

2016 Council Priorities

ITEM 3B

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2016?

All Statements sorted chronologically

As of November 18, 2015, 8:30 AM



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2016 Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2016?

As of November 18, 2015, 8:30 AM, this forum had:

Attendees: 212

All Statements: 62

Hours of Public Comment: 3.1

This topic started on October 25, 2015, 9:45 PM.

2016 Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2016?

Ashwinee Khaladkar in Fairmeadow (on forum)

November 13, 2015, 4:21 PM

I would like 3 things addressed:

1. Traffic calming in residential streets. Drivers are zooming by and the only explanation I can see is that Charleston, E. Meadow and Alma have long lights that cause backup forcing drivers to find alternate routes through residential streets. Moving caltrain underground and avoiding delays at the Alma seems like a no brainer, albeit very expensive.
2. Overhead electric wires make our city look like its stuck in the 1950s. Please underground those.
3. Airplane noise is certainly increased and should be addressed.

Name not shown in Leland Manor/ Garland (on forum)

November 12, 2015, 5:23 PM

Airplane noise --it is urgent and it is impacting residents, students, and workers

Name not available (unclaimed)

November 12, 2015, 5:18 PM

3 priorities (and in that order):

- #1 Airplane noise
- #2 High-Speed rail (which would also help reduce airplane traffic and improve carbon footprint in the long term)
- #3 Retirement benefits of city workers

Name not available (unclaimed)

November 12, 2015, 4:14 PM

--Policies to encourage biking, walking and electric car use should be top priority.
--Train grade-crossings should be upgraded to 1) enhance traffic flow and to lessen accidents. Preferrably by trenching the trains, with a covered trench that can be used for more city green space and un-dividing our divided city. Serious money and serious/creative engineering needs to go into this.

Name not shown in Barron Park (on forum)

November 12, 2015, 3:11 PM

Airplane noise.

Jeff Hoel in Midtown/ Midtown West (on forum)

November 12, 2015, 2:17 PM

Commit to a citywide municipal fiber-to-the-premises (FTTP) network, and then start implementing it.

In 2013 and 2014, Council adopted Technology and the Connected City (TACC) (FTTP plus various wireless frills) as a priority, but not much happened, apparently because some officials hoped Google Fiber would

2016 Council Priorities

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emerge and be good enough. But it won't be good enough.

In 2015, Council failed to adopt TACC as a priority, apparently because the City Manager promised that staff would do the same things whether TACC were a priority or not. I think Council should have made it a priority, since, taking the City Manager at his word, it wouldn't have cost anything, and it would have been clearer to the public.

Name not shown in Greenmeadow (on forum)

November 12, 2015, 12:32 PM

Stop indoor and outdoor burning of wood, paper etc. all year long.

Arthur Liberman in Barron Park (on forum)

November 12, 2015, 10:52 AM

Revise and reform the development proposal and approval process:

- eliminate the possibility of an 'appearance of conflict of interest' between City appointed and elected officials and City employees who work for and represent developers soon after leaving their City responsibilities;
- clarify (and rewrite if necessary) the Planning Commission responsibilities to insure that members ALWAYS follow the Comp Plan guidelines and priorities;
- update the Architectural Review Board membership (fewer architects, more open to the public) and insure their responsibilities mesh with - rather than conflict with - the Planning Commission;
- make the entire procedure transparent and open to the public, from presentation of plans to approval;

Name not available (unclaimed)

November 12, 2015, 10:19 AM

No Smoking in Apartment Buildings and Condominiums. Please stop this absurdity.
Thank you.

Name not shown in University South (on forum)

November 12, 2015, 8:35 AM

1. Increase in airplane noise is my top priority. Palo Alto and neighboring communities were snookered by FAA, who received a "Categorical Exemption" from Congress, meaning that they could bypass the Environmental Impact Assessment process that every other major development must follow. We need a re-do on approach route changes to SFO, this time with the noise imposed on us groundlings meaningfully considered.

2. Business development. Quit giving developers exemptions from parking space requirements in exchange for sculptures and other such nonsense. Ask the citizens which they want: they'll make it clear that parking is more important. Council's stated reason is to "entice businesses to Palo Alto". Really? They should be enticing us, paying us a premium to move here.

