



CITY COUNCIL ACTIVITY REPORT*

Meeting: Tuesday, March 5, 2024

+for the "Councilmember Reports" agenda item under the "COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMENTS" section

Reporting Councilmember: Councilmember Liang Chao

Report Activity Dates: 2/13/24 to 2/26/24

Section 1: Events Attended (Date, Title, and Description):

(This list does not include internal meetings with staff only, such as prep sessions or meetings with the City Manager.)

2024-02-13 spoke at the FUHSD Board Meeting on their decision to transition to by-trustee area election, at the request of Cupertino residents.

- At the 2/6 Council Meeting and other informal setting, a few Cupertino residents told the Council that Sunnyvale Councilmembers have spoken at FUHSD in person multiple times, but Cupertino Councilmembers never spoke there on this issue.
- I attended the 2/13 FUHSD Board meeting in person to speak, representing myself only, of course. My speech titled "[By-trustee-area election undercuts voters' ability to influence the board](#)" was also sent to the FUHSD Board as written communication.

2024-02-15 Virtual Meeting with 5 UC Merced Computer Science students on the Capstone project on a tool to help train medical coder to use the new system with 15,000 codes to classify symptoms.

2024-02-19 Watched the [video of the 2/15 State of the City Address](#) on a later date <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mHInGoI0tYA>

- Similar to the 2023 State of the City Address, the City allowed the same two nonprofits to take up 6 to 8 minutes each to highlight their own organizations in this city event before the Mayor spoke.

2024-02-16 Attended Cupertino-CUSD-FUHSD 1x2x2 Strategic Partnership as a member of the audience

- I spoke to request that the agenda setting process is made more clear so the members of the public could propose agenda items. For example, some member wished to discuss the staggered school start time to relieve traffic congestion in the morning, but the item could not be added as there was no venue to propose agenda items.

- This is the first meeting where Cupertino has only one Councilmember as a representative, while there are two board members from each school district.

2024-02-16 IvyMax Lunar New Year Appreciation Event to present awards to students for their volunteer or community work and recognition to parent volunteers.

2024-02-19 Meeting with FUHSD Student Board Member - about by-trustee area election, student board selection process, budget for electives when a Basic Aid district has reduced student population.

2024-02-24 Lunar New Year Performance, organized by Silicon Valley Community United (SVCU) Youth group.

- There was a group poem reading as a mini drama, amazing Chinese and Indian dances and singing.

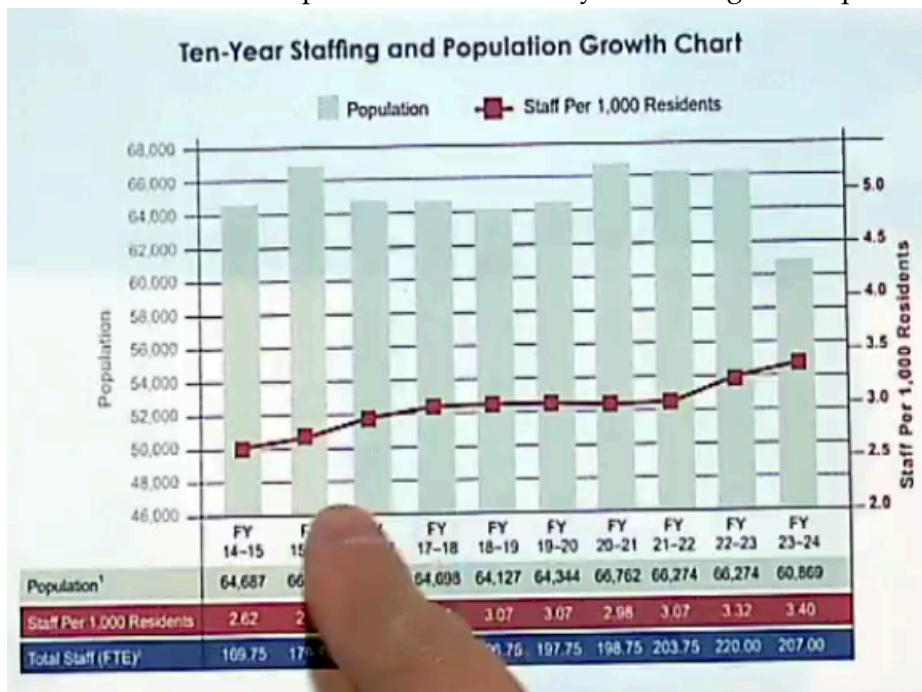
Section 2: Other Activities:

(This list includes other activities of interest, which I have done or paid attention to because of issues brought up by the city staff or community members.)

