

CITY

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

January 30, 2023

www.cityofpaloalto.org

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT IN LIGHT OF RECENT TRAGEDIES

- Terrible acts of violence in nearby communities remind us of our connectedness and our hearts go out to the victims, families, and communities impacted.
- In addition, Santa Clara County Police Chiefs Association members, including Chief Andrew Binder, issued a letter to all communities within Santa Clara County about the horrific death of Mr. Tyre Nichols.
- Increased stress and emotions can emerge days or weeks after violence occurs. If you or a loved one need emotional support, you are not alone, and help is available.



Find more details on the City's home page, under "News"

HIGH UTILITY BILLS & RESOURCES TO HELP



- It cost Palo Alto Utilities five times more to buy gas in the markets this January when compared to January 2022.
- Residents could see their gas bill triple as a result.
- The City is offering several ways to help:
 - Free assessments from our home energy advisor
 - Payment arrangements for those who need extra time paying their winter gas bills
 - Online energy efficiency steps residents can take now
 - Opened libraries as warming centers for residents

High Utility Bills
&
Resources to Help
[Get Started Here](#)

Find more details on the City's home page, under "News"

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COLD WEATHER ADVISORY

- The National Weather Service issued a frost advisory and cold weather warning for the Bay Area. We will see frost and extremely cold weather into tomorrow, and through the rest of the week.
- Those needing a warm space to spend the day may visit any Palo Alto City Library during their normal hours of operation.
- Staff are collaborating with service providers to support our unhoused community members including finding overnight shelter options.



Find more details on the City's home page, under "News"

FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The City continues its focus on fostering inclusiveness, equity and a sense of belonging.

A new Palo Alto Connect article will be issued this week sharing several ways community members can recognize Black History Month this February through local events and resources.

A preview of events include:

- **Teen Movie Night: Black Panther:** Thursday, February 16 | 6 – 8:30 p.m.
- **Family Craft: Paint a Rainbow:** Friday, February 17 | 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
- **King Artist Residency: Project Celebration:** February 24 at 4 p.m. on King Plaza at City Hall



Find more details on the City's home page, under "News"

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LIBRARY CHANGES CONTINUE



- The Palo Alto City Library will be expanding their hours again soon by adding an additional day at Children's, College Terrace, and Downtown libraries!
- Starting Wednesday, February 22, Downtown and College Terrace will add Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. to its open days.
 - Other days that College Terrace and Downtown are open include Thursday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Starting Thursday, February 23, Children's Library will add Thursday hours from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. to its open days.
 - Other days that Children's Library is open include Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.



BOARD AND COMMISSIONS RECRUITMENT OPEN



- The Spring 2023 Boards & Commissions recruitment is now open.
- Appointments will be made to the following board and commissions:
 - Historic Resources Board
 - Human Relations Commission
 - Parks & Recreation Commission
 - Planning & Transportation Commission
 - Utilities Advisory Commission
- Deadline to apply is February 28 at 4:30 p.m.



Find more details on the City's home page, under "News"

www.cityofpaloalto.org/BCRecruit

2023 CITY COUNCIL PRIORITIES SELECTED



- At their annual Council Retreat this past Saturday, the City Council approved their 2023 Council Priorities.
- The following priorities were approved:
 - Economic Recovery & Transition
 - Climate Change & Natural Environment – Protection & Adaptation
 - Housing for Social/Economic Balance
 - Community Health & Safety
- The City Council will be discussing objectives to achieve these priorities on February 6.



NOTABLE TENTATIVE UPCOMING COUNCIL ITEMS



February 6

- Study Session on upcoming shuttle service
- Gas Powered Leaf Blowers Enforcement
- Council Priorities objectives

February 13

- Study Sessions: Economic Development, Buena Vista Mobile Home Park
- Mid-Year Budget Review
- Council Committee workplans

February 27 & Beyond

- Parklets Update
- Palo Alto Airport Status Study Session
- Automated License Plate Reader Technology
- Firearms in sensitive places

The February 20 Council meeting is cancelled in observance of Presidents Day. An additional meeting will occur on February 27.

STAY INFORMED

Read the City Manager Comments Blog Series at:
CityofPaloAlto.org/CityManagerBlogSeries



Gain Coronavirus Updates at:
CityofPaloAlto.org/Coronavirus

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City Calendar of Events and Meetings:
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