



CITY COUNCILMEMBER REPORT

Meeting: Tuesday, April 2, 2025

Reporting Councilmember: Mayor Liang Chao

Report Dates: 3/12/25 to 3/25/25

- Last Activity Report in the [March 18, 2025 Council Meeting Agenda](#).

Section 1: Announcement - Message from the Mayor:

❖ **Mayor's Initiatives**

- You are welcome to submit entries to CupertinoStories.org
- Look for Mayor's Initiatives Booth at April 5 Earth Day Festival and April 26 & April 27 Cherry Blossom Festival
- The first Dance at the Plaza will be held on Saturday April 12 from 3-5pm
- The Cupertino Art Show will be held on Saturday May 24, from 12pm to 4pm in collaboration with the APPI Multicultural Festival

❖ **FY 2025-27 Work Program Prioritization:** The staff has proposed a new process for Work Program Prioritization in an [info memo](#). Check the [Work Program](#) page for updates.

- At the [March 18 Council Meeting](#), the Council adopted a final list of Work Program items for consideration for the FY 25-26 budget.
- The final decision will likely be made in April/May before the Council adopts the FY 25-26 budget in June 2025.

❖ **Revised Council Procedures Manual:** Back in 2023, the City Council adopted the Council Procedures Manual to summarize some long-standing practices, but that version also included some measures never done before. On March 18, the Council adopted a revised version to restore some long-standing good practices and also added some improvements. [Find the clean and redlined versions at the March 18 agenda](#). Here are some important changes:.

- Restore the ability of any councilmember to file a Public Record Act request, as any member of the public
- Restore the Info Memos item to the Council Agenda Packet, since they are often memos requested by councilmembers at the council meetings
- Any councilmember can pull an item off the Consent Calendar, although they are encouraged to notify staff by 12pm on the day of the meeting
- The Future Agenda Item at each council meeting would include a document with upcoming agenda items and requested agenda items, not yet agendized
- Restore the long-standing practice that any written communications on non-agenda items

Councilmember Report

will be added to the Written Communications document as long as the sender requests such, rather than only including the ones forwarded by a councilmember.

- ❖ **Monthly Mayor's Coffee Community Meetings:** These meetings will be generally held on the second Monday at 5pm each month, but it might be moved to other Mondays if needed. The location will rotate so that we cover different businesses each month.
 - The third Monthly Mayor's Coffee was held on Monday March 10 at 5pm at Duan Chun Zhen NoodleHouse, a Taiwanese restaurant, who provided free appetizers for everyone. More than 30 people attended. I gave an update on actions from the last council meeting and answered questions.
 - Many had questions about the inadequate parking for Westport independent BMR housing and the 55 spaces to be taken away by the upcoming Mary Ave BMR housing.
 - The next Mayor's Coffee will be on Monday April 14th at 5pm. The location is TBD.
 - Sheriff Captain Neil Valenzuela has been invited and confirmed his attendance on April 14th.
- ❖ **Process to Request Certificate of Recognition or Commendation:**
 - To ensure such requests are handled as smoothly and efficiently as possible, the City Manager's Office has implemented a dedicated process.
 - We kindly ask that you complete the following form, which will allow Mayor Chao to present a certificate of recognition: <https://cupertino.gov/councilmeetingrequest>
- ❖ **Proclamations at Council meetings:** This year, I plan to follow a tradition upheld by some former Cupertino mayors and other mayors in recognizing organizations or individuals with proclamations during Council meetings. My goal is to honor those who have made consistent and/or significant contributions to Cupertino, with an emphasis on those who are less well-known. If you have any suggestions, please feel free to email me at LChao@Cupertino.gov.

Proclamations for contributions will generally be presented at the second Council meeting of each month, while the first meeting will continue to recognize special observances (e.g., awareness months or weeks) as before. You are also welcome to submit suggestions for these recognitions.

Section 2: Committee Assignment

2025-03-19 Commission Chairs meeting at Quinlan Center

- The Commission Chairs meeting will be conducted on the third Wednesday of each odd month
- Before each meeting, each commission will submit a three-bullet written summary of what they have done; some also included what's upcoming on their agenda. ([The summary collected as of the meeting](#))
- The staff will collect the written summary and publish it as an info memo this year
- Around September, the winners of the CREST Award will be selected during a special Commission Chairs meeting.
- [The list of Commission Chair, Vice Chair and the staff liaison](#) and their email addresses.

Section 3: Activities by Date (Date, Title, and Description):

NOTE:

- This list does not include internal meetings with staff only, such as prep sessions or meetings with the City Manager.
- This list includes activities to “represent the community I am elected to serve”, “to respond to community needs and complaints,” and “to communicate policies and programs to residents,” among other [responsibilities](#) of a City Councilmember.
- Due to my work schedule, I have cut down on the event attendance for ceremonial purposes, especially those I have attended almost every year in the past. Instead, I focus more of my time on constituent services.

2024-03-11 Answer from San Jose Water about a question on the Connection Fee

- Question from Resident: “Our water bill had a \$232.28 fee (service charge), plus 7 units of actual water usage for \$34.49.” So, the Connection Fee is almost \$200.00 regardless of how much water you use.
- Answer from San Jose Water: “The reality is that most of the costs to deliver reliable water service is fixed and pays for wells, tanks, and pipes. Before one drop of water can be delivered or sold, we have to install a lot of infrastructure under and above ground to support the delivery of water. This is what the service charge covers.” [More detailed answers and links to resources.](#)

2025-03-13 Meeting with Congressman Ro Khanna

- [Notes](#) with ideas shared with Ro. Cupertino’s economic situation, potential funding requests.