NOTE: In the past, for this agenda item, each Councilmember reports their activities on the dias and also makes any comments/announcements they feel are important for the community to know. Thus, I am continuing that tradition here.

1. Cupertino Budget Discussions:

- [Mid-Year Financial Report](#) was on the 2/21 agenda. The [G – FY 2022-23 Special Projects Update](#) has a list of current programs, their budget and status.
 - A member of the public shared this 10-year Staffing and Population Growth Chart



- Misc. info:
 - Cupertino’s revenue from sales tax is expected to plunge by \$30M from the 2021

level due to a CDTFA audit. ([city site](#), [news article](#))

- The Annual Actuals from 2012 to 2022 could be found from Cupertino's [OpenGov Transparency Portal](#) (click on "[Annual Actuals](#)"), where you can see how much of our annual revenue comes from sales tax, property tax etc.

Annual Actuals

Cupertino's budgets: cupertino.org/budget

Updated On 13 Apr, 2023

← Back ↻ History ↻ Reset

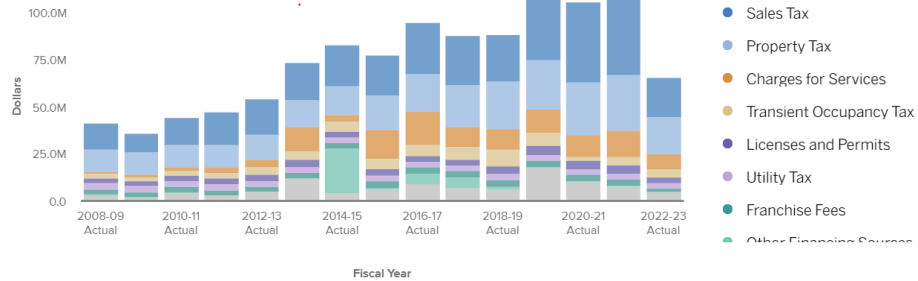
Broken down by

Revenues General Fund



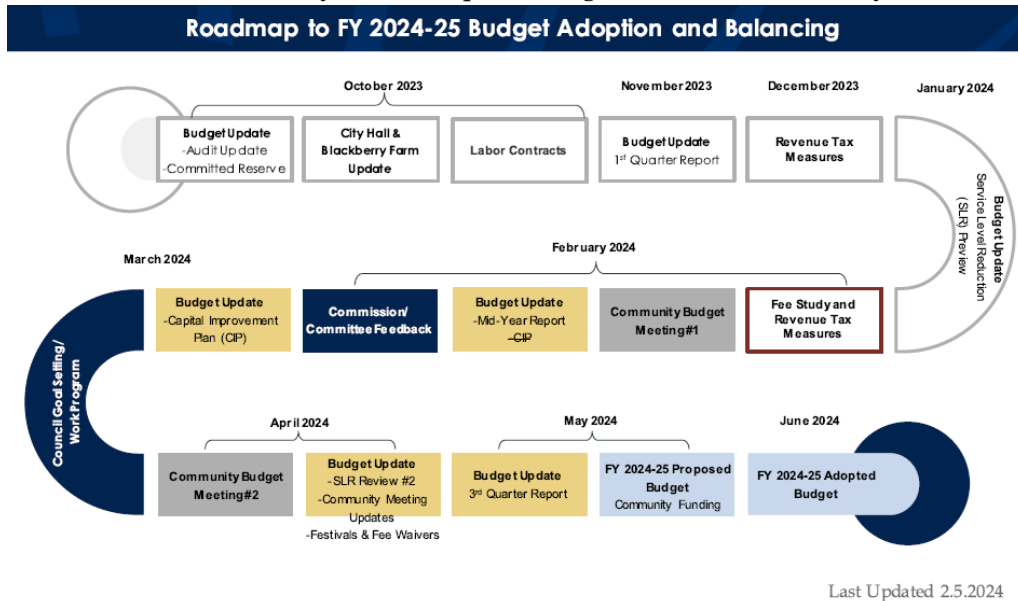
Visualization

Sort Large to Small



- The City Council has started to look at potential revenue generation options ([increasing sales taxes/TOT tax etc](#), [increasing fees for services](#)) and cost-cutting options ([cutting services](#), [stopping hybrid commission meetings](#))

- A roadmap of what's upcoming is in the Feb. 6 Staff Presentation for the Fee Study Agenda Item:
 - The Community Workshop on Budget will be on Thursday 2/29.



2. [Housing Element Update:](#)

- The deadline to have a compliant HE is Jan. 31, 2023 and the deadline to complete all

rezoning is Jan. 31, 2024. Cupertino has failed to meet both deadlines, but is expected to submit a compliant HE by May 2024 and finish rezoning properties in another 3 months.

