

February 25, 2022

Honorable Los Altos Mayor, Vice-Mayor, and Councilmembers,

The Complete Streets Commission is interested in the City Council's annual priorities. The commission would like to share its Work Plan again this year as the City Council considers any priority development.

The Complete Streets Commission believes it is in alignment with the City Council regarding the advancement of complete streets initiatives in the City. The Complete Streets Master Plan (CSMP) demonstrates our common interest in seeing positive transformation in street design in the City and we are actively working toward its broad implementation. Again this year, the Complete Streets Commission is working closely with City Staff in the Engineering Services Department to align the CIP Street Maintenance Programs (i.e. street resurfacing/paving) with Complete Streets Master Plan projects so the City can use active projects to implement complete streets initiatives. The commission also undertakes many other responsibilities.

The Complete Streets Commission has updated its annual CSC priorities for your review. This includes the addition of a fourth priority; an imperative to secure grant funding to implement the CSMP and complete streets projects. CSC priorities for 2022:

1. Plan and implement safe multi-modal transportation solutions that align community needs with city priorities.
2. Manage long-term cumulative impacts from public and private development projects, and regional traffic.
3. Achieve effective transportation-related community engagement with residents.
4. Pursue and secure adequate grant funding for safe, connected, and sustainable complete streets projects.

For each of these four priorities, we have detailed specific goals and key performance indicators (KPIs) with underlying projects and programs that are outlined in the attached Complete Streets Commission - Work Plan document. This is a multi-year plan, which our commission will update annually.

The commission would also like to remind the City Council of its 2021 priority: Achieve an overall PCI (Pavement Condition Index) of 75 by 2026 by maintaining an annual resurfacing budget of \$3.5 million.

Please let us know if you have any feedback, input, or questions as you set annual city-wide priorities and make funding decisions. In addition, we will be reviewing this plan with you in more detail during our annual Joint Session currently scheduled for May 3, 2022.



Nadim Maluf, Chair - Los Altos Complete Streets Commission

CSC Vision: Our community-focused and sustainable streets empower people of all ages and abilities to access destinations comfortably, safely, and conveniently, regardless of their mode of transportation.

Goal 1: Plan and Implement Safe Multi-Modal Transportation Solutions that Align Community Needs with City Priorities

No	Initiative	KPIs	Projects & Programs	Deliverables
1A	Implement Complete Streets Master Plan - Prioritized Projects and Programs	Adopt plan in Spring 2022 (City Council)	Manage bike and ped network improvements from CSMP	Align with Resurfacing Program, see Goal 1E Create additional list of Bike and Ped improvements consistent with 5-year plan for CIP, see Goal 1E
		Implement high-priority projects within 10 years	Implement school improvement plans (Phases I and II)	Convert school improvement maps into reviewed/approved construction docs for school routes, and implement plans - Signage and striping improvement plans - Phase I (2022) - Civil improvements plans - Phase II (2022-23) Identify any budget shortfall to complete city-wide improvements on school routes
		Coordinate with Climate Action Plan (CAAP) on implementation of 1 project per year	Promote Suggested Routes to School maps, and Schoolroutes App	Promote Suggested Routes maps to school districts annually Roll out/Promote Schoolroutes app to parents and students in collaboration with school districts (spring/fall 2022) Deploy additional features of app including Carpool Coordinator and School Depot Stations (walking school bus and bike trains)
			Develop Conceptual Plan Line Drawings (from CSMP) into plans for Priority Locations	Some plan line drawings will not move forward due to lack of community support. Some will be implemented as part of the resurfacing program. The remainder will compete with

				<p>all CSMP recommended improvements for priority, and be considered for refinement as part of grant applications.</p> <p>Plans for pursuit include: Jardin, Clark, Covington, El Camino Real, Gordon, Grant, Loyola Corners, Berry & Miramonte, St Joseph, Alicia.</p>
			Align with Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, and Committee	[develop deliverable with CAAP]
1B	Align Pavement Program to Increase PCI and Simultaneously Add Multi-Modal Safety Amenities	Achieve PCI of 75 by 2026	Review PCI pavement program	Review biennial PCI report update (2022) and progress
			Implement Priority Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities and Traffic Calming with Pavement Program	Develop pavement program identifying priority streets for annual resurfacing program including minimum 2 corridor goal per year for Bike/Ped/traffic calming improvement
			Expand sidewalk/shoulder policy	Enhance sidewalk/shoulder policy to include maintenance responsibility (current policy is on stormwater permeability)
1C	Develop Safe Routes to School Education & Encouragement Program with School Communities	Increase share of students walking/biking to school by 10% Maintain advisory committee with quarterly meetings Survey results showing at least 20% increase in student comfort walking and biking	Create and implement education programs to expand bike/ped safety knowledge with students/families	<p>Execute pilot education and encouragement program via assembly and in-class for bike safety and awareness</p> <p>Finalize and publicize plan and curriculum</p>
			Create and implement encouragement programs to increase bike/ped commuting	<p>Show school administration survey, hand tally results, number of students/families participating in program activities, parent survey, student survey</p> <p>Collect annual Bike-Ped counts</p> <p>Create plan and solicit/incorporate feedback, adjust plan based on additional feedback</p>

