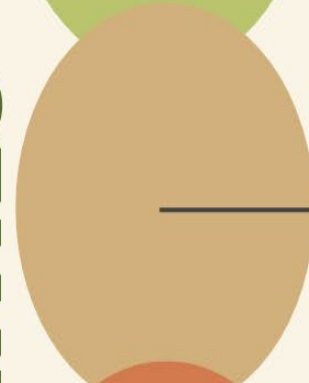




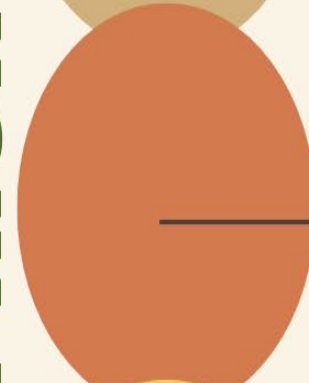
# 2022 COUNCIL PRIORITIES



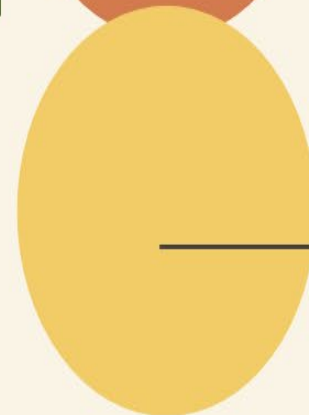
**Economic  
Recovery &  
Transition**



**Climate Change:  
Protection &  
Adaptation**



**Housing for  
Social &  
Economic  
Balance**



**Community  
Health & Safety**

# AGENDA

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# COMMITTEES

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**Standing Committees** are a resource for study of matters referred by the Council where more thorough and detailed discussion are needed

Current 2 Standing Committees are:

- Policy & Services
- Finance

**Ad Hoc Committees** are used on a limited basis to study matters that require a deeper review than Standing Committee level



# AGENDA

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# WRAP UP & DEBRIEF

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## ▶▶ NEXT STEPS

Furthering Council priority workplans

**COUNCIL  
PRIORITIES  
SELECTION**

**WORKPLAN  
REFINEMENT/  
QUARTERLY  
UPDATES**

**MID-YEAR/  
ANNUAL  
BUDGET  
ADOPTION**

**COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE  
STATUS  
UPDATES**

**OTHER  
UPDATES/  
ACTION, AS  
NEEDED**





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