- The third draft was posted on 2/16 for a 7-day commenting period and then the draft and all public comments are submitted to HCD (the State’s Housing and Community Development agency) on 5/23.
- Since none of the earlier Housing Element draft was put on the Council agenda for Council deliberation or direction, I felt that the only way for me, a Councilmember, to provide input is through submitting comments like other members of the public. So, I have submitted my comments.
 - [Comment on Third HE Draft: Discourage Projects which Worsen Job-Housing Balance](#)
 - [Comment for Third HE Draft: Limit Amenity Space for Rental Units](#)
 - [Comment on Third HE Draft: Limit Square Footage of For-Sale Homes With Incentives for Middle Income](#)
 - [Comment on HE Draft: Prioritize for-sale homes, rather than rentals](#)
 - [Comment on Third HE Draft: No Waiver/Exemption allowed to lower BMR percentage or standards](#)
 - [Comment Third HE Draft: Comments sent to HCD and other Public Comments not posted](#)
 - [Comment for Third HE draft: Policies to turn R1 sites to R3 sites came out of no where](#)
 - [Comment for Third HE Draft: Lack of Public/Council Participation on HE Process](#)
- The HE draft contains quite a few new policies never presented on any Council agenda with promises for implementation through ordinances in 6 months or 12 months.
- I have submitted [an agenda request to have a study session on the current HE draft](#) before the final adoption, as the Council should not be expected to rubber stamp such the set of extensive and important legislative documents with many new policies and commitments to be adopted all in one meeting.

3. [Monthly Development Activity Reports: Feb. 2024 report](#)