		10% of classrooms conduct hand tallies	Review school traffic	Receive update from PD about school traffic, and crossing guard program
1D	Enhance City’s Traffic Calming Program	Reduce traffic speed by 10% on city streets with traffic calming measures Reduce congestion and cut through traffic Improve downtown visitors and business owners satisfaction with traffic flow	Develop New Traffic Calming Plan to slow traffic speed	<p>Have CSC discussion to scope the traffic calming program (2022) with goal of identifying needs in near term and establishing programs over the long-term.</p> <p>Review 2011 Collector Street Traffic Calming plan, and develop Traffic Calming Plan and Toolkit. Initiate pilot program for one corridor, and develop implementation plan including minimum 2 corridor goal per year for Traffic Calming implementation. Align with Resurfacing Program</p> <p>Revamp Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP) to be a more effective program to manage speeds and cut-thru traffic on residential streets</p> <p>Review enforceable speed limits especially with AB-43</p>
			Create strategy for congestion and cut-through management	<p>Develop plan to manage congestion and cut-through traffic</p> <p>Consider Residential Open Streets Program</p> <p>Review truck routes through City</p>
			Recommend transportation improvements for Downtown	<p>Receive update on Downtown Open Streets/Parklet Program</p> <p>Initiate downtown study (including one-way loop) per CSMP</p>
1E	Align CIP Transportation	At least 10% of Transportation CIP projects advance	Review Annual Street Resurfacing program to advance priority CIP projects	Review Annual Street Resurfacing Program (CIP) by March each year at CSC mtg, including (ideally year in advance) street selection for bike/ped/traffic calming improvements

	Program to CSC Work Plan	CSMP and CSC priorities each year	Annual Transportation CIP project selection	Review and prioritize annual transportation CIP selection by March each year at CSC mtg
			Conduct biannual review of CIP transportation projects	Receive biannual update report in February and September
1F	Coordinate Regional Transportation to Advance Los Altos interests	Attendance at regional forums Meetings and communications with nearby jurisdictions Initiate inter-jurisdictional partnerships	<p>Coordinate with partner government agencies to represent City of Los Altos multimodal transportation needs</p> <p>Participate in VTA regional meetings and other agency meetings that impact Los Altos, including provide a representative to the VTA/county BPAC and TSCN meetings</p>	<p>Coordinate multimodal transportation projects at/across jurisdictional borders proactively (example projects in 2022 include Hetch Hetchy trail crossing, County/VTA led Homestead Rd SR2S project, Caltrans El Camino Real resurfacing/bike lanes project, County led Measure B Foothill Expy widening from Homestead Rd to I-280) and monitor adjacent cities bike/ped/active transportation planning/implementation near jurisdictional borders</p> <p>Coordinate traffic signal timing and regional transportation projects with adjacent and regional jurisdictions</p> <p>Provide input on regional multimodal plans in 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - County of Santa Clara Active Transportation Plan and Expressway Bicycle Design Guidelines - MTC Regional Active Transportation Plan and MTC Complete Streets Policy <p>Monitor implementation of other regional plans and provide feedback when plans are updated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Santa Clara Countywide Bicycle Plan 2018 - VTA Bicycle Superhighway Implementation Plan 2021 - VTA Bicycle Parking Guidelines 2022 - Caltrans District 4 Pedestrian Plan 2021 - Caltrans District 4 Bike Plan 2018 - Midpen Rancho San Antonio Multimodal Access Study 2021 - Others?

1G	Enhance Multimodal Parking Facilities	Increase multi-modal parking stock by 10%	Identify/Implement EV Charging Stations for Vehicles and eBikes	Define policy and plan for private sector e-charging facilities (Future project Pending Funding)
			Expand Bicycle Parking	(2022 Pending CSMP Adoption)
	Future Interests		Build Transit plan	
			Consider Scooter share and Ebike program	Partner with adjacent Cities to explore regional bike/scootershare program
			Adopt bicycle and pedestrian technology enhancements	Consider technology enhancements and digital traffic controls such as wave push buttons

Goal 2: Manage Long-Term Cumulative Impacts from Public and Private Development Projects and Regional Traffic

No	Initiative	KPIs	Projects & Programs	Deliverables
2A	Utilize Citywide Traffic Model to Monitor Traffic Trends and Impacts	Maintain Citywide traffic data model - update biannually	Collect traffic data regularly to identify changes in traffic patterns	Count traffic semi-annually citywide (88 locations) and add new data to model after independent data collection
			Provide developers traffic model for utilization in traffic analysis of qualifying developments	Receive update presentation on city-wide traffic model (what the model is/how it works) in 2022
			Monitor and track changes in Bicycle/Pedestrian stress level on local roads	Develop Bike-Ped Stress Measures
2B	Create Transportation Policy and	Adopt consistent policy and study methodology by 2022	Establish a Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and updated Level of Service (LOS) Policy	Adopt VMT/LOS Policy (Spring 2022)

