



City of Santa Clara

Meeting Agenda

Youth Commission

Tuesday, February 10, 2026

6:00 PM

Youth & Teen Center
2446 Cabrillo Ave. Santa Clara,
CA 95051

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

CONSENT CALENDAR

26-82 [Action to Approve the Youth Commission Minutes of the January 13, 2026 Meeting](#)

Recommendation: Approve the Youth Commission Minutes of the January 13, 2026 Meeting

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

[This item is reserved for persons to address the body on any matter not on the agenda that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the body. The law does not permit action on, or extended discussion of, any item not on the agenda except under special circumstances. The governing body, or staff, may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed, and appropriate body may request staff to report back at a subsequent meeting.]

GENERAL BUSINESS

26-83 [Discuss and Take Action on Youth Commission FY 2025/26 Work Plan & Goals](#)

Recommendation: Discuss and take action on the activities and efforts in support of the Youth Commission's Work Plan & Goals for FY 2025/26.

STAFF REPORT

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

ADJOURNMENT

The next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, March 10, 2026 6:00 p.m. at the Youth and Teen Center.

MEETING DISCLOSURES

The time limit within which to commence any lawsuit or legal challenge to any quasi-adjudicative decision made by the City is governed by Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure, unless a shorter limitation period is specified by any other provision. Under Section 1094.6, any lawsuit or legal challenge to any quasi-adjudicative decision made by the City must be filed no later than the 90th day following the date on which such decision becomes final. Any lawsuit or legal challenge, which is not filed within that 90-day period, will be barred. If a person wishes to challenge the nature of the above section in court, they may be limited to raising only those issues they or someone else raised at the meeting described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Clara, at or prior to the meeting. In addition, judicial challenge may be limited or barred where the interested party has not sought and exhausted all available administrative remedies.

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City of Santa Clara

1500 Warburton Avenue
Santa Clara, CA 95050
santaclaraca.gov
@SantaClaraCity

Agenda Report

26-82

Agenda Date: 2/10/2026

REPORT TO YOUTH COMMISSION

SUBJECT

Action to Approve the Youth Commission Minutes of the January 13, 2026 Meeting

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the Youth Commission Minutes of the January 13, 2026 Meeting

Prepared by: Gayle Ichiho, Recreation Supervisor

Reviewed by: Kimberly Castro, Recreation Manager

Approved by: Damon Sparacino, Director of Parks & Recreation

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft - Youth Commission Minutes of the January 13, 2026 Meeting



City of Santa Clara

Meeting Minutes

Youth Commission

01/13/2026

6:00 PM

Youth & Teen Center

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

This meeting was called to order by Commissioner Martin at 6:03 p.m.

Present 14 - Commissioner Allysa Domensino, Commissioner Mateo Espinal, Commissioner Seoyun Chong, Commissioner Namita Gaidhani, Commissioner Srikha Gopiseti, Commissioner Julianna Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Neha Israni, Commissioner Drew Madriaga, Commissioner Rebecca Kunze, Commissioner Malia Martin, Commissioner Samaira Mehta, Commissioner Aneesha Vemu, Commissioner Brian Rong, and Commissioner Niharika Uppalapati

Absent 1 - Commissioner Samarth Suresh

A motion was made by Commissioner Vemu, seconded by Commissioner Madriaga to excuse Commissioner Suresh from the January 13, 2026 meeting. The motion was carried by the following votes:

Aye: 14 - Commissioner Domensino, Commissioner Espinal, Commissioner Chong, Commissioner Gaidhani, Commissioner Gopiseti, Commissioner Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Israni, Commissioner Madriaga, Commissioner Kunze, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Mehta, Commissioner Vemu, Commissioner Rong, and Commissioner Uppalapati

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Suresh

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. [25-1736](#) Action to Approve the Youth Commission Minutes of the December 9, 2025 Meeting
- Amend with the following changes to the December 9, 2025 minutes: in the Commissioner's report, correct the spelling of Commissioner Gaidhani and correct the date of January 25 to January 24, 2026.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gaidhani seconded by Commissioner Israni to approve the minutes as amended. The motion was carried by the following votes:

Aye: 14 - Commissioner Domensino, Commissioner Espinal, Commissioner Chong, Commissioner Gaidhani, Commissioner Gopisetti, Commissioner Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Israni, Commissioner Madriaga, Commissioner Kunze, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Mehta, Commissioner Vemu, Commissioner Rong, and Commissioner Uppalapati

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Suresh

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None

GENERAL BUSINESS

2. [25-1738](#)**Discuss and Take Action on Youth Commission FY 2025/26 Work Plan & Goals**

At the January 13th meeting, the Youth Commission continued discussions regarding its work plan priorities and goals for the FY 2025/26 term. Commissioners developed mission statements for each committee to align with their work plan goals.