3. Get real on a vision of Palo Alto 20 years from now. Enlightened, educated, sophisticated, community famous

2016 Council Priorities

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for quality of life? Or Cyber-Industrial Park, mostly office space, choking traffic.

Name not shown in Crescent Park (on forum)

November 11, 2015, 10:50 PM

The surge in airplane noise is by far the most pressing issue for the city, in my opinion.

1 Supporter

Name not shown in Professorville (on forum)

November 11, 2015, 8:01 AM

Healthy communities - noise from airplanes and pollution from lack of coordinated public transportation
Housing - Our teachers cannot afford to live in Palo Alto. There are models in other communities--Sunnyvale--for building housing for professionals who serve the community.

Jamie Beckett in Evergreen Park (on forum)

November 10, 2015, 5:10 PM

I'm surprised that addressing traffic and congestion have not come up more so far. It is wonderful that Palo Alto is the place that businesses want to be, but our city is being choked by commercial development that is bringing hundreds or even thousands of cars to our streets. I live in the California Avenue area, which is slated for (or has already seen) six large office developments -- and that's not counting the police station. Yet we have not had a single infrastructure improvement to support these added cars. I am at the point where I cannot exit onto the main street without feeling like I'm in danger of hitting another car or a cyclist. Seriously. But it's not just me at my house. I'm sure people downtown have been facing these sorts of problems for ages. So we need to STOP office development -- applause to the council for action taken so far -- and take some time to take stock of how it is affecting those of us who live here.

Kirsten Flynn in Ventura (on forum)

November 10, 2015, 3:06 PM

I am a life long resident of Palo Alto- growing up in Barron Park, living in Ventura, going to PA schools, and sending my 3 kids through PA schools.

I believe sustainability must be the primary goal of any level of government at this point in history. So how does that reflect at the city level?

First- we must continue to work on our effort to quantify and offset our carbon footprint. This includes looking at the the jobs/housing imbalance and offsetting the transportation footprint of those coming or going from the city for work. This also includes making EVERY effort to decrease that imbalance, because local housing/local jobs are lower carbon than remote jobs. (Read as- limit office construction maximize AFFORDABLE housing!)

In order to take serious aim at carbon neutrality, we must design our forms of transportation to prioritize all forms except the single occupant car. I know this pisses folks off, but gridlock is here (try getting through the intersection 1/2mile from my house- Page Mill and El Camino in less than 2 lights) building safer biking or bus commuting infrastructure actually lessens gridlock at this point, by taking cars off the road.

Additionally we need to incentivize open space preservation, perhaps even open space dedicated to

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agricultural uses. This is important both for food security, and air quality. Finally- a truly sustainable city has a diverse economy. We are overly dependent on high tech office space. Any employment sector can crash, and a city with a diverse population and many economic employers can weather such a crash, without draconian cuts to schools and city budget. We have seen this cycle, and yet have not planned for it. We want Palo Alto to be an economically viable, desirable, livable city, and this means prioritizing sustainability and diversity.

Name not shown in Old Palo Alto (on forum)

November 10, 2015, 2:53 PM

Main priority for 2016: Traffic and parking! They are out of control.

Myra Gilfix outside Palo Alto (on forum)

November 10, 2015, 2:44 PM

Palo Alto is the center of Silicon Valley, and yet we often have inadequate internet access. As one responder said, "Why are we still dealing with expensive and low quality comcast service when we have a perfectly decent fiber ring running throughout palo alto?" The City could and should provide a much better home/business offering.

Underground electrical lines. Coordinate underground work with anything else that should be done at the same time.

1 Supporter

Chris DiBona in Duveneck/ St Francis (on forum)

November 10, 2015, 2:13 PM

Frankly: It's the internet, stupid. Why are we still dealing with expensive and low quality comcast service when we have a perfectly decent fiber ring running throughout palo alto? Give/lease it to Google if the city isn't up to the task of provisioning a decent home offering. We don't need to 'study' this anymore.