	<p>Programs to Advance Los Altos goals and visions</p>		<p>Finalize Transportation Analysis Checklists for consultants by land use type to ensure consistency in study methodologies, including TDM incentives and transportation network improvements reqd for dev</p>	<p>Finalize Transportation Analysis Checklists for transportation consultants by land use type</p>
			<p>Develop CSC Development Review Questionnaire to streamline commission participation in private development approval process</p>	<p>Finalize CSC Development Review Questionnaire and circulate to developers and planning dept</p>
			<p>Develop transportation-related Objective Standards for development projects</p>	<p>Upcycle some of the Development Review Questionnaire into creation of Objective Standards (e.g. queuing at development parking garage entrances)</p>
<p>2C</p>	<p>Develop Streetscape Plans to Provide Holistic Area Planning</p>	<p>Develop Streetscape Plan in 2022 for First Street</p>	<p>Develop Streetscape Plan for First Street</p> <p>Consider future Streetscape Plan for El Camino Real (reference Grand Blvd Initiative vision and principles)</p> <p>Maintain existing streetscape plans (i.e. Loyola Corners) and identify any other areas that may require streetscape plans in the future (Sherwood Triangle, Woodland, Foothill Crossing)</p>	<p>Hire consultant to develop the First St Streetscape Plan in 2022</p>
<p>2D</p>	<p>Maintain General Plan as Required</p>		<p>Maintain General Plan Circulation Element - consider housing element goals, cut-through traffic/traffic calming, and all other relevant aspects</p>	<p>Review General Plan Circulation Element (do not review/update until authorized by city council/legal)</p>
			<p>Review the Housing Element and provide supporting transportation plans and infrastructure</p>	<p>Receive Housing Element Site Inventory presentation and identify next steps for CSC including a CSMP review for completeness and housing-need designation/prioritization, and</p>

				identification of complete list of parking data collection locations (see 2F)
2E	Overhaul TIF to Help Fund Priority Transportation Projects	Development of report and review and implementation of Municipal Code Chapter 3.48	Align TIF with future development, Complete Streets Master Plan, and other Local and Regional Transportation Projects	Report on TIF rates and fees
			Evaluate existing TIF Rates to ensure fees reflect existing needs and construction costs	Recommend TIF increase to appropriate rate
2F	Evaluate Public Parking Needs (cumulative impacts) and Establish Parking Management Program as Needed		Develop Curb Management and Parking Management Plan including: - Study inventory and baseline utilization data at key locations (Downtown, ECR, LAHS area, Loyola Corners, future housing development areas) - Define parking policy and initiatives - Set methodology for future data collection and projection - Consider technology applications for future use	Work with staff or hire a consultant to develop a comprehensive Parking and Curb Management Plan
2G	Review Assigned Development Projects	Complete timely review of all assigned development application	Review all assigned development projects	Advise planning commission/city council on transportation related aspects of all development projects assigned to CSC

Goal 3: Achieve Effective Transportation-Related Community Engagement with Residents

No	Initiative	KPIs	Projects & Programs	Deliverables
3A	Develop Effective Outreach Strategies to Promote Public	Measure community satisfaction with level of engagement	Identify Better Methods of Engaging with Residents	Evaluate lessons learned from CSMP engagement

	Participation in Transportation Projects	Increase community participation in CSC projects by 5% Pre and post engagement surveys by 2025		Develop plan for efficient community outreach and engagement - methodology, function, and effectiveness Conduct Annual Survey on transportation related priorities
			Increase online communication and engagement	Use Los Altos Complete Streets Website as informational portal that residents may look to for updates on all transportation projects
			Incorporate Public Input into each Project Evaluation	Capture and share/summarize public input received while planning projects (from surveys, comment cards, emails, etc.) Develop online post construction surveys and summarize public input on construction projects
			Include Post-Project Data Collection to Monitor Project Effectiveness	Introduce post construction reporting in CSC Bi-Annual Reports. (2022)
3B	Integrate with City-School District School Issues Subcommittee		Keep subcommittees informed of and collect their feedback on relevant projects related to school routes, and education and encouragement programs	Present (staff) at subcommittee meetings Share feedback from meetings at CSC meetings
3C	Promote Walking and Bicycling in the Community		Determine Bike to Work/Wherever Day plans	Make annual plans to support Bike to Wherever Day (5/20/22) including activities/promotions
			Re-establish status as a Bicycle Friendly Community	Apply to become a Bicycle Friendly Community and maintain its status

			Use publicly-visible technology to encourage increased biking/walking	Consider publicly-visible attractive signs that count bicyclists/peds passing by couple locations
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Goal 4: Pursue and Secure Adequate Grant Funding for Safe, Connected and Sustainable Complete Streets Projects