1. The **Community Building Committee** aims to foster a culture of inclusion, belonging, and connection among the Santa Clara youth through bonding events and collaborative opportunities. On Friday, January 16, the Commissioners will be partnering with the Youth and Teen Center's "Kids Rock" event to record the debut interviews for their "We Are Santa Clara" Instagram series. Simultaneously, preparations for the SC Hacks hackathon event are moving forward with the completion of promotional flyers and sponsorship blurbs. The team plans to finalize the event's theme shortly to begin official outreach to schools and corporate sponsors. Their goal is to have all registration and sponsorship information distributed within the next few weeks.

2. The **Youth Empowerment Committee** seeks to empower Santa Clara youth through various projects, including panels highlighting local voices and activities that create opportunities for community service. The committee has finalized the script for the upcoming project, "What Can You Do with a Library Card?" Committee contacted the City's Teen Library Videos team, and the group collaborated on promoting the Teen Library Card Design Competition.

3. The **Civic Engagement Committee** seeks to facilitate community outreach and education while providing better accessibility to city resources. Its goal is to broaden the awareness of Santa Clara's youth by highlighting essential services and information. The committee has developed a draft Spanish version of the "Welcome Resident" packet and a Canva flyer, alongside a strategy for broader promotion. Youth Services Librarian Lorena Romero provided guidance on the specific protocols required for the library to host and post these materials. With these resources finalized, the team is shifting its primary focus toward the upcoming Narcan demonstration event.

STAFF REPORT

Lorena Romero, Youth Services Librarian, reported on upcoming events and resources for teens. Highlights include the Library Card Design Contest, a STEM Zone event on April 19th, and an upcoming Comic-Con event on October 10th.

Gayle Ichiho, Recreation Supervisor, followed up on several items previously emailed to the Commission: the CPRS YTRS scholarship application; the upcoming YTRS conference, "YAC Attack," on March 7th; and the MLK Jr. Choral Reading taking place January 14th in the Central Library's Redwood Room (interested participants should contact Rachel Schmidt). Additionally, she shared an invitation to the Super Bowl Flag Raising ceremony at Levi's Stadium on January 22nd.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

On December 12, 2025, during Assemblymember Patrick Ahrens' Holiday Open House, **Commissioner Israni** met with Delia, a representative from Santa Clara County Social Services (SCCSS), to discuss urgent updates regarding healthcare access. The conversation highlighted important information and a critical upcoming deadline for undocumented individuals, including minors, who are currently enrolled in Medi-Cal.

Commissioner Gopiseti is collaborating with the Santa Clara Schools Foundation to launch a financial literacy workshop series tailored for elementary-aged students in Title 1 after-school programs within the SCUSD. The initiative involves interactive activities and storytelling to teach foundational financial skills. She is currently seeking fellow commissioners to volunteer for these sessions to assist with reading and student engagement.

Commissioner Madriaga reported on the successful Wilcox High School annual toy drive, which was relocated this year to Buchser Middle School to better serve a higher-need student population; the event ensured every participating child received two gifts. Additionally, student leaders from Santa Clara, Macdonald, and Wilcox High Schools met during the winter break to plan the "Battle of the Schools" scheduled for Friday, April 10 at the Santa Clara High School main gym.

Commissioner Arias Hernandez has co-founded a new student advocacy group focused on increasing student representation and influence within the school district. The group has been actively collaborating with district officials to draft and revise formal board policies. Their next steps involve a high-level meeting with the Superintendent to further integrate student perspectives into district governance.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Israni and seconded by Commissioner Gopiseti to adjourn the meeting at 6:21 p.m.