2025-03-14 Visited West Valley Community Services

- Walked through the food pantry and learned the process to “shop” at the food pantry. Learned about the impact WVCS makes on people’s lives

2025-03-14 Attended the State of the County Address by the County Supervisor Otto Lee

2025-03-15 Attended the Award Ceremony by the Know Your Roots Foundation

- They take youth dancers to India and other Southeast Asian countries to perform.
- During the trip the youth have to endure the hardship of traveling in third world countries and still have to perform.

2025-03-15 Attended FOG Holi, the Festival of Colors in Fremont Washington High School

2025-03-16 Attended the award ceremony and exhibit of the Fifth Annual China Through American Eyes: Telling the Stories of XianNing and Wuhan through Lens at the Cupertino Library

- This is led by Song Min with the Cupertino-XianNing Friendship City Association, in collaboration with the Youth Horizon Culture Connection Association
- They take youth to visit China and the youth tell stories through photographs and paintings on what they see.

2025-02-16 Meeting with Rod Diridon Jr., Government Relations, Apple

- Vice Mayor Kitty Moore also joined the meeting.
- We asked about the possibility of another grant from Apple. Mr. Diridon informed us that Apple expects that all of the projects funded with their 2019 grants are completed before considering another grant. This appears to be some unwritten understanding Apple thinks of as a “hand-shake agreement” with Cupertino (or someone in Cupertino?)

2025-03-21 Attended FUHSD Foundation “Spring for Education” fundraiser

- The fundraiser is a sit-down dinner served by student servers, with amazing performance from each high school

2025-03-22 Attended the Public Safety Fair at Civic Plaza, hosted by an Eagle Scout

- Cupertino used to have a Public Safety Forum inside the Community Hall, which has some booths. So, it is a mini indoor Faire
- The attendance is better with the Faire at the Library Plaza, The fire truck, police and even the bomb squad were there

2025-03-23 Attended Grand Culture Ceremony to honor the common ancestor of Yellow Emperor in San Francisco Civic Plaza

Section 4: Information of Interest to My Constituents: (no update since the last report)

1. Builders’ Remedy (BR) Projects

- ★ The Planning Staff has completed the “determination of completeness” reviews for the 20739 Scofield Drive and Vista Heights projects. In both instances staff has determined that the application materials are *incomplete*, meaning the projects are no longer vested pursuant to Government Code Section 65941.1.

The letters that have been transmitted to the applicants are available on the City’s website here:

- Scofield: <https://www.cupertino.gov/scofield>
- Vista Heights: <https://www.cupertino.gov/vistaheights>
- ★ There is one more BR project that is still active: [Dividend Homes](#) at the northwest corner of Stevens Creek Blvd and De Anza. The project will replace the existing office building with town homes.
- ★ [Status of all BR projects](#)
- ★ The July 25, 2024 info memo, titled “[Scofield Drive SB330 Preliminary Application pursuant to Builder’s Remedy](#)”, has information about what are BR projects and their review process.

2. License Plate Reader Camera - City-operated or personal ones

- ★ The Council has adopted the Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) Camera program ([Resolution 24-094](#)) in order to alert the police when a license plate with previous record is detected. Some cameras are placed at major roads entering Cupertino.
- ★ The residents or businesses can connect your home or business surveillance camera with the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office. The registration form is at the bottom of [this page](#).

Section 5: Information Access Useful to My Constituents:

1. Information Memo posted on the City website:

City Council Informational Memos are now available on the City website. The information can be accessed from the City website at cupertino.org/memos and the City Council page. You can also find the page by entering search terms "info memos" at the top of the website.

- ★ Anyone may use the eNotification signup to receive informational memo updates by email.
- ★ The info memos are now hosted in the digital archive as [all other city records](#).
- ★ Click "+" to zoom in.
- ★ On a laptop:
 - To open the document as PDF, click on the Print icon and then click on "Download & Print". The downloaded PDF will appear in a new tab for viewing.
 - This does not work on Safari browser on an iPhone.
- ★ To copy and paste text, you must open it as PDF and then copy & paste from there.

New memos posted, since last report:

- No new info memos published since February 28

3. Recordings of Commission Meetings:

Starting in June, commission meetings will be recorded for viewing later, although no teleconferencing to allow remote participation.

- Find the recordings [here](#) under each commission.

4. How to Search an agenda item:

A community member showed me a way to search for items on the past city meetings:

- Go to this page: <https://cupertino.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>
 - Make sure that "Calendar" is selected from the top row of tabs and the "List View" is selected from the bottom row of tabs.
 - Enter the search term, such as "investment report". Choose the year or select "All Years"

Councilmember Report

- Home
- Legislation
- Calendar
- City Council
- Commissions/Committees
- View City Channel Videos
- City Records
- YouTube Videos

- List View
- Calendar View

Search: All Years notes closed captions

144 records

1 2

Name	Meeting Date	Meeting Time	Meeting Location	Meeting Details	Presentations	Agenda
City Council	5/21/2024	6:00 PM	10300 Torre Avenue and 10350 Torre Avenue and via Teleconference <i>Non-Televised Closed Session</i>	Meeting details	Presentations	Agenda