No	Initiative	KPIs	Projects & Programs	Deliverables
4A	Identify and apply for grant funding opportunities for construction and studies/design	Secure 1-2 grants in 2022 Establish annual or regular grants for complete streets funding	Establish CSC Grant Subcommittee to create grant application strategy and support the grant application process	Review available grants (see list of grants from CSMP, VTA, distribution lists, etc.) and list/review key submission details (confirm eligibility criteria, grant cycle and submission deadline, project status requirements at application, key selection criteria, funding amount available, etc.)
			Identify available grants and create priority list of strategic projects that correlate with available grants and likely funding success	Recommend priority list of 3-5 projects for which to seek construction grant funding (Projects at intersection of CSMP priority, concept plan line/community engagement started, projects that will score well on grant applications, etc.) Identify list of 1-2 projects (see CSMP) for which to seek funding for project study and/or design
			Establish team to create and write successful grant applications Seek VTA funding and other outside funding	Hire a consultant to manage grant application process and write grant applications, supported by CSC Grant Subcommittee. (Consultant should specialize in transportation and climate/sustainability grant writing)

				<p>Formulate plan to get identified projects in state of grant application readiness, and create grant applications for key grants</p> <p>Track grant/funding sources - establish tracking spreadsheet or system for funding and grants</p>
4B	Identify and apply for grant funding to implement CAAP Transportation Plans	Implement 1 Transportation Action per year as identified by the CAAP	<p>Establish a joint working group between the CSC Grant Subcommittee and the Environmental Commission to identify any synergistic CSMP projects and CAAP actions</p> <p>Identify available grants and create a priority list of strategic projects that support both CSMP and CAAP</p>	<p>Review available grants (see list of grants identified in the CAAP transportation strategy), and list key submission details (see goal 4A)</p> <p>Coordinate grant priority transportation-related projects into a single list (see goal 4A)</p>

1. Plan and implement safe multi-modal transportation solutions that align community needs with city priorities.
2. Manage long-term cumulative impacts from public and private development projects, and regional traffic.
3. Achieve effective transportation-related community engagement with residents.
4. Pursue and secure adequate grant funding for safe, connected, and sustainable complete streets projects.

Los Altos – Complete Streets Commission
Proposed Schedule of Activities 2022

Month	Proposed Meeting Topics* for 2022
January	Consent/Update Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work plan review - Annual CSC Letter to City Council for council priorities (with CSC workplan attached) - Formation of plan review subcommittee (for SRTS and potential other) Discussion Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hetch Hetchy crossing (public noticing) - St Joseph update (public noticing) (update sign & striping plan, update on parking data collection, update about sidewalk, schedule for design)
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Biannual transportation CIP update report - status update on transportation projects in the works - Attorney update / info training - Cuesta Dr - Almond Ave - update on bike lane barrier, signal timing update - Fremont bridge (ongoing/update item) - Bike to Work Day (5/20/22) plan
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual Street Resurfacing Program recommendations - Annual transportation CIP Program recommendations - (part of council budgeting process) - St Joseph outreach/combined CSC meeting for sidewalk/walkway alternatives - Michelle & updated TDM – info/update item - Update on Signage & Striping Plans with Public Noticing, after school community and subcommittee approval, circulate to commissioners in advance of CSC meeting and ask for specific feedback, use subcommittee comments to facilitate CSC approval - ECR updates from Caltrans
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual CSC letter to city council in advance of joint meeting (with updated CSC workplan attached) - First Street Streetscape Plan - Jaime’s traffic model – output, how are we using the output, Data already collected, how will we use the data, purpose of model, overview, etc. Receive review/explanation of city-wide traffic model. what the model is, how it works, when to use it? - Traffic Calming Project Scoping
Tuesday, May 3rd	Annual Joint Meeting with Commission and City Council

Los Altos – Complete Streets Commission
Proposed Schedule of Activities 2022

May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transportation-related Objective Standards Review - Homestead Rd SR2S Design Phase - Sidewalk / shoulder policy (current policy re: stormwater/permeability, proposed policy re: maintenance responsibility) -
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TBD
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SRTS school improvements phase 2, civil improvements (curb ramps, speed feedback signs, etc)
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TBD
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Biannual transportation CIP update report - Form annual workplan subcommittee
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TBD
November & December (combined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work plan review - Annual CSC Letter to City Council for council priorities (with CSC workplan attached)
To be scheduled	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - County of Santa Clara - Expressway Bicycle Design Guidelines - County of Santa Clara - Active Transportation Plan - Housing Element Site Inventory Presentation - SRTS Education and Encouragement Program Update - PD update on school traffic and crossing guard program - CIPs - Annual Bike/Ped access improvements - Hetch Hetchy trail crossing - City-wide Pathway rehabilitation project - SRTS 500k - Cuesta Dr - In-road light system maintenance
Proposed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Form Grant subcommittee - Grant subcommittee report (and any follow-on work) - Curb Management and Parking Management policy/plan - TIF review - El Camino Real resurfacing update (bike lanes) - Community Outreach best practices

Los Altos – Complete Streets Commission
Proposed Schedule of Activities 2022

Joint CSC/Planning Commission mtgs - to be scheduled	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Parking Management policy- Transportation-Related Development Objective Standards
Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Measure B Project, Foothill Exp Widening (Homestead to I-280) (pending city funding to county for design phase - \$150K)
	Notes: Tie each item into a goal/initiative

* Development project reviews will be added to CSC meetings based on Planning Department schedules

From: [Justin Lin](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: [External Sender]EV as a priority
Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2022 8:55:51 PM

