



# EAST PALO ALTO SENIOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE SENIOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR SESSION AGENDA

Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 6:00 PM

City Hall

2415 University Ave Second Floor

East Palo Alto, CA 94303

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## NOTICE

This meeting will be held virtually and in-person at the Council Chambers located on 2415 University Ave, First Floor East Palo Alto, CA 94303. The virtual portion of this Senior Advisory Committee Meeting will be conducted in accordance with City of East Palo Alto Resolution adopted pursuant to Assembly Bill 361.

The public may participate in the Senior Advisory Committee Meeting via Zoom Meeting or by attending in-person in the Council Chambers at 2415 University Ave, First Floor East Palo Alto, CA 94303. Community members may provide comments by emailing [mbaker@cityofepa.org](mailto:mbaker@cityofepa.org), submitting a speaker card at the meeting, or using the **RAISE HAND** feature when the Community Services representative or Committee Chair call for public comment. Emailed comments should include the specific agenda item on which you are commenting.

Please click this URL to join

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88014583089>

Meeting ID: 880 1458 3089

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One tap mobile

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Join instructions

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/88014583089/invitations?signature=dRKFD-LW5ikMwelleUScTSY9kwQC7BaeMiEs2-GDSOk>

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1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL
2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - 3.1 **Senior Advisory Committee Minutes - 7.1.26**
4. PUBLIC COMMENT
5. OLD BUSINESS
  1. Senior Services Task Force (August, September, October) (PH)
  2. Senior Prom (PH)
  3. Mitchell Dempsey Recognition (PH)
6. NEW BUSINESS
  1. November Potluck (PH)
  2. December Hiatus (PH)
  3. Summer Park Activation Field Trip Round Table (MB & PH)
7. COMMITTEE REPORTS
  1. Transportation Subcommittee Report
8. STAFF REPORTS
  1. Senior Services Assessment (MB)
9. ANNOUNCEMENTS
10. ADJOURNMENT

**Upcoming meetings:**

|                  |                                   |     |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|
| October 7, 2026  | Senior Advisory Committee Meeting | 6pm |
| November 4, 2026 | Senior Advisory Committee Meeting | 6pm |
| TBD              | Senior Advisory Committee Meeting | 6pm |

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This AGENDA is posted in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2(a)

***This Notice of Availability of Public Records: All public records relating to an open session item which are not exempt from disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Act, that are distributed to the majority of the City Council will be available for public inspection at the City Clerk's Office, 2415 University Avenue, East Palo Alto, CA at the same time that the public records are distributed or made available to the City Council. Such documents may also be available on the East Palo Alto website [www.cityofepa.org](http://www.cityofepa.org) subject to staff's ability to post the documents prior to the meeting. Information may be obtained by calling (650) 853-3100.***

*The City Council meeting packet may be reviewed by the public in the Library or the City Clerk's Office. Any writings or documents pertaining to an open session item provided to a majority of the City Council less than 72 hours prior to the meeting, shall be made available for public inspection at the front counter at the City Clerk's Office, 2ND Floor, City Hall, 2415 University Avenue, East Palo Alto, California 94303 during normal business hours. Information distributed to the Council at the Council meeting becomes part of the public record. A copy of written material, pictures, etc. should be provided for this purpose.*

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#### DECLARATION OF POSTING

This Notice is posted in accordance with Government Code §54954.2(a) or §54956. Members of the public can view electronic agendas and staff reports by accessing the City website. Under penalty of perjury, this Agenda was posted to the public at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.

POSTED: (8/27/26)

ATTEST:

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Maurice Baker  
Community Services Manager



# **CITY OF EAST PALO ALTO**

## **SENIOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

July 1, 2026, 6:00 p.m.  
EPA Government Center  
City Council Chamber  
East Palo Alto, CA 94303

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Paris Hill at 6:04pm.

| <b>Attendee Name</b>   | <b>Title</b>     | <b>Status</b> | <b>Arrived</b>   |
|------------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Paris Hill             | Chair            | Present       |                  |
| Ruth Cossey            | Vice-Chair       | Present       |                  |
| Maria Teresa Fernandez | Committee Member | Present       |                  |
| Pearlie Young Rainer   | Committee Member |               | Online at 6:12pm |
| Donna Rutherford       | Committee Member | Present       |                  |
| Isaac Stevenson Jr.    | Committee Member | Present       |                  |
| Q. Smith               | Committee Member | Present       |                  |
| Court Skinner          | Committee Member | Present       |                  |
| Sui-Lin Li             | Committee Member | Present       |                  |

#### **2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Committee Member Q Smith made a motion to approve the agenda, Committee Member Donna Rutherford seconded, all were in favor.

