The City's infrastructure, housing and transportation priorities continue to be at the forefront of the City Council's agenda items this fall. As the Council and staff work on these issues, we value the community engagement and input toward our common goals. This month we are also happy to announce some great new projects and ways the community can stay involved.

**Transportation: Town Hall Exchange**

Let's begin with the transportation priority. No one in the Bay Area is immune to traffic, and on Monday, Oct. 22, Council is devoting its entire session to addressing this regional issue by holding a Transportation Study Session. We will look at traffic patterns, modes of travel, the most congested spots in town and share some local solutions and projects underway. That will be followed by a Q&A and comment opportunity for the community to contribute their experiences and ideas. Join us starting at 5 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

**Housing: More Revisions for Granny Units**

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**Calendar of Events**

**Circus Family Day**
Palo Alto Art Center
1313 Newell Road
Sunday, Oct. 21, 2-4:30 p.m.

**Porchlight:**
“Because I Said So” Stories About Parenting
Palo Alto Art Center
1313 Newell Road
Thursday, Nov. 1, 7-9 p.m.
On Oct. 2, the Council voted to add more zoning revisions to the City’s accessory dwelling units (ADUs), also known as granny units, to help bring some relief to the short supply of housing. The biggest change removed a "minimum lot size" provision, which had limited ADUs to lots of 5,000 square feet or greater. Council also directed staff to establish ADU template plans for homeowners, create a program linking homeowners to architects who specialize in the units, and requested a financial analysis to understand the impact of waiving permit fees, especially for homeowners who agree to rent their units at below market rates. Palo Alto has seen 64 permit applications per month since Council passed the ADU law in May 2017. Before that, historically there had been a mere four per year.

**Infrastructure: Cal Avenue Garage Funding**

Palo Alto residents will be able to literally invest in the construction of the California Avenue parking garage that is scheduled to break ground at 350 Sherman Avenue in January. On Oct. 15, Council gave the City approval to sell up to $50 million in certificates of participation (COPs). Standard and Poor’s gives these certificates its highest rating of AA+. The $45.8 million garage project will have 636 stalls on six levels, four which will be above ground. It’s part of the Council Infrastructure Plan, and a key step to building the new police station, which would proceed on the neighboring property (250 Sherman Avenue) once the garage is complete.

**Help Co-Design Cubberley**

Meet the Cubberley Artists
Cubberley Community Center
4000 Middlefield Road
Saturday, Nov. 10, 2-4 p.m.

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Our Palo Alto Community Events Calendar
Our Palo Alto mobile App for iPhone and Android
You’re invited to play a big role in the process to redesign the Cubberley Community Center. The second of four co-design meetings to re-imagine Cubberley will be held on Thursday, Nov. 1 from 7-9 p.m. in the Cubberley Pavilion. The City and the Palo Alto Unified School District, in partnership with Concordia engagement design firm, are holding these meetings to encourage community input and participation.

Over 240 community members attended the first meeting which took place on Sept. 27. Community members participated in two interactive exercises to provide their ideas for the future of the site. The first activity focused on what additional programs and activities the site could provide. In the second one, residents used blocks to illustrate their preferred balance between building mass and green space on site. Spanish and Mandarin interpreters will be on hand and translated activity materials will be provided. RSVP here and come share your vision.

Cool Block Palo Alto to Add 25 New Blocks
Lower your carbon footprint and reinvent the world by starting in your very own neighborhood as the next phase of the Cool Block Palo Alto program kick-offs with an informational community meeting on Thursday, Nov. 15 at 5 p.m. in the Lucie Stern Fireside Room.

On Sept. 17, the City Council adopted the next Cool Block pilot that aims to eventually encompass 375 blocks over three years. Since it first began in Palo Alto in 2016, more than 30 blocks have participated in two pilot programs, achieving a 30 percent carbon reduction per household on average, as well as getting residents on board to do emergency prep work in their own households and in their neighborhood block. Come lend your ideas for reducing your carbon footprint and get to know your neighbors at the same time.

Tales on the Go

The next time you come into City Hall, look for this cool Short Story kiosk off to the right of Revenue Collections and print out a short story to read. Depending on how much time you have to spare, you can press a button to read a one, three or five-minute story. The kiosk will then print either a classic or contemporary piece of literature on a sheet of paper that resembles a store receipt.

Beginning next year, the Library plans to rotate the short story dispenser unit to various sites in the City where people gather or wait for services. The hope is this new literacy tool will help strengthen community, promote reading and provide avant-garde entertainment.

Socials of the Month

Are you following us on social media?
Hi from the HP Garage, birthplace of Silicon Valley in beautiful sunny Palo Alto!
#agorize #hp #hpgarage
#SiliconValley #startup #startuplife
#womenentrepreneurs #womenintech #woc
#diversity #diversymatters

SO excited to share - Governor Jerry Brown signed SB1397 which was pioneered by Racing Hearts as the next step in ensuring everyone has access to life saving heart defibrillators! Thank you Senator Jerry Hill for sponsoring our AED bill along with Joe Simitian and the County Board Members of County of Santa Clara, California, City Council Members of City of Palo Alto - Public Agency, and El Camino Hospital for supporting our bill.
#Heartsafetyforall #loveourmission
DominiqueLecocq @Lecocq_dom
Sept 12

#PaloAlto, CA Imminent opening of a new #AirLiquide hydrogen station! Stay tuned #HydrogenNow #ScaleUp #GCAS2018