Hello, Los Alto City Council. Though temporarily canceled, your priority-setting for the 2022 calendar, I advise, must include a thorough policy for energy and Electric Vehicles. As a senior in high school, committed to college as a STEM major, I see that innovation is the ticket to our success in the fight against climate change. Solutions that once seemed farfetched and too expensive now have resulted in massive grid upgrades, large-scale renewable energy, and more. Yet, in our city, I feel as though I rarely see or hear about clean tech implemented on a municipal level that is preparing us for future sustainability. I suggest that EV charging infrastructure be improved so that, by the time wide-scale EV usage is affordable, students like myself will buy electric cars instead of putting a twenty-year deposit on our first gas-powered car due to accessibility. Please do not let us forget the power our city has when it comes to making change and set a priority for EV and energy policy for 2022. Best regards, Justin Lin

From: [Karl Danz](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 1 - March 1 - 2022 COUNCIL GOALS
Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2022 8:53:01 PM

I have lived in Los Altos since 1991. Over the years I have appreciated the actions taken by the City Council to address climate change. Adopting the first Climate Action Plan in 2013 and joining Silicon Valley Clean Energy in 2016 were good early steps. Now it is imperative that the city take it to the next level.

The IPCC just released its [Working Group II report, "Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability"](#). It's not a pretty picture. Every decision maker at all levels of government needs to take bold action, now! At a minimum the city needs to adopt the draft Climate Action and Adaptation Plan. Then we all need to get to work on rapidly implementing the key provisions. There are many other priorities facing us today, but if we no longer have an inhabitable planet, then those other concerns are moot.

Thank you,
Karl Danz
1540 Morton Ave.
Los Altos, CA 94024

From: [Sage Leland](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for Mar. 1 Priority Setting
Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2022 3:27:49 PM

Los Altos City Council,

Although the priority-setting meeting is cancelled today, I would like to symbolically advocate on behalf of strong environmental policy for the future of our city.

While I do not attend a high school in Los Altos, I am the senior class Vice President at Gunn High School, a position that has given me insight enough to understand that making change through a bureaucratic body is hard, particularly when being demanded to constantly go faster than precedent allows.

That said, climate change is a new urgency. Climate change is an urgency that demands defiance from the status quo of the legislative process and merits unification of the Los Altos community to activate themselves (and their council) against this omnipresent threat. We have been getting the ball rolling on climate policy for a long time, and it is time that we call for our community to embrace our legislative potential by taking action against climate change.

All of this to say, we must prioritize climate policy in 2022; there is no more-pressing issue that faces us today

Thank you,
Sage Leland

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Best,
Sage Leland
(she/her)

From: [Ken Branson](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: Support for CAAP
Date: Monday, February 28, 2022 1:05:01 PM

Dear City Council Members,

I understand that on 3/1 you will be setting priorities for our city for 2022. Please make actions to address environmental and climate issues a high priority.

As state senator Josh Becker's policy advisor for climate, energy, and environmental issues, I work every day to advance climate policy in Sacramento. While we can accomplish a lot at the state level (and others at the national level), a lot of progress is possible from local governments at the city and county level. As an example, many Bay Area cities paved the way with reach codes for all-electric buildings that have given the CEC enough evidence and courage to implement stronger building codes statewide. Cities can continue to take action through local education efforts, building codes and other ordinances to reduce the use of natural gas, transportation infrastructure investments to encourage ZEVs and reduce VMT, improvements to organic waste diversion efforts, and efforts to make the city government itself net zero in its own operations. These are important steps that go beyond just the impact in our own community. They set an example and show what is possible, making it easier for other cities and eventually the entire state (and beyond) to follow in our footsteps.

In the 2022 Los Altos Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP), the environmental quality committee has done an outstanding job of identifying priorities and steps the city can take to address our greenhouse gas emissions here in Los Altos. The CAAP documents that 97% of Los Altos greenhouse gas emissions are from the transportation and energy sectors. There are numerous CAAP actions the City can take, like planting trees and conserving water, that are positive and supportive but which would have minimal, if any, direct impact on reducing our GHG emissions. We must prioritize what matters: emission reductions from transportation and the use of fossil fuels in buildings.

As a 20 year Los Altos resident and strong advocate for climate action, I urge the council to approve the CAAP and prioritize the actions identified in it that will make the most meaningful reductions in GHG emissions. The path you choose for Los Altos will matter far beyond our town's borders. Don't miss this chance to make a positive difference in the fight to reduce climate change and prepare our community to handle the unavoidable changes.

Thank you,
Ken Branson
Los Altos

From: [Pat Marriot](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT ITEM #1 - MARCH 1, 2022 COUNCIL GOALS
Date: Monday, February 28, 2022 12:19:47 PM

Council Members:

When we built our home in Los Altos, we achieved 181 green points when only 70 were required. We have since added solar panels and backup batteries.

I've been driving an EV (Nissan LEAF) since 2013.

We are concerned about climate change and support many environmental organizations.

