



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 10/17/2023

ITEM NO: 13

DATE: October 11, 2023
TO: Mayor and Town Council
FROM: Laurel Prevetti, Town Manager
SUBJECT: Receive and Provide Direction for the Youth Commission Work Plan for School Year 2023/24.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and provide direction for the Youth Commission work plan for school year 2023/24.

BACKGROUND:

The purpose of the Youth Commission is to foster and encourage civic and neighborhood pride and a sense of identity through the knowledge, understanding, and increased involvement of the Town's youth in the Town's present and future municipal affairs. The Los Gatos Youth Commission operates under the provisions of Town Resolution 2018-008 adopted by Council in March 2018. This Commission establishes a formal body by which the youth of Los Gatos have a voice in the community. The Youth Commission shall generally be responsible for studying various problems, activities, and other issues of concern to the youth in general, and for advising Council on matters pertaining to issues involving the youth of Los Gatos.

The Youth Commission consists of twenty students that are entering grades 8 through 12. Members serve a two-year term unless entering grade 12, in which case they would serve a term of one year. A Chair and Vice-Chair were appointed at the September meeting. Commission also appointed one primary Town Board and Commission liaison and at least one alternate for the following.

1. Arts and Culture Commission
2. Complete Streets and Transportation Commission
3. Community and Senior Services Commission

PREPARED BY: Jamie Field
Chief of Police

Reviewed by: Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, and Town Attorney

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SUBJECT: Review the Youth Commission Work Plan for School Year 2023/24

DATE: October 11, 2023

BACKGROUND (continued):

4. Library Board
5. Parks Commission

The Commission liaisons provide a monthly report to the Youth Commission and represent a youth voice at these Board and Commission meetings.

The Youth Commission meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. from September through June, with August being a Special Meeting. The Police Chief serves as the staff liaison to the Commission with support by Executive Assistant Claudia Martinez.

DISCUSSION:

The Youth Commission had a Special Meeting in August and a regular meeting in September with emphasis on assigning roles and discussions on school year priorities for the Commission. The Commission again hosted a successful and well attended Canine Companion event at the Los Gatos High School (LGHS) in August, shortly after the start of 2023/24 school year.

Periodically, the Youth Commission has focused considerable effort on ordinances, including the Social Host Ordinance, Smoking Ordinance, and amending the Bike Ordinance to address E-bikes. Given the high volume of work and required staff support, the Youth Commission will not be addressing ordinances in 2023/24. Instead, the Commission will continue to promote the ordinances they have worked on and other youth outreach opportunities.

Four Ad Hoc Committees were established to address work items outlined in the Youth Commission Work Plan shown in Table 1. The Ad Hoc Committees consist of the following.

1. Traffic Safety
2. Environmental
3. Community Outreach
4. Teen Wellness

DISCUSSION (continued):

Table 1. Youth Commission (YC) Work Plan for School Year 2023/24

Work Item	Proposed Commission Approach
Canine Companion	Bring Therapy Canines to the front lawn of LGHS to provide support at lunch at beginning of school year.
E-Bike Safety Awareness	Collaborate and partner with local bike businesses and schools for greater safety awareness.
SNAP Outreach & Event	Promote the Special Needs Awareness Program and annual spring event with local special needs children for egg hunt and cookie decorating.
Christmas Parade Flat	Participate in the Los Gatos Children’s Holiday Parade by decorating and riding in a float.
Senior Community Activity	Initiate efforts to determine an event date and venue where presence and support will be provided by the YC to seniors within Los Gatos (LG).
Fentanyl Education & Prevention	Identify education, training, and prevention program and materials for locals LG schools to be funded by Fentanyl prevention and training program monies received by the Town.
Spring into Green	Provide outreach materials on recent YC supported Ordinances and other work plan items, and staff a table for youth to make their own succulent plant display.
Traffic Safety near LGHS	To be determined

CONCLUSION:

The Youth Commission will provide a year-end concluding presentation in June 2024 that will outline the accomplishments from the work plan, identifying an Environmentally Friendly Business and a Youth Friendly Business.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this work plan.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

This is not a project defined under CEQA, and no further action is required.

Attachment:

1. Slide Presentation