



## Agenda Report

21-709

Agenda Date: 5/24/2021

### REPORT TO SENIOR ADVISORY COMMISSION

#### **SUBJECT**

Senior Advisory Commission FY2020/21 Work Plan and Goals Discussion and Update

#### **BACKGROUND**

At the beginning of each fiscal year, the Senior Advisory Commission develops a Work Plan and Goals to focus discussion and Commission effort throughout the year. The City of Santa Clara completed a Senior Needs Assessment in 2017. The Assessment considers the eight (8) domains of the World Health Organization's Age-Friendly City, discussing current trends relating to the senior population and prioritizing community needs given limitations of available resources. The eight (8) domains include: Economics and Employment; Community; Housing; Outdoor spaces and Buildings; Transportation and Streets; Health, Wellness, and Nutrition; Social and Civic Engagement; and, Access to Community resources and information. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission did not meet in the months of March through August 2020.

The Commission made minor adjustments and adopted the FY2020/21 Work Plan goals and activities below.

1. Foster an Age-Friendly Community -
  - A. Increase monthly communication about virtual Senior Advisory Commission meetings, the monthly Senior Center Newsletter, Nextdoor, and Parks & Recreation Facebook.
  - B. Educate the Older Adult community about "How to Zoom" and provide two (2) workshops and two (2) Senior Center Newsletter articles before May.
2. Advocate for Affordable Convenient, and Safe Transportation and Streets -
  - A. Evaluate the feasibility (strengths, weakness, opportunities, and challenges) of various transportation options including a shuttle service in Santa Clara.
3. Develop Opportunities to Promote Health, Wellness, and Nutrition -
  - A. Educate older adults on trending health topics through bi-annual Senior Center Newsletter articles and bi-monthly Zoom Education Presentations.
4. Access to Community Resources and Information -
  - A. Host virtual "Be Strong, Live Long" Health & Wellness Fair - May 2021
  - B. Provide Elder Fraud Prevention awareness through virtual educational workshops three (3) times a year.
  - C. Send one (1) representative to attend the City's ADA Committee meeting.

#### **DISCUSSION**

Each sub-committee will provide an update to the Senior Advisory Commission for discussion on the efforts and progress toward accomplishing the FY2020/21 Work Plan & Goals. The sub-committees will verbally present their status reports as follows:

- Goal 1.a. Report on strategies used for the May Senior Advisory Commission meeting;

- Goal 1.b. Report on the upcoming Zoom workshop for Older Adults as well as future Senior Center Newsletter articles on “How to Zoom”;
- Goal 2.a. Update on progress and challenges with data collection, as well as update on Commission interest letter to City Council (Attachment 1);
- Goal 3.a. Update on the topic for the Senior Center Newsletter, as well as update on topic for the next Zoom educational presentation;
- Goal 4.a. Update on the progress and plans for the Health & Wellness Fair;
- Goal 4.b. Update on the progress for upcoming Elder Fraud Prevention virtual workshops; and,
- Goal 4.c. Report from the last City ADA Committee meeting.

**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 Senior Advisory Commission’s 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](mailto:clerk@santaclaraca.gov)

Reviewed by: Jennifer Herb, Recreation Supervisor

Approved by: James Teixeira, Director of Parks & Recreation

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Senior Advisory Commission Transportation Interest Letter

## **Attachment 1- Work Plan Item 2.A.**

**Background:** The Senior Advisory Commission (SAC) develops a work plan and goals to focus the SAC efforts throughout the year. In 2017, the City of Santa Clara adopted the World Health Organization's Age-Friendly City and completed a Senior Needs Assessment (SNA). The SNA considers the eight (8) domains of the World Health Organization's Age-Friendly City to help focus SAC efforts to address seniors needs in priority areas/domains. This includes the domains of: Economics and Employment; Community; Housing; Outdoor spaces and Buildings; Transportation and Streets; Health, Wellness, and Nutrition; Social and Civic Engagement; and, Access to Community Resources and Information.

Subcommittees were developed to focus SAC attention on four of the domains. Transportation and Streets became an area of interest and focus for discussion, beginning with the Senior Needs Assessment. The SAC reviewed the Assessment results regarding transportation and learned about shuttle services and funding strategies supported in other cities in Santa Clara County. The SAC recognizes that Transportation involves agencies and resources beyond the capacity of the SAC and is therefore interested in broadening the conversation within the City to better understand the size/scope of the issue (senior transportation), current public and private programs/services and available funding sources addressing the need, and the remaining service gap in Santa Clara.

The SAC subcommittee on transportation has drafted the "interest letter" below with the intent of requesting City Council prioritization of the issue so that additional staff resources can be allocated to study and analyze the current transportation resources and potential need for additional transportation and/or shuttle services in the City.

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### **Senior Advisory Commission - Transportation Interest Letter**

**Prepared for consideration by:**  
**Commissioner Toledo and Commissioner Segovia**  
**Senior Advisory Commission Item 2.A. Ad Hoc Subcommittee**

Dear City Council:

The Senior Advisory Commission (SAC) is committed to making a positive impact on the lives of seniors in Santa Clara.

The SAC has reviewed the most recent Senior Needs Assessment and are addressing several issues within our scope through workshops and information dissemination as the current situation (pandemic) allows. The most pressing need identified for Santa Clara seniors is for more and better transportation.

The public transportation option in Santa Clara is limited to VTA which has been reducing service not enhancing it. We have been in conversations with our peers in other cities and have learned that virtually all of our neighboring cities, throughout the peninsula are providing specialized, frequent, affordable transportation within their boundaries for their citizens. It is our understanding that these services can

often be funded partially or completely with grants. We request the Mayor and City Council put transportation on the work plan for the coming year with the goal of providing local transportation to all citizens.

This would be a direct benefit to the seniors of Santa Clara and would; serve the needs of all citizens for short trips, reduce local traffic, and significantly reduce carbon emissions.