That said, some of the CAAP proposals are over the top, e.g.,

- Charging residents for a Carbon Emission Permit. Ever drop wears away a stone. While \$50 - \$200/year is not a huge amount of money, you will soon be adding some sort of tax for a public safety building + bond financing.
- "4-5 FTE for mitigation actions" is not affordable, given our current financial situation.

Serious efforts that will make a significant difference are worthwhile. Virtue signaling is not. We should all be mindful of green living, but at this time it should not be a separate goal/priority.

The city has serious problems to content with: finances, staffing and state-required housing to name a few.

As you set goals for the coming year(s) I urge you to FOCUS on what is essential, achievable and affordable. Work with our capable and experienced city manager to set measurable objectives (i.e., with dates), ensure adequate resources are provided, and monitor progress. That should give us all a sense of accomplishment and reasons to celebrate success.

Thanks,

Pat Marriott

From: [Cindy Sidaris](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: Public Comment - Agenda Item 1 - March 1, 2022
Date: Monday, February 28, 2022 10:56:22 AM

Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Members,

As you consider goals for 2022 it is urgent that you take concrete and substantive steps to address environmental and climate issues. According to US News and World Report, "Deadly with extreme weather now, climate change is about to get so much worse. It is likely going to make the world sicker, hungrier, poorer, gloomier and way more dangerous in the next 18 years with an "unavoidable" increase in risks, a new United Nations science report says."
[USNews 2-28-22 UN Climate Report](#)

We must act locally to take our part to reduce the City's GHG emissions in meaningful ways. Token efforts and only education are not sufficient nor acceptable. Please do at least the following:

1. Approve the 2022 Los Altos Climate Action and Adaptation Plan.
2. Enact changes to our City's building codes for new and remodel construction, commercial and residential, to decrease building energy use, greatly reduce the use of natural gas, motivate increased use of renewable solar energy.
3. Enact changes to support more efficient and cleaner transportation in our City and by our City (ie City-owned vehicles).
4. Work with neighboring cities collaboratively to take real, substantial steps to jointly reduce our energy use and sources of pollution (ie transportation).

If every city takes only the "easy" efforts we face dire consequences as the UN report states. Please take real steps that will make a difference.

Thank you,
Cindy Sidaris
Los Altos resident



February 22, 2022

Dear Mayor Enander and Members of the Los Altos City Council,

As you plan to address priorities for the current year, Los Altos Community Voices (LACV), a broad coalition of community members committed to advancing solutions to important local challenges while preserving the small town feel of our city, offers the following ideas for your consideration:

Our experienced and knowledgeable city manager, Gabriel Engeland has laid out his thoughts about the “housecleaning” that should be a priority in 2022. Since last year you unanimously voted to hire him, we believe you should support, as we do, his ideas, specifically

1. Clean up accounting and budgeting practices to include all the City’s obligations and liabilities;
2. Develop compensation and other policies aimed at attracting, hiring, and retaining well-qualified staff for the City;
3. Resolve existing lawsuits and avoid initiating new lawsuits that are within the City’s control.

In addition, we are at crisis points and must act immediately to address climate change and social/environmental justice, and one way to do that while addressing another crisis is to adopt a housing element for 2023-31 that provides realistic options for and policies supportive of infill housing affordable to essential workers (many of whom are people of color) who provide critical services to our residents. Doing so not only helps solve the longstanding housing shortage and encourages racial diversity, it also addresses climate by reducing the need for long commutes that, per Greenbelt Alliance (www.greenbelt.org), contribute up to 50% of California’s greenhouse gas emissions. Infill multifamily, or “compact” housing also has the benefit of using less water per capita than single family homes sited on large lots, per SPUR (originally San Francisco Planning and Urban Renewal Association; www.spur.org).

We encourage you to exercise discipline by adopting no more than 3-5 priorities so that you, the City staff, and Los Altos residents can reasonably expect to see substantial progress this year. While there are many other worthwhile priorities, many of which LACV supports, we sincerely believe that if you focus, you will actually achieve more than if you try to be comprehensive –

and there will be time, resources, and bandwidth to tackle additional priorities in the coming years.

Many thanks for all you do for our fair City.

Los Altos Community Voices Steering Committee

Robin Abrams, Curtis Cole, Kim Cranston, Cathy Lazarus, Bill Sheppard, Marie Young

From: [John Corrigan](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT DISCUSSION ITEM 1 - MARCH 1, 2022 - 2022 COUNCIL GOALS
Date: Sunday, February 27, 2022 1:52:27 PM

Dear Los Altos City Council Members,

I would like to raise a concern as a Los Altos resident, and not in my capacity as a Los Altos Parks and Recreation Commissioner.

I respectfully request that the City Council deprioritize the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP), contrary to its position stated in the packet accompanying Agenda Item 5 of the February 8, 2022 City Council Meeting: "The City Council and Environmental Commission prioritized the Climate Crisis and agreed that this is a priority...."¹

The elephant in the room for the CAAP is that, even if Los Altos were to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to zero, our efforts would have no impact. "...under current trends, every 10 percent reduction that the developed world makes in its emissions (a reduction it has barely managed in fifteen years) will offset less than four years of growth in the developing world."² Since the developed world can't offset GHG emissions growth in the developing world, Los Altos can't - particularly because Los Altos accounts for only ~ 0.0003% of global GHG emissions.^{3,4,5} Los Altos would require ~ 1,000 years of zero emissions to offset the volume of global GHG emissions generated in a single day.