#### **3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Committee Member Donna Rutherford made a motion to approve the minutes for June 3, 2026, Committee Member Court Skinner seconded the motion. All were in favor.

#### **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mora Oommen from YCS spoke regarding summer park activation- summer of service. Their next event is a wellness event at Bell St. It is in partnership with Canopy tomorrow from 2pm-3pm, they will be practicing mindfulness techniques inspired by nature. There will be another wellness event at Bell St. Park on July 22. Stanford is doing a community open house, for a community meeting to learn

about Stanford's expansion plans, it is called Stanford Next on July 16<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm-7:30pm at 7th day Adventist church.

## 5. OLD BUSINESS

**1. Senior Services Task Force:** There was a discussion regarding the July meeting and whether it was occurring because a prior meeting had been cancelled. Staff said they will confirm and inform Committee Member Maria Teresa Fernandez of the confirmed date and time. It was noted that there will be a recess in August.

**2. Senior Ball:** The Senior Ball Subcommittee met and discussed themes and having all registrations occur digitally like the previous year. They requested an Eventbrite to be set-up for registration so they can begin selling tickets. Staff stated they will be able to set-up the registration. The Senior Ball Subcommittee is recommending the price for the ticket to increase to \$75 because last year they were in the red.

The following themes were proposed: International Ball (everyone dressed in their nationality garb), White Party (all white gala attire), Boots on the Ground (western theme), and Mardi Gras. A vote was taken regarding the theme for Senior Ball as follows: Committee Member Court Skinner and Chair Paris Hill voted for Boots on the Ground; Committee Member Sui-Lin Li, Committee Member Maria Teresa Fernandez, Committee Member Q Smith, Committee Member Donna Rutherford, Committee Member Ruth Cossey, Committee Member Isaac Stevenson, and Committee Member Pearlie Young-Rainer voted for International. It was decided that International would be the theme for Senior Ball 2026.

Committee Member Maria Teresa Fernandez confirmed Norman can be the DJ for this year's Senior Ball (the same DJ from last year).

It was noted that Community Members Sandra (Sandy) Green and CarsJanae Pettiford are a part of the Senior Ball Subcommittee.

There was a discussion regarding whether Senior Advisory Committee Members will have to pay for their ticket to the Senior Ball in 2026 and the cost of the ticket itself. Committee Member Donna Rutherford recommended the committee members should pay. Last year it was discussed having a sliding scale for the cost of the Senior Ball ticket based on need. There was discussion amongst the committee members whether or not to have the ticket at \$75. The following points were discussed- folks who may not have the funds for the ticket, charging a ticket price helps prevent cancellations, people can prioritize saving if they desire to attend, and the increased cost of living.

Committee Member Ruth Cossey made a motion for a vote on the ticket cost to be \$75 per person, Committee Member Pearlie Young Rainer seconded the motion, all were in favor.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Subcommittee Assignments & Chairs:** The subcommittees and members were reviewed. It was noted that community member Adrienne Bryant wanted to participate in the Transportation Subcommittee, and it was noted she was on the email.

**2. Senior Feedback Incentive:** The community services team wanted to provide an incentive for Senior feedback. In the past an incentive of complimentary tickets to the Sheila E. concert was provided to the seniors who participated in the senior survey or the senior townhall. Staff stated they will provide an update in the future regarding what the incentive would be for seniors to participate in giving feedback to the city.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Transportation Subcommittee Report:** it was noted that the City of EPA have two buses but one is not in operation, the subcommittee is in communication with San Mateo County, they are hosting a Transportation Fair on July 15. There is a discussion of having someone from the county giving a presentation at a future Senior Advisory Committee Meeting. They discussed top issues and resources for Seniors including cost concerns and the service RidePlus.

There was an inquiry regarding the city bus that is not in operation, Chair Paris Hill noted the Community Services Manager is trying to hire another driver.

There was a request for a future agenda item to talk about recognizing Mr. Mitchell who has been a bus driver for decades in the community.

8. **STAFF REPORTS**

9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Paris Hill invited everyone to participate in a backpack giveaway at EPACENTER on Saturday August 8 (time still to be confirmed). Paris Hill will be the contact for folks who are interested in participating. Committee Member Maria Teresa Fernandez advocated for seniors to attend events in the community.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Committee Member Donna Rutherford made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Committee Member Q Smith. The meeting was adjourned at 6:48pm.