Aye: 14 - Commissioner Domensino, Commissioner Espinal, Commissioner Chong, Commissioner Gaidhani, Commissioner Gopiseti, Commissioner Arias Hernandez, Commissioner Israni, Commissioner Madriaga, Commissioner Kunze, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Mehta, Commissioner Vemu, Commissioner Rong, and Commissioner Uppalapati

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Suresh

MEETING DISCLOSURES

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Agenda Report

26-83

Agenda Date: 2/10/2026

REPORT TO YOUTH COMMISSION

SUBJECT

Discuss and Take Action on Youth Commission FY 2025/26 Work Plan & Goals

BACKGROUND

The Youth Commission develops an annual work plan through discussions of current trends and civic needs that relate to the youth and teen population. The annual work plan drives the activities of the Commission throughout the term. The Commission established goals over the past few terms including promoting health and wellness, providing public outreach and education, and fostering community inclusiveness.

DISCUSSION

The **Community Building Committee** is launching its "We Are Santa Clara" Instagram series with debut interviews at the "Kids Rock" event which took place on January 16. Simultaneously, the team is finalizing the theme and promotional materials for the SC Hacks hackathon to begin outreach to schools and sponsors within the coming weeks. These initiatives support the committee's broader mission of fostering inclusion and connection among Santa Clara youth.

The **Youth Empowerment Committee** is finalizing its "What Can You Do with a Library Card?" project while collaborating with the City's Teen Library Videos team to promote a card design competition. These efforts, which include a completed script and upcoming logistical reviews, aim to provide community service and empowerment opportunities for Santa Clara youth.

The **Civic Engagement Committee** has finalized a Spanish-language "Welcome Resident" packet and promotional materials to improve youth access to city resources. With guidance from the Youth Services Librarian on distribution protocols, the team is now shifting its primary focus toward an upcoming Narcan demonstration event. These efforts align with the committee's mission to broaden community awareness and provide education on essential services.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The action being considered does not constitute a "project" within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(5) in that it is a governmental organizational or administrative activity that will not result in direct or indirect changes in the environment.

PUBLIC CONTACT

Public contact was made by posting the Youth Commission agenda on the City's official-notice bulletin board outside City Hall Council Chambers. A complete agenda packet is available on the City's website and in the City Clerk's Office at least 72 hours prior to a Regular Meeting and 24 hours prior to a Special Meeting. A hard copy of any agenda report may be requested by contacting the City

Clerk's Office at (408) 615-2220, email clerk@santaclaraca.gov or at the public information desk at any City of Santa Clara public library.

RECOMMENDATION

Discuss and take action on the activities and efforts in support of the Youth Commission's Work Plan & Goals for FY 2025/26.

Prepared by: Gayle Ichiho, Recreation Supervisor

Reviewed by: Kimberly Castro, Recreation Manager

Approved by: Damon Sparacino, Director of Parks & Recreation

ATTACHMENTS

1. Youth Commission Work Plan 2025-26



GOAL #1: Community Building with Santa Clara residents

Objectives	Ad Hoc Sub-Committee	Timeline	Current Status
Foster a culture of inclusivity, belonging, and connection among the Santa Clara youth.	<u>Commissioners:</u> Brian Rong Mateo Espinal Namita Gaidhani Niharika Uppalapati Drew Madriaga Srikha Gopiseti	Spring 2026	Committee launching its "We Are Santa Clara" Instagram series with debut interviews. Simultaneously, finalizing the theme and promotional materials for the SC Hacks hackathon to begin promotion. These initiatives support the committee's broader mission of fostering inclusion and connection among Santa Clara youth.

GOAL #2: Civic Engagement

Objectives	Ad Hoc Sub-Committee	Timeline	Current Status
Facilitate community outreach and education while providing better accessibility to City resources.	<u>Commissioners:</u> Neha Israni Malia Martin Ibrahim Rayees Ayaan Mathur Seoyun Chong	Spring 2026	The Committee has finalized a Spanish-language "Welcome Resident" packet and promotional materials. Coordination toward an upcoming Narcan demonstration event.

**City of Santa Clara
Youth Commission
Work Plan FY 2025/26**



**City of
Santa Clara**

GOAL #3: Youth Empowerment			
Objectives	Ad Hoc Sub-Committee	Timeline	Current Status
Empower the Santa Clara youth through opportunities to serve our community.	<u>Commissioners:</u> Julie Arias Samarth Suresh Rebecca Kunze Samaira Mehta Aneesha Vemu Alyssa Domensino	Spring 2026	The Committee is finalizing its "What Can You Do with a Library Card?" project while collaborating with the City's Teen Library Videos. These efforts, which include a completed script and upcoming logistical reviews.