Nevertheless, the CAAP proposes a Carbon Emission Permit of \$50 - \$200/year per household.⁶ Assuming 10K households, Los Altos residents will pay \$500K - \$2M per year in Carbon Emission Permit taxes. Raising taxes to reduce emissions may be a well-meaning proposal, but it is costly and manifestly unproductive since achieving no emissions in Los Altos will have no impact on global emissions.

Residents and businesses are free to take actions of their choice with respect to climate change. But the city shouldn't make emissions reduction a strategic goal or priority if its actions can only have a maximum potential impact of 0.0003% on global emissions. As a policy matter, therefore, the Los Altos City Council should aim to achieve the minimum GHG emissions reduction required by state and federal law to minimize associated burdens on residents, businesses, the budget, and staff.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Best regards,
John Corrigan

¹ February 8, 2022 City Council Meeting Agenda Packet [Attachment 1](#), p. 4.

² Koonin, Steven E. "Unsettled: What Climate Science Tells Us, What It Doesn't, and Why It Matters." Ed. Alexa Stevenson. Dallas, TX: BenBella Books, Inc., 2021. 281.

³ Los Altos produces 110,192 MTCO₂e/year. (February 8, 2022 City Council Meeting Agenda Packet [Attachment 1](#), p. 17)

⁴ The U.S. produces 5,216 million MTCO₂e/year. ("[Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks](#)." Environmental Protection Agency, April 13, 2020)

⁵ The U.S. accounts "...for only some 13% of global greenhouse gas." (Koonin, Steven E. "Unsettled: What Climate Science Tells Us, What It Doesn't, and Why It Matters." Ed. Alexa Stevenson. Dallas, TX: BenBella Books, Inc., 2021. 300.)

⁶ February 8, 2022 City Council Meeting Agenda Packet [Attachment 1](#), p. 6.

From: [roger heyder](#)
To: [Public Comment](#); [City Council](#)
Subject: [External Sender]Public comment on City Council Goal Setting meeting 3/1/2022
Date: Saturday, February 26, 2022 8:36:30 AM

Hello,

Please include my comment in the public correspondence record, and read my comment into the minutes.

Roger Heyder - resident of Los Altos

It is important that Council address the needs and objectives of residents when they set their goals. Residents should take a priority over special interest groups. There apparently has been little real outreach to residents, since the only input is from members of LACF and LAPOD.

LACV is an organization primarily composed of LACF and LAPOD members. Their objectives seem frequently out of alignment with those of residents. Counter to LACV recommendation, lawsuits on activities that violate city code are appropriate and necessary. This would include things like 5G and over-sized buildings. If Los Altos does not legally defend its statutes and laws, then it has no laws. Supporting Los Altos code, appropriately pursuing these legal cases, and recognizing and addressing city corruption (pending legal cases), requires leadership, courage, and morality.

Mr. Weiden is a member of Greentown Los Altos, a LACF organization. The Environment Commission, including Mr. Weiden and a board member of LACF, drove the Natural Gas Ban proposal. An open survey of approximately 800 Los Altos residents indicated that 80% opposed the ban (survey provided to Council at the time). Council proceeded to ignore the residents wishes and approve the ban. One can only wonder how much the Environment Commission was involved in the development of the 'Climate Action and Adaptation Plan'. More climate control suggestions from LACF Greentown are likely to be as unfortunate as the Natural Gas Ban, and just as onerous to residents.

The majority on Council are people that were heavily supported and campaigned for by LACV, LACF, and LAPOD members during the election - members of these organizations were instrumental in their election to Council. That would seem to generate a potential conflict of interest. Seeing specific written direction from LACV (LACF and LAPOD members) being provided to Council is more than concerning. Apparently if Council is receiving this direction, then there is no need to actively and competently solicit appropriate goals and objectives from regular residents. When Council populates commissions with a majority of LACF people, or LACF inclined people, that also leads to proposals and actions that do not necessarily reflect the desires of the regular residents.

This concern is reinforced when over-sized buildings are approved which

violate the Los Altos General Plan, and change the very character of Los Altos. This benefits developers and property owners, but not residents. These big buildings have not made any substantive progress towards meeting low income housing goals.

The recent Downtown Theater proposal was driven by a LACF member and former mayor. Residents have protested putting buildings on parking lots in the past, the theater plan apparently has virtually zero fiscal viability, and the Los Altos General Plan calls for tree lined parking lots (rather than parking structures). Council approved the proposal anyway.

There are concerns with regards to who Council actually represents. Council is elected by residents, and is supposed to specifically represent resident best interests and objectives, rather than those of special interest groups. This does not appear to be happening.

I ask that Council cancel this goals meeting, and make a genuine effort to collect resident input on optimal Los Altos goals and objectives, and utilize that input in their process. Special interest groups can develop and propose specific projects to the city, and those projects can later be reviewed in light of resident objectives and goals.