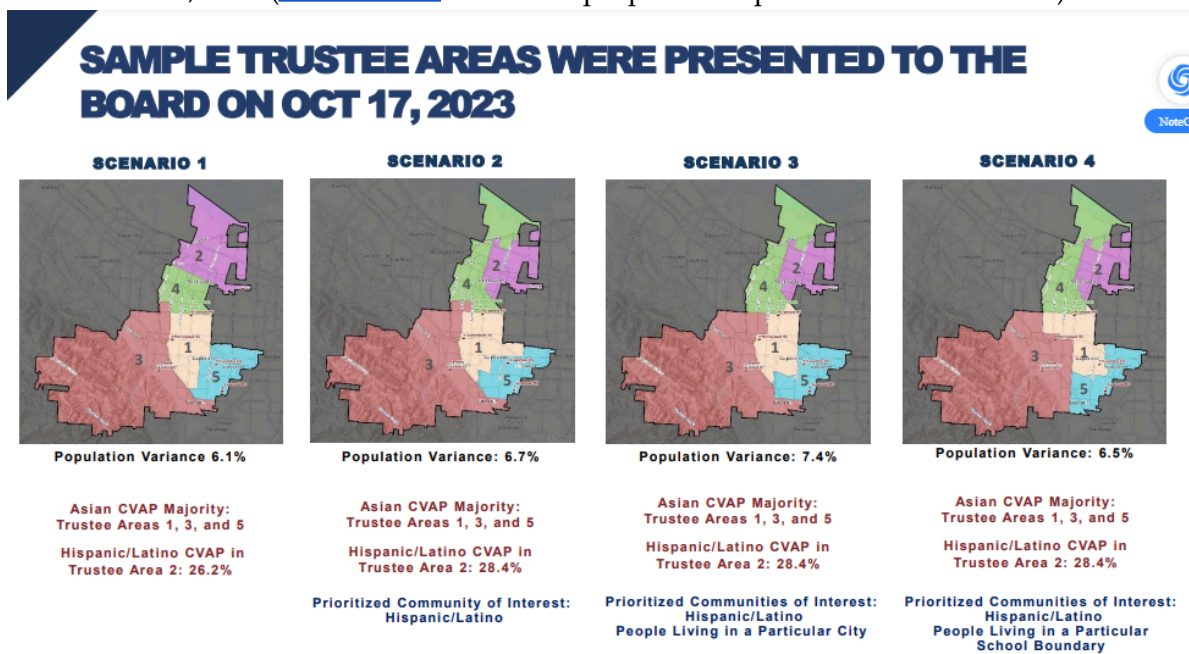
- Other news:
 - Update on city-owned Mary Ave. Project (APN: 326-27-053): On 2/6, the Council approved the Exclusive Negotiation Agreement (ENA) with Cupertino Rotary Housing Corporation, Housing Choices Coalition for Persons with Developmental Disabilities, Inc., and Charities Housing. The proposal envisions a 100% affordable, 40-unit, two-story, apartment development, structured as a Special Needs project with 18 units reserved for a special needs population.
 - Update on Simeon Project: The County Board of Supervisors approved a proposal from Eden Housing “to build affordable teacher and school worker housing in Cupertino. ... The project, located at 10333 N. Wolfe Road, will sit on approximately 5 acres of land owned by Apple. The site can fit up to 257 apartments and homes and could include other kinds of affordable housing, according to Eden Housing. ... Eden Housing aims to have an approved

development plan by the end of this year, with construction slated for 2026 and a move-in date of 2028, according to the county.” ([Santa Clara County deal brings teacher housing to Cupertino](#), Kron4.com)

- [Vallco SB-35 Project](#): The 2nd revised plan, submitted on Dec. 5, 2023 is already approved by the City. To be considered a revision, not a new project, there should be less than 25% change.
 - Highlights from this [news article](#): reduce retail space from 430,000 square feet to about 230,000 square feet; reduce below-market-rate units from 50% to one third; increase the total housing units from 2,402 to 2,669 units; office space reduced slightly from 1.98 million square feet of office space.
- Westport: Westport BMR Building now accepting applications for residents. Townhomes currently for sale.

4. [FUHSD By-Trustee-Area Election](#) in November 2024

- FUHSD is drawing boundaries of the 5 Trustee Areas. The FUHSD Board is expected to adopt the final map right after the 4th Public Hearing on April 24, 2024.
 - Oct. 17, 2023 ([Presentation](#) - includes proposed maps and revised timeline)



FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION – VISIT WWW.FUHSD.ORG/TRUSTEE-AREAS

- Upcoming meetings:
 - Wednesday, March 20, 2024 (6 p.m.) - likely to finalize the maps
 - April 24, 2024 (6 p.m.) - likely final adoption of the resolution
- I have spent some time studying the issues and have sent the following emails representing myself only of course, to the FUHSD Board to express my concerns on the shortened timeline and inadequate outreach to Cupertino and West San Jose K-8 schools with students who will attend FUHSD in the immediate future:
 - My 2/13 speech titled [“By-trustee-area election undercuts voters' ability to influence the board”](#).
 - [Why follow a shorter timeline than City of Sunnyvale and Foothill-De Anza](#)

College District?

- FUHSD never received any challenge letter, but they rushed to decide to transition without any evidence of racial polling or without considering pros/cons or other options.
- Inadequate outreach to non-Sunnyvale K-8 schