Capitola City Council Agenda Report

Meeting: October 23, 2025

From: City Manager Department

Subject: November 20 Meeting



Recommended Action: Provide direction for the November 20, 2025, City Council meeting.

<u>Background</u>: On August 28, 2025, Council Member Westman requested an all-day special meeting to be held on a Saturday to discuss ongoing and pending City projects in Capitola. Council Members Morgan and Jensen voiced support for Council Member Westman's request for such a meeting.

On September 25, 2025, the City Council directed staff to repurpose the November 20th regularly scheduled City Council meeting to discuss: City revenue sources and financial projections, as well as a number of specific projects of community interest, including: Capitola Mall, 41st Avenue changes, Stockton Street Bridge, Cliff Drive Resiliency Project, the Park at Rispin Mansion Project, City Hall property, Esplanade Project, update on Jade Street Projects, anticipated street projects, plans for a Village hotel, bluff erosion on Depot Hill, sea level rise study, plans to help the Village be more resilient to storm damage, Capitola Wharf and Wharf Master Plan, annexation feasibility study, and a 5 Year CIP.

Council also indicated the list could be adjusted if staff identified other items of interest, or if items were already scheduled for completion.

<u>Discussion</u>: Following Council's direction on September 25th, staff identified the following proposed list of topics to be presented on November 20:

- Overview of City finances and revenue
- Loss of Local Control
- 5-year CIP
- Capitola Mall
- 41st Avenue Corridor Study
- Village Hotel
- Wharf Master Plan
- Pavement Management
- Upper 41st Ave Overcrossing Project
- Bay Avenue Corridor
- Cliff Drive
- Update on Caltrans Highway 1 project/closures
- Resiliency & Sea Level Rise
- City Hall Property
- Stockton Bridge
- Cliff Drive
- Depot Hill Bluffs
- Esplanade Park
- Jade Street Community Center and Treasure Cove Playground
- Park at Rispin Mansion
- Police Radio & Records Projects
- How to remain connected with Capitola's local government

On September 25th, the Council identified the regularly scheduled November 20th Council meeting as the date and time for this discussion. Capitola Municipal Code Section 2.04.110.B requires regular meetings of the Council be held in Council Chambers at City Hall. The Council Chambers can accommodate an audience of around 50 people and has technology to record, broadcast, and livestream public meetings.

However, if Council anticipates a larger crowd for the November 20th meeting, staff can reserve the New Brighton Middle School Performing Arts Center, where the City has held several successful community outreach meetings. Meetings held at the Performing Arts Center may be recorded for an additional cost but cannot be live streamed. If Council wishes to change the meeting venue, staff will prepare documents to cancel the regularly scheduled November 20th Council meeting and schedule the meeting at New Brighton Middle School as a special meeting.

Staff is seeking direction on whether the Council prefers to hold the meeting in a traditional Council meeting format or in a "Town Hall" format. In a Town Hall format, staff and the Mayor would be seated at the front of the room and Councilmembers seated in the audience. In the traditional meeting format, all five Councilmembers would be seated at the front of the room.

Based on Council direction regarding the meeting format - town hall versus traditional Council meeting – staff will prepare an agenda making the format clear. Regardless of the format, public comment will be required.

Meeting Materials

Staff intends to publish the meeting material, with a relatively brief staff report but include the presentation slides regarding each item on Friday, November 14.

Following Council direction on October 23rd, staff will begin promoting the meeting and preparing meeting materials. Staff intends to promote the November 20th meeting through the City newsletter, social media, and the City website.

In an effort to summarize the list of topics to be presented, staff will prepare a short summary document for the projects being presented, similar to a longer format newsletter. Questions arising from public comments or Council discussion can be included in these materials after the meeting. In addition, if Council is looking to structure the meeting more as a town hall, staff can look into the feasibility of incorporating a short question and answer session.

<u>Fiscal Impact</u>: As currently planned, there is no fiscal impact associated with the November 20th meeting. If the Council wishes to host the meeting at New Brighton Middle School Performing Arts Center, there is a \$350 facility use fee. If the Council wishes to record the meeting, the costs to record are estimated to be \$3,000.

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