# Los Altos Commission Discussion

Gabriel Engeland, City Manager March 28, 2023



#### Los Altos Commissions

- Los Altos has more Commissions, that meet more frequently, and have more members than peer Cities
- Most Commissions do have specific powers/duties defined in the Municipal Code
- Workplans from Commissions without definition of powers and duties often are not based on Council goals or budget, and lead to role confusion with Staff
- Commissions composition and meeting frequency is based on a "standard" application as opposed to workplan or expectations



#### Los Altos Commissions

#### Does the City Council wish to:

- Make changes to the establishment of the workplan by defining powers and duties?
- Make changes to the frequency of Commission meetings, the number of Commissioners, and/or the number of total Commissions?
- Provide direction to Staff to make amendments or other changes to Commission handbook with regards to subcommittee use and other items as presented at the City Council retreat?



#### Council Discussion and Direction

City staff is proposing the following after meeting with the Commission Chairs:

- 1) Certain Commissions can operate without changes
- 2) Certain Commissions can operate with limited recommended changes
- 3) Certain Commissions require Council direction prior to a recommendation being made



# Commissions With No Recommended Changes

- Planning Commission
- Senior Commission
- Youth Commission



## Planning Commission

	Current	Changes Discussed
Powers and Duties Defined	Yes	No
Membership	7	No
Meeting Frequency	Twice Monthly	No
Notes	<ul><li>The Planning Commission is a red</li><li>No changes are recommended.</li></ul>	quirement of the State.
Recommendation	Powers and Duties	No Changes Recommended
	Membership	No Changes Recommended
	Meeting Frequency	No Changes Recommended
	Potential Consolidation	Not Eligible



### Senior Commission

	Current	Changes Discussed
Powers and Duties Defined	No	No
Membership	7 (2 LAH)	5 (1 LAH), 7 (2 LAH)
Meeting Frequency	Monthly	6, 12
Notes	Powers and duties not clearly defined.	
	<ul> <li>Potential vacancy issue with LAH</li> </ul>	membership.
Recommendation	Powers and Duties	No Changes Recommended
	Membership	No Changes Recommended
	Meeting Frequency	No Changes Recommended
	Potential Consolidation	Eligible: Powers and Duties could
		be absorbed



### Youth Commission

	Current	Changes Discussed
Powers and Duties Defined	No	No
Membership	11	No
Meeting Frequency	Monthly	6, 12
Notes	No changes are recommended.	
Recommendation	Powers and Duties	No Changes Recommended
	Membership	No Changes Recommended
	Meeting Frequency	No Changes Recommended
	Potential Consolidation	Eligible: Powers and Duties could be absorbed



# Commissions With Limited Recommended Changes

Historical Commission



#### Historical Commission

	Current	Changes Discussed
Powers and Duties Defined	Yes	No
Membership	7	5
Meeting Frequency	Monthly	4
Notes	The powers and duties are defined in the municipal code and can be completed with quarterly meetings.	
Recommendation	Powers and Duties	No Changes
	Membership	Recommendation: 5
	Meeting Frequency	Recommendation: Quarterly (4)
	Potential Consolidation	Eligible (w/Planning Commission)



# Commissions With Recommended Changes/Direction Needed

- Complete Streets Commission
- Environmental Commission
- Financial Commission
- Library Commission
- Parks and Recreation Commission
- Public Arts Commission



## Complete Streets Commission

	Current	Changes Discussed
Powers and Duties Defined	No	Yes
Membership	7	5, 7
Meeting Frequency	Monthly	6, 8, 10
Notes	<ul> <li>The powers and duties in the Municipal Code do not match workplan.</li> <li>There is role confusion between Commission and Staff.</li> </ul>	
Recommendation	Powers and Duties	Changes are Recommended
	Membership	Changes are Recommended
	Meeting Frequency	Changes are Recommended
	Potential Consolidation	Eligible (w/Planning Commission)



#### **Environmental Commission**

	Current	Changes Discussed
Powers and Duties Defined	No	Yes
Membership	7	5, 7
Meeting Frequency	Monthly	6, 8, 12
Notes	<ul> <li>The powers and duties in the Municipal Code do not match workplan.</li> <li>There is role confusion between Commission and Staff.</li> </ul>	
Recommendation	Powers and Duties	Changes are Recommended
	Membership	Changes are Recommended
	Meeting Frequency	Changes are Recommended
	Potential Consolidation	Not Eligible



### Financial Commission

	Current	Changes Discussed
Powers and Duties Defined	Yes	No
Membership	7	5, 7
Meeting Frequency	Monthly	6, 8, 10
Notes	<ul><li>Chair agrees that fewer meetings</li><li>Discussion on composition/mem</li></ul>	·
Recommendation	Powers and Duties  Membership	No Changes Recommended Changes are recommended
	Meeting Frequency	Changes are recommended
	Potential Consolidation	Not Eligible



## Library Commission

	Current	Changes Discussed
Powers and Duties Defined	No	Yes
Membership	7 (2 LAH)	5 (1 LAH), 7 (2 LAH)
Meeting Frequency	Monthly	6, 12
Notes	<ul> <li>Confusion regarding different entities and their role with the Library.</li> <li>Workplan does not reflect powers and duties.</li> </ul>	
Recommendation	Powers and Duties	Changes are Recommended
	Membership	Changes are Recommended
	Meeting Frequency	Changes are Recommended
	Potential Consolidation	Eligible: NCLA, County Library JPA, PARC



#### Parks and Recreation Commission

	Current	Changes Discussed
Powers and Duties Defined	No	No
Membership	7	5, 7
Meeting Frequency	Monthly	4, 6, 12
Notes	The powers & duties in the Municipal Code do not match workplan.	
Recommendation	Powers and Duties	Changes are recommended
	Membership	Changes are recommended
	Meeting Frequency	Changes are recommended
	Potential Consolidation	Eligible: Public Arts, Youth, Senior, Library



#### Public Arts Commission

	Current	Changes Discussed
Powers and Duties Defined	Yes	Yes
Membership	7	5, 7
Meeting Frequency	Monthly	6
Notes	<ul> <li>Further clarity could be provided Funds.</li> </ul>	surrounding the use of Public Art
Recommendation	Powers and Duties	No Changes recommended
	Membership	Changes are recommended
	Meeting Frequency	Changes are recommended
	<b>Potential Consolidation</b>	Eligible: PARC, Library



#### Next Steps

- Receive Council Direction
- Return with recommended changes, if any, at a regular Council Meeting

