

Human Relations Commission Summary Sheet Accomplishments July 2019 to January 2021

Core Responsibilities

- Reviewed the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) (September 2019)
- A subcommittee of HRC commissioners made a recommendation for CDBG funding in the amount of \$850,571 to the Finance Committee (March 2020)
- A subcommittee of HRC commissioners and city staff served as the review committee for the Emerging Needs Fund. In 2020, a total of 12 grants totaling \$87,100 was approved. Of the total, \$74,600 was distributed for COVID related needs (April & September 2020)
- Reviewed and approved the Palo Alto Mediation Program Selection Panel's recommendation on appointments or reappointment of mediators (October 2020)
- Made a recommendation to the Finance Committee to approve the Amended Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Citizen Participation Plan (November 2020)
- Reviewed the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) (November 2020)
- Reviewed the 2020 Human Services Needs Assessment Survey results and made a recommendation on the draft FY2022-23 Human Services Resource Allocation Process (HSRAP) Priority of Needs (November 2020)

Community Forums

- In-depth conversation on city updates and police reform with HRC Chair Kaloma Smith, City Manager Ed Shikada, and Police Chief Robert Jonsen (July 2020)
- Held a Public Forum on Police Reform – 8 Can't Wait – with community input and expert panel featuring Professor David Alan Sklansky, Co-Director of the Criminal Justice Center at Stanford; Kenan Moos, TheBlackHub.org; Matthew Clair, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Stanford; Anand Subramanian, Managing Director of PolicyLink, and Robert Jonsen, Palo Alto Police Chief (July 2020)
- Held a Public Forum: Bearing witness to Black and Brown experiences in Palo Alto (August 2020)

Community/Civic Engagement

- Coordinated LGBTQ+ Summit, a coalition of city agencies, community and academic

associations; activities included a Family Movie Night, opening of LGBTQ+ Café by Avenidas, transitioned leadership of LGBTQ+ Summit from HRC to community (July 2019)

- As part of HRC's contribution to Welcome Week, interviewed local, immigrant businesses to recognize their stories in our community (September 2019)
- Endorsed and supported a collaboration of community partners in presenting "Building a More Resilient Community", a presentation by Robb Willer, PhD (September 2019)
- Coordinated with the Recreation Division to plan and execute a Movie in the Park for National Bullying Prevention Month (October 2019)
- Endorsement of the Youth Community Service event "Strengthening Families & Developmental Relationships" (October 2019)
- Based on a referral by the City Council, reviewed, and made recommendations, and presented recommendations to Council on the "8 can't wait" framework for police reform (June 2020)
- Based on a referral by City Council, researched, wrote and presented to Council a report on the "Black and Brown Palo Alto – History and Current Experience" (June 2020)
- Wrote and presented letter to Council in support of a Safe Parking Program for Palo Alto (September 2020)
- Endorsement of an information session titled 'Palo Alto Eviction Moratorium Info Session' (September 2020)
- Wrote and reviewed letter to City Council responding to the current pattern of incidents of hate in Palo Alto (December 2020)

Presentations and Speakers

- Transportation Learning Series – Presentation by representatives of the Santa Clara County Transportation Authority (VTA) (August 2019)
- Presentation on adolescent and teen vaping by Adolescent Counseling Services (ACS) and consideration of avenues for HRC response (September 2019)
- Presentation on homelessness by Kathryn Kaminski, Continuum of Care Manager with the County of Santa Clara Office of Supportive Housing (November 2019)
- Hosted a Human Services Resource Allocation Process HSRAP Listening Forum during the Commission meetings to be updated on their new programs.
Speakers included: (November 2019)
 - Presentation by Soheila Razban, VP Strategic Innovation and Community

Engagement and Bryan Neider, Chief Executive Officer of Abilities United on their new affiliation with Gatepath (November 2019)

- Panel presentation on adolescent and teen vaping by Becky Beacom, Health Education Manager, Palo Alto Medical Foundation and Philippe Rey, Executive Director, Adolescent Counseling Services (November 2019)
- Report on Community Services Department Inclusionary Programming by Kristen O’Kane, Community Services Department Director (December 2019)
- Presentation by Dr. Karen Eggleston, Director, Asia Health Policy Program, Stanford University on perspectives on the novel coronavirus 2019-nCov pandemic (February 2020)
- Presentation by Rachael Tanner, Assistant Director of Planning & Community Environment, on the Safe Parking Pilot program and next steps (February 2020)
- Presentation by Kory Amaral, Executive Director of the Bay Area Western Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America (February 2020)
- Discussion with Palo Alto’s Police Chief Robert Jonsen and Assistant Police Chief Andrew Binder regarding “8 Can’t Wait” Policies (July 2020)