Considering who lives in our town and the industries that have grown up here it is pretty terrible that we have such awful internet services available to our citizens and our businesses.

3 Supporters

Michelle Kraus in University Park (on forum)

November 10, 2015, 2:02 PM

In adopting the Healthy City, Healthy Community initiatives, please ban cigarette and related smoking in all rental properties in the City now. Second hand smoke kills and we can't afford the fire hazard.

Jeff Wheeler in Ventura (on forum)

November 10, 2015, 8:40 AM

2016 Council Priorities

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I would like to see Palo Alto support high speed rail come to CA as quickly and as affordable as possible. Let us help find funding and support environmental review for this critical transportation mode that is well-proven throughout the world.

1 Supporter

Name not shown in Midtown/ Midtown West (unverified)

November 9, 2015, 5:14 PM

I was in Dublin Ireland this summer and was very impressed with their city center. All the inner streets (e.g. Grafton St) is closed. The atmosphere is great and so pedestrian friendly. Our family who live loves it. I think we should consider the same for University Ave.

<http://www.irishtimes.com/news/ireland/irish-news/radical-plan-seeks-to-take-cars-out-of-dublin-city-centre-1.2244222>

Ihab Awad in Southgate (on forum)

November 9, 2015, 3:16 PM

Low cost, high density housing is a must. Current residents who love the village-like character of Palo Alto are already well compensated with a massive return on their real estate investments. To resist changes that make the City a more integral part of the thriving, larger Silicon Valley economy that created these riches is not forward-looking and serves nobody: it does nothing to quell the growth, from which we all benefit, but it forces local workers to live in lower cost bedroom communities far away, putting more pressure on parking and road transportation.

3 Supporters

Joerg Rathenberg in Crescent Park (on forum)

November 9, 2015, 3:06 PM

Here are three critical topics that need to be addressed in this order:

1. How can we stop the intolerable airplane noise caused by FAA's NextGen system ASAP?
 2. What can we do to prepare for the expected El Nino?
 3. How can we address the massive influx of parked cars in residential neighborhoods after the recent changes in parking downtown, causing people to park in streets that until now were quiet and peaceful?
-

Name not shown in College Terrace (on forum)

November 9, 2015, 2:59 PM

Housing is the most important issue we face today because Palo Alto is quickly and increasingly becoming an affluent retirement community. When I grew up here, Palo Alto was a diverse and thriving community, but it's not that way anymore. We need more and more types of housing across all of Palo Alto, particularly around transit nodes.

2016 Council Priorities

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2 Supporters

Ava Hahn in Southgate (on forum)

November 9, 2015, 2:45 PM

Safe bike routes (protected from car traffic) for our kids to ride to and from school. Let's encourage kids to bike for their own health, the environment and to improve our intolerable traffic situation.

1 Supporter

Name not shown in Charleston Terrace (on forum)

November 9, 2015, 2:43 PM

Please develop and implement a plan to cut Palo Alto's unfunded liabilities for current and past employees. City commitments are not inline with the private sector economy and what the tax payers in Palo Alto face for retirement. We need to get away from pensions and aggressively move the obligation for city employee retirement to the employee through defined contribution plans etc. This is how I have to plan for my retirement and I see no reason this is not equitable for our city employees. Further, the public records disclosure of city salaries in The Daily Post has helped debunk the myth that these retirement benefits are needed to make up for meager salaries. If a city employee can make more in the private sector, they are free to go get it, but we should not be fooled into believing that we will not be able to attract and retain good people.

2 Supporters

Aaron Nelson in Evergreen Park (on forum)

November 3, 2015, 11:48 AM

Charge all new housing probably about 25,000\$ in Mello-roos development fees to fund new schools, a water recycling plant, and bike paths. In exchange they get a housing voucher.

Charge all new commercial development about 25,000\$ per job (about 200 square feet) to trench Caltrain and redo Page Mill road and build more parking. Also require a housing voucher per job created.

Stop allowing transferable development rights to make parking and road problems worse.