I would recommend that Council goals include - balance budget and establish a surplus fund, increase focus on city maintenance, update the General Plan with broad resident participation, perform a full city financial audit and present it to the residents, return city employees to a 5 day work week, focus on city employees being hands on rather than contractor managers, provide an accurate and precise executive summary on every city proposal, work with city businesses to help them survive until the pandemic ends, and have the city offices and city attorney assure that all projects conform completely to the General Plan and city code.

From: [Couture, Terri](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: public comments City council meeting March 1, agenda item 1
Date: Saturday, February 26, 2022 12:16:03 PM

Dear City Council

from Terri Couture (as a private citizen) and Fred Tuerk

Since we did not have access to the details of the meeting for Tuesday March 1, I am using 2021-23 goals and objectives as guideline.

For 2022 the number 1 goal should be fiscal responsibility and sustainability. The recent national and state financial predictions are going to require maximum conservation of reserves and careful determination of any expenses. Please do not count on continuing increasing property taxes as your buffer for poor planning and decisions. The housing market has seen more than one correction in the last 20 years. We have to pay the loan for the community center among other critical needs.

Number 2 goal should be community safety. More and more reports of crime, and less punishment allows criminals to become bold. Our population are aging and will need more care and protection. We need to support our public safety members.

Number 3 - Asset management. We can no longer ignore our aging facilities. After the finance committee and staff finish their audit, there must be a detailed plan to repair, protect and replace our facilities and infrastructure. This includes recruiting and keeping valuable staff. You must find people that want to work in public service, because just competing with tech ite salaries will not find the people you need.

Number 4 - Community engagement. This is a high priority item, and much of the population has no idea of what the council is doing and also it appears that when members of the public do speak up, many of their concerns have been ignored.

Number 5 - Land use. We are already losing our downtown charm, so maybe we should concentrate on protecting our single family residence neighborhoods, our parks and our open space. We must protect our Village from overwhelming high buildings.

Number 6 - Housing on the path developed this year.

If this council can fulfill on those goals and objectives they can consider themselves a success.

thank you

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From: [Roberta Phillips](#)
To: [City Council](#); [Public Comment](#)
Subject: City Council Special Meeting/ Goal Setting March 1, 2022
Date: Sunday, February 27, 2022 12:15:58 PM

Dear Council

At your special meeting for goal setting , I suggest you have only one goal. That goal should be the lens you look through as items come before you. The goal is to have "Good Government."

Thomas Jefferson often referred to the term good government. In his opinion, the government ought to be judged by how well it meets its legitimate objectives. For him, a good government was the one that most effectively secures the rights of the people and rewards of their labor, which promotes their happiness, and also does their will.

If you ask yourself, every time you make a decision if you are promoting good government then you can improve the performance of city business, become more productive, promote stability, foster trust and ensure safer growth.

Sincerely

Roberta Phillips
650-941-6940

From: [Cheryl Weiden](#)
To: [City Council](#); [Public Comment](#)
Subject: Public Comments City Council meeting Mar 1 Prioritize Meaningful Climate Action
Date: Wednesday, February 16, 2022 9:29:22 PM

Dear City Council Members:

On Mar 1 you will be setting 2022 priorities for the City of Los Altos for 2022. Please make actions to address environmental and climate issues a high priority.

The 2022 Los Altos Climate Action and Adaptation Plan has been drafted but not yet approved by City Council. The Plan documents that 97% of Los Altos greenhouse gas emissions are from the transportation and energy sectors. Actions in these two areas need to be quickly advanced to reduce the City's GHG emissions in meaningful ways.

The effects of climate change are here and now.

- On Feb 15 national news reported the [mega drought in the western US is the worst in 1200 years](#).
- On the same day a [report](#) by NOAA, NASA and five other federal agencies reported human-caused climate change has accelerated sea level rise to the fastest rate in over 3000 years, and global sea level rise of one foot is baked in even with drastic immediate action to curb greenhouse gas emissions.
- The 2022 report of the International Panel of Climate Change paints a dire future, but with hope if drastic immediate action is taken. Key takeaways - human activities are the cause, weather is getting more extreme, sea levels and temperatures will rise, and cities contribute 70% of the GHG emissions.
- Preparing for climate change is not without cost, but not doing so is more expensive. The US National Institute of Building Sciences reports that every \$1 invested in climate mitigation saves \$6.

Locally we have droughts, fires, smoke, extreme heat events, reduced quality of life, and detrimental effects to health. We observe in the US and the world extreme weather events and mass climate refugee migration...and it will only get worse from here. We have only about seven years to change our course away from a major climate catastrophe.

We must get real about working with neighboring Bay Area cities to avert a future catastrophe. We are naive if we believe that other cities must individually solve the climate change problems they face and that those problems will not impact Los Altos. The CAAP lays out the priorities...energy and transportation. There are numerous CAAP actions the City can take, like planting trees and conserving water, that are positive and supportive but have minimal if any direct impact on reducing our GHG emissions. We must do what matters.

Please make addressing environmental and climate issues with energy and transportation actions as specified in the CAAP a high priority.

Best regards,

Cheryl & Don Weiden
Los Altos

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