

**DATE:** 9/10/2024

**TO:** COUNCILMEMBERS

**FROM:** CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

**SUBJECT:** COUNCIL Q&A FOR SEPTEMBER 10, 2024 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

**Agenda Item 1 (Minutes):**

- Please see the accompanying pdf.  
**Answer: Noted.**

**Agenda Item 5 (5150 El Camino):**

- The Discussion on the second page of the staff report only includes an option to not approve the map. This seems to be a remnant of an old-style staff report because we don't use this format anymore. Please correct the Discussion section to make it consistent with the recommended action.  
**Answer: Noted.**

**Agenda 6: Suspending enforcement of Municipal Code:**

- Berkeley has repealed their gas ban. Why is it sufficient to suspend the reach codes vs. repealing it?  
**Answer: The City of Berkeley placed their reach codes in the Zoning Code which was improper, they partly had to repeal the ordinance because it was in a different area of the municipal code. Most other jurisdictions in the bay area have suspended only.**
- Will the existing ordinance be redlined or some other method so that the public is aware that it is no longer being enforced?  
**Answer: No because we are not repealing the ordinance. We will however post the adopted resolution online.**
- When Council takes action to suspend/repeal the ordinance. How will the information be included on the ordinance?  
**Answer: The ordinance will remain unchanged, but the enforcement will be suspended.**

**Agenda Item 7 (Roadway Median and Shoulder Maintenance Services):**

- Are any Parks and Rec staff being let go due to this proposed switch to contract maintenance in additional areas of town?

**Answer: No staff are being let go due to this proposed switch.**

#### **Agenda Item 9 (Lincoln Park Water Fountain):**

- When will the new water fountains be installed at Lincoln Park?

**Answer: The expected completion of the installation is early November 2024.**

- What will the new water fountains look like?

**Answer: Haws 3612 with dog bowl in matte black.**

- Why was this design chosen?

**Answer: Including a bottle filler and dog bowl are important to park users.**

- What is the status of water fountain replacement in other parts of the City?

**Answer: Timeline for work on other drinking fountain replacements will be created at the conclusion of this installation.**

- Why are these fountains so expensive?

**Answer: These are commercial, ADA, heavy duty finish, outdoor drinking fountains with five water dispensing points that includes a lockable spout on the pedestal.**

- In the past, Santa Clara Valley Water District and County grants were available. Can we pursue other grants for hydration stations at Lincoln and other areas?

**Answer: Staff can look into that.**

- Why does the water have to be connected to the sewer instead of creating an on site drainage system (swale, catch basin, or french drain)?

**Answer: New drinking fountain installation code requires drainage into sanitary sewer system.**

#### **Agenda 10: Tree removal permit:**

- The appellant requested a continuance, why are we not able to continue this agenda item?

**Answer: The meeting was publicly noticed for the city council consideration, staff does not have the authority to continue the item. The majority of City Council must vote to continue the item.**

- In 2011 a Primary Record was established for the City that identified the description and the significance of the Historic Resource called the Civic Center Orchard. The

document is a State of California Department of Parks record Historic Resource # 15 (HR15) Included is a vicinity map that was provided by the City of Los Altos and amended by Circa Historic Properties Development. The record shows what areas are covered as part of this Historic Resource. I believe this document should be used for decision making purposes for the Heritage Orchard. Are there additional documents or maps after 2011 that contradict this official record?

**Answer: This will be answered at the Public Hearing.**

- The appellant's letter states that the City recognizes the Orchard as 2.84 acres, surrounding City Hall, the Library, Youth Center and Police Station. Are we still recognizing the 2.84 acres and if not when was a change made and what is the change ?

**Answer: This will be answered at the Public Hearing.**

- The posted permit for removal of the 25 apricot trees says that one reason for approval is the impact on existing or proposed structures. Would you please provide details of the proposed structures and plans that warrant the tree removal now.

**Answer: This will be answered at the Public Hearing.**

#### **Agenda Item 11 (Incenting Electrification):**

- What, precisely, is it anticipated that the third-party vendor will do to accelerate electrification?

**Answer: The consultant will provide a link between the available rebates and credits for homeowners to the licensed contractors to perform the work. Additionally, the consultant will provide data driven information about where the city has electrified and where it can further its efforts.**

- What programs, etc. are other agencies in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties doing to incent electrification in new construction?

**Answer: Additional research would need to be provided to understand what other jurisdictions are doing.**

- The Council is taking action to suspend reach codes. Why are we taking additional steps at this time to expand electrification?

**Answer: This recommendation was part of the 2024 Environmental Commission Workplan. Since the City is required to suspend the Reach Codes, if the City Council is still interested in exploration of alternative means to electrify this would be a good counter balance.**

- Please provide additional information on the role and estimated cost of partnering with an outside third party?

**Answer: The estimated cost is \$75,000/annually.**

- How will the partnership help to accelerate the electrification?

**Answer: The consultant will provide a link between the available rebates and credits for homeowners to the licensed contractors to perform the work. Additionally, the consultant will provide data driven information about where the city has electrified and where it can further its efforts.**

- How do we obtain the financial impact report for the zoning incentive recommendations?

**Answer: Staff is unsure of the question. Please clarify at the meeting.**