Name not shown in Downtown North (on forum)

November 2, 2015, 11:37 PM

Recognize that there are limits to growth and that Palo Alto is at the limit. More growth will lead to diminishing quality of life for current residents. Palo Alto city is like an ecosystem and must not be over-exploited. End all commercial development and housing growth.

Stop the ever increasing city staff raises and perks. Outsource more of the city workers jobs so that we don't have to pay into the retirement system that is bankrupting the state. No more automatic raises and moving employees to different classifications so they can get promotions and raises for doing the same job.

Stop worrying about what outside entities think of Palo Alto and work on making it the best city possible for the

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people who currently live here. The best example you can set is to do what is best for this city and let others follow. Every step taken should consider all ramifications city wide.

Palo Alto is woefully behind on park space per resident. Put most discretionary money towards acquiring more park space. Yes, you need to buy the land and turn it into parks. And you need to buy lots of land. It will be one of the best ways this city has spent money in a long time.

Name not shown in Downtown North (on forum)

October 30, 2015, 2:43 PM

Please ban smoking in all units of multi-family dwellings.

Reasons:

- The smoke drifts into apartments of those who don't smoke.
- Research indicates that second hand smoke is deleterious to health for everyone, but particularly bad for infants, children, the elderly, and those with asthma, breathing difficulties, and cancer.
- There are more fires in buildings whose occupants smoke.

Further, there is precedent for passing laws pertinent to multi- and not single- family dwellings. One such law concerns noise.

People should be able to do anything they want in their own apartment provided such activity does not impinge upon the health or safety of others.

Thank you for considering my petition.

--

1 Supporter

Name not available (unclaimed)

October 30, 2015, 2:41 PM

Please ban smoking in all units of multi-family dwellings.

Reasons:

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2016 Council Priorities

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Sandra Weiss
101 Alma St, #507
Palo Alto
324-7978

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Name not available (unclaimed) October 28, 2015, 5:53 AM
Growth control.

Name not shown in Downtown North (on forum) October 27, 2015, 7:50 PM
Developing Palo Alto into a real city: More housing in Palo Alto and more public transportation
3 Supporters

Name not available (unclaimed) October 26, 2015, 9:27 PM
Priority #1, and #2, and #3: Increasing the supply of housing in Palo Alto.

Jeff Rensch in Barron Park (on forum) October 26, 2015, 9:06 PM
Council needs to bite the bullet and build, even subsidize, more middle-income and low-income housing or the city will not be sustainable in coming decades.
3 Supporters

Ozzie Fallick in Evergreen Park (on forum) October 26, 2015, 8:19 PM
More housing!

All over the Peninsula, cities are building tons of office space and no housing. Palo Alto is one of the worst offenders. This leaves plenty of jobs, with nowhere for the workers to live, so traffic gets bad (because all the workers have to drive in) and rents get ridiculous.

I feel unwelcome in Palo Alto because I'm not a millionaire with two kids. Please consider some higher-density housing development near transit. Plenty of small cities do it without compromising their character; my

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hometown of Bethesda, MD did this with great success, allowing multi-story apartment buildings and mixed-use development in the city center, with a height limit that decreases with distance from the subway station. There are apartments for those who want them and single-family homes for those who don't.

2 Supporters

Frank Flynn in Ventura (on forum)

October 26, 2015, 7:20 PM

In my mind the biggest problem is supporting the growth which will inevitably happen here. Not only is this more housing but also the infrastructure to support it: particularly significant improvements to Caltrain (no grade level crossings, more service, and faster service), come to terms with high-speed rail, continued improvement to the bicycle and other alternative transportation infrastructure, better roads-although there may not be much room to build them, and the institutions that a population needs schools hospitals grocery stores.

2 Supporters

Dan Bloomberg in Barron Park (on forum)

October 26, 2015, 5:43 PM

In order from highest to lowest priority:

(1) Get fiscal house in order. Stop the unsustainable defined-benefit pensions with the SEIU, with their ballooning unfunded liabilities that will severely limit city improvements in the near term and eventually bankrupt Palo Alto. Going forward, get all city employees on 401K plans.

