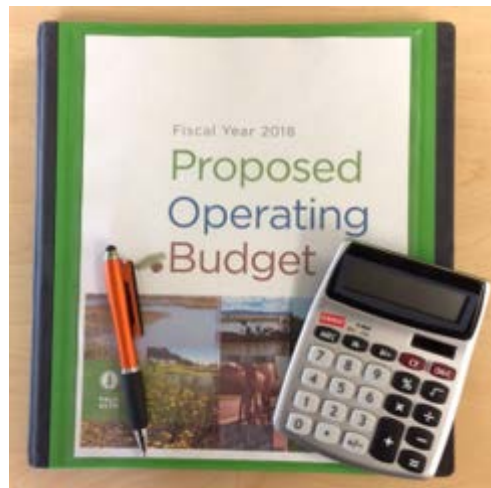




May 2017

## Balancing the Budget & Council Priorities



We are in the midst of budget season - a critical time of the year as we seek to balance the budget while supporting the City Council's identified priorities. The Finance Committee is holding hearings this month with the intent of having a final FY 2018 budget in place by the end of June. The proposed budget totals \$661.8 million, a 3.1 percent increase from FY 2017 (General Fund \$210 million). While this budget reflects a strong local economy, we are

experiencing many of the challenges associated with the appeal of Silicon Valley - increased traffic, expensive housing and more demand for services. Both the proposed operating and capital budgets balance these demands while supporting the five Council priorities for this year which are:

- Transportation
- Infrastructure
- Healthy City, Healthy Community
- Budget and Finance
- Housing

There are a minimal number of new positions recommended in the budget, and with rising pension costs continuing to be a concern, we are

## Calendar of Events



### Willy Wonka, Jr.

Palo Alto Children's Theatre  
Through May 21



### Buoyancy Festival for Teens

Mitchell Park Amphitheater  
Sun., June 4, 4:30-8:30 p.m.



### Friday Night at the Art Center

Fri., June 16, 7-10 p.m.

taking steps to set aside funds to address this long term challenge.

Read more about the [Proposed FY 2018 Operating Budget](#) and the [Proposed FY 2018 Capital Budget](#). To see the schedule of budget hearings, click [here](#).

## You're Invited to Help Connect Palo Alto



Rail grade separation got a \$700 million countywide boost thanks to Measure B's approval last November, and here in Palo Alto we are holding community workshops to get feedback on the best way to redesign the rail corridor for our future. Share your input at the kick-off workshop on Saturday, May 20 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Mitchell Park Community Center. For more information, visit: [www.cityofpaloalto.org/ConnectingPaloAlto](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/ConnectingPaloAlto)

You can also sign up for updates or contact us with comments or questions at [transportation@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:transportation@cityofpaloalto.org) or (650) 329-2520.

## Tell Your Story: What it Means to be a Californian



The Palo Alto City Library has been selected to participate in a digital storytelling workshop called California Listens on June 28-29. The workshop will be led by Berkeley's [StoryCenter](#), who will teach their digital storytelling method that is used worldwide. The video stories created in this workshop will then become part of a statewide archive of stories about what it means to be Californian. The workshop is looking for up to 12 participants. If you are interested, you must apply by June 9. Click [here](#) for more information and to get an application.



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## Robot Greeter at Mitchell Park Library



Storytime at Mitchell Park Library just got more interesting. The first of two robots arrived at the library in late April. In the photo, you see the robot and a librarian greeting a toddler coming in for [storytime](#). Besides being used to welcome folks to the library, the robot is being used for meetings, and being tested for various other library activities. A second robot will be arriving in June. They are here through August thanks to the Palo Alto Library receiving a Pacific Library Partnership Technology Grant.

## Countdown to Code:ART



In less than a month, the Code:ART new media festival will transform plazas, alleys, and other public spaces and buildings in downtown Palo Alto. Artists will install their urban interventions and engage the community in innovative ways using technology, light, interactive sound, motion, sculpture, storytelling, performances and more. The festival takes place from June 1-3 and Palo Alto Public Arts is looking for volunteers to interact with the public, answer questions, participate in set-up and conduct surveys. You can email: [volunteer@giantcreative.com](mailto:volunteer@giantcreative.com) to sign up and click [here](#) to learn more about Code:ART.



## Tweets of the Month

Are you following us on Twitter yet? [Connect with us](#) and tell us what's on your mind.



[silospen @silospen](#) May 11

Every day is [#BikeToWorkDay](#) but today I got pancakes, courtesy of [@cityofpaloalto](#)! Why aren't you biking to work?



[von Liebig Center @vonLiebigCenter](#) April 25

Over 40 alumni from [@UCSDJacobs](#) gathered to discuss the accelerating "innovation economy" in [#SiliconValley](#), thanks to [@ideo](#) in [#PaloAlto](#)



**Minnie & Max  
Pugs** [@MinnieMaxPugs](#) April 22

Dining al fresco in [@cityofpaloalto!](#)  
[@ilfornaionline](#) [#puglife](#)



**Terisa  
Estacio** [@TerisaEstacio](#) April  
21

Way to go [@cityofpaloalto](#)

To find out how you can get involved, or more information about Our Palo Alto, go to: [www.ourpaloalto.org](http://www.ourpaloalto.org)