(2) Stop ABAG Sunnyvaleization. Push back on ABAG, which is "demanding" thousands of new residential units in high density settings over the next decade. Look at all the traffic we presently have -- this will only get worse with more high-density housing. We don't need the small amount of funds that ABAG has the power to deny us, so we can tell them to stuff it. But we do need to keep Palo Alto livable. We're already gridlocked -- more is worse. (And have you noticed that when traffic gets worse, drivers get worse (impatient, rude), and we lose one of the great qualities of Palo Alto -- civility.)

(3) Start the major infrastructure projects, like the new public safety building, that have been repeatedly postponed and require responsible fiscal management of Palo Alto's resources.

(4) Install closed circuit TV on all major arteries. Palo Alto is a wealthy city, and hence a ripe target for thieves. CCTV will let potential criminals know that we're serious about preventing crime, and the smart ones will stay away.

4 Supporters

Name not available (unclaimed)

October 26, 2015, 5:42 PM

In order from highest to lowest priority:

2016 Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2016?

- (1) Get fiscal house in order. Stop the unsustainable defined-benefit pensions with the SEIU, with their ballooning unfunded liabilities that will severely limit city improvements in the near term and eventually bankrupt Palo Alto. Going forward, get all city employees on 401K plans.
- (2) Stop ABAG Sunnyvaleization. Push back on ABAG, which is "demanding" thousands of new residential units in high density settings over the next decade. Look at all the traffic we presently have -- this will only get worse with more high-density housing. We don't need the small amount of funds that ABAG has the power to deny us, so we can tell them to stuff it. But we do need to keep Palo Alto livable. We're already gridlocked -- more is worse. (And have you noticed that when traffic gets worse, drivers get worse (impatient, rude), and we lose one of the great qualities of Palo Alto -- civility.)
- (3) Start the major infrastructure projects, like the new public safety building, that have been repeatedly postponed and require responsible fiscal management of Palo Alto's resources.
- (4) Install closed circuit TV on all major arteries. Palo Alto is a wealthy city, and hence a ripe target for thieves. CCTV will let potential criminals know that we're serious about preventing crime, and the smart ones will stay away.

Jules Brouillet in Barron Park (on forum)

October 26, 2015, 1:20 PM

I take night classes, so I cannot attend the comp. plan update meetings. Here are the priorities that the city should adopt to respond to our urgent housing shortage crisis that render our renters captive to the consciences of our landowners.

- Moderate and high-density (private-)public housing projects near Caltrain stations and along El Camino Real. The latter should make the Grand Boulevard Initiative more viable here.
- Rent control should be used to preserve existing and new renters' incomes until increased housing supplies make Palo Alto rents affordable.
- Preservation of parks and open space. Construction of classrooms to increase PAUSD should be vertical, rather than horizontal encroachments on city parks and fields.
- A PAUSD curriculum/program for students grades 1-12 on solving problems facing our city. This could be a collaboration between the city, the school district, and the Palo Alto Youth Commission.
- Increased city revenues through reassessment of properties (which requires passage of SCA-5, The Property Fairness Amendment), an income tax, and / or a wealth tax.
- TDM measures, including demand-based parking fees downtown (as in San Francisco), permit-only parking neighborhoods walking-accessible from downtown, GoPasses and EcoPasses for all city residents and employees of Palo Alto businesses, subsidies for carpoolers.
- More representative and vocal representation of the northwest county region on the Caltrain and VTA board. Lobbying by the city for the extension of BART through south San Mateo County.
- Raising the city minimum wage, and city employee wages and benefits, to correspond with the rising housing / other costs of living in Palo Alto

2 Supporters

Joel Davidson in Barron Park (on forum)

October 26, 2015, 12:29 PM

2016 Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2016?

Ban smoking in apts. and condo complexes.
increase open space.

Name not available (unclaimed)

October 26, 2015, 11:27 AM

Completion of the Comprehensive Plan
Facilitating multi-modal transportation
Finding mechanisms to increase the supply of housing
stay focused on the improvement of infrastructure based on the previous study.

Bob Moss in Barron Park (on forum)

October 26, 2015, 11:11 AM

Comprehensive Plan update has gone on too long. Review latest version in February and adopt agreeable sections, retain current versions of any revised sections that council can't agree on. Assure that current development limits for R-1 and R-2 are retained.
Infrastructure for public safety facilities and traffic improvements are priorities.
Limit office development and expansion. Preserve retail. Can be made part of Comprehensive Plan update.
If revenues exceed predictions by more than 10% use half of excess for traffic improvements including more shuttles.
Keep water use low, reduce 5% if possible.

2 Supporters

Cedric Chin in Palo Verde (on forum)

October 26, 2015, 11:07 AM

Reduce utility costs. For one thing, you don't need to stuff three color utilities flyers in the envelope. Those flyers go *right* into the recycling bin.

Housing's fine as it is, or at least promote housing and services for elderly care. I'm already seeing new units built near Fry's. We already have a shortage of schools.

Name not available (unclaimed)

October 26, 2015, 10:49 AM

Updating the Comprehensive Plan has gone on too long Just take the latest draft and spend a meeting reviewing it an approving whatever sections you can, leaving disputed sections in the current version. Include preservation of current development limits for R-1 and R-2 zones and properties.
Reduce infrastructure study to public safety buildings and traffic improvements.

Darryl Fenwick in Downtown North (on forum)

October 26, 2015, 10:49 AM

2016 Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2016?

Don't focus on short term fixes or knee-jerk reactions to problems. Longer term issues need attention before they become short-term crises. Benefits to city employees need to be managed so that we can afford to pay tomorrow's city retirees without sacrificing tomorrow's city services. Housing development must be managed to accommodate tomorrow's needs. Moratorium's on office development must be replaced by sensible rules to keep downtown viable for businesses and attractive for residents. Parking for future downtown employees must be increased before the local streets are flooded with their cars. Alternative transport must be encouraged and incentivised. And the HSR-rail debacle must be addressed before the rail crossings become virtual barriers during commute hours.

4 Supporters

Name not shown outside Palo Alto (on forum)

October 26, 2015, 10:42 AM

Parking permits for the Evergreen neighborhood. Those of us that don't go to offices every day, but occasionally need to run errands during the day find there is no place to park when we come back. People either not willing to pay for Cal Train parking or work on Cambridge or Cal Ave. park on College Ave. between Park and Ash. If that fills they go to Ash or Oxford. We residents need to be able to come and go during the day and not have to hunt for blocks for some place to park.

1 Supporter

Name not available (unclaimed)

October 26, 2015, 10:39 AM

The 2015 Priorities were about right. Stay the course.

However, I don't think we're going to get adequate community political support for housing development if the community doesn't see real progress toward multi-modal transportation solutions.

Under promote Multi-modal Transportation solutions:

--Shuttle service improvements

--Join other nearby cities to lobby for transit authority structural changes that will allot north county cities more improvement to transit resources. The current system is untenable, especially as the state and region continue to press for higher density.

Go slowly with building new parking structures. They are very expensive to build and maintain. When we choose to drive, we should pay the real cost of parking. Parking structures are ugly, and we need to make more efficient use of existing parking resources that are available FIRST. Technology can help with this.

--Implement bike/ped plan

--Support Safe Routes to School with PAUSD

--Work w/ Caltrain AND HSR toward context sensitive solutions for grade sep as best we can. (but set aside money to launch a strong LOBBY force in Sacramento. It's time to go over their deliberately unresponsive heads. They have not been forthright in their dealings with Palo Alto and other mid-Pen cities, and it is clear they will not collaborate willingly. We should work together with other cities to force CSS.)

Stepheny McGraw in Palo Verde (on forum)

October 26, 2015, 10:18 AM

2016 Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2016?

Palo Alto is bursting at its seams. Not everyone who works here should or needs to live here and we should not pander to developers' needs, but those of the current tax paying residents. Let's work to keep the city's quality of life -- infrastructure of schools and services and parks -- healthy and balanced.

1 Supporter

Jacqueline Grubb outside Palo Alto (on forum)

October 26, 2015, 10:14 AM

Banning Smoking in apartments in Palo Alto!! Evolve, it is absurd that it is allowed.

Name not available (unclaimed)

October 26, 2015, 9:49 AM

Stop increasing occupancy without adequate parking; enforce the rules as they are written and end the "buy out" option that never compensates for the impact on the community.

Give not-for-profit organizations inexpensive access to city-owned properties like the library meeting rooms.

Creative solutions to bikes and autos in the same lanes would be welcome.

Increase BMR housing options - fewer big hotels, more SRO's for those who need them.

Name not available (unclaimed)

October 26, 2015, 9:29 AM

I would like to see no more building and no more reduction of lanes on streets. I would also like to see a reduction in the Palo Alto government employees, and no more useless studies.

Name not shown in Greenmeadow (on forum)

October 26, 2015, 9:18 AM

Build Affordable housing - we are your Grandparents!

3 Supporters

Name not shown in Downtown North (on forum)

October 26, 2015, 9:07 AM

It's very simple: Palo Alto City Council needs to address the massive housing shortage that exists in our city.

Building new housing has been too difficult for too long, and that's completely changed the character of Palo Alto, making it look less and less like an innovative college town and more and more like a place for the old and wealthy.

4 Supporters

Name not available (unclaimed)

October 26, 2015, 8:25 AM

2016 Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2016?

Massive effort to help homeless

Name not available (unclaimed)

October 26, 2015, 8:19 AM

Infrastructure improvement:
Underground the remaining utility cables.
Trench the train tracks.
Cable to the premises.

Name not available (unclaimed)

October 26, 2015, 8:02 AM

My highest priorities for Palo Alto revolve around safety and infrastructure.

Please, Please, Please, work to grade separate CalTrain. Ideally in its own tunnel (so the land above is usable). But even a ditch is ok. Raised tracks are acceptable. We've lost too many souls to train accidents and suicide.

Please work to bring fiber internet to the home, ASAP. I am very pleased with the services and prices we receive from the Palo Alto Utilities. These services are a feather in our cap. I'd love to see the Internet as part of basic utilities. (I don't know how to share these needs with the potential Google fiber.)

Thank you.

-- Malcolm Slaney

Name not shown in Downtown North (on forum)

October 26, 2015, 7:41 AM

Add to the housing stock by changing zoning and allow developers to build housing.

7 Supporters

Name not shown in Greenmeadow (on forum)

October 26, 2015, 7:36 AM

Airplane noise

1 Supporter

Name not shown in Midtown/ Midtown West (on forum)

October 26, 2015, 7:34 AM

I would like to see the City Council adopt these priorities for 2016:

2016 Council Priorities

What are the priorities you would like to see the City Council adopt for 2016?

- * Flood control
- * Airplane noise
- * Reducing compensation and retirement benefits for city workers

1 Supporter

Name not shown in Green Acres (on forum)

October 26, 2015, 6:47 AM

A study, looking forward into the future, 5, 10 years of the infrastructure and transportation needs given commercial and industrial growth that the city deems appropriate and feasible. If this has been done in the past, update that process to include forward thinking planning, including infrastructure that is out of their control such as Stanford U. and Caltrans highways so they can advise those parties.

1 Supporter

Name not shown in College Terrace (on forum)

October 26, 2015, 6:45 AM

I would like the city council to discuss how the rent for housing could be better controlled. The cost of living is consistently getting higher and the wages of the retail employees, teachers and middle class income people are not increasing in the same way like the price for renting a place to live. This is a main concern of many. Traffic safety should be ongoing a discussion. The 35 limit on Alma leaves the ones honoring the limit way behind the ones passing you by, making signs and driving 55! The same is on Middlefield Road, while driving the 25, you are passed by speeders.

Name not shown in Evergreen Park (on forum)

October 26, 2015, 6:44 AM

Deal with housing affordability crisis by limiting amount landlords can raise rent or other measures.

Schools are decreasing classes because families are moving away because they can't afford to stay, and we will lose the diversity that is one of the things that makes Palo Alto special

1 Supporter

Name not shown in Old Palo Alto (on forum)

October 26, 2015, 6:32 AM

I would like to see no home construction on Saturday. The residence need at least two days of quiet per week. I believe that Atherton has this rule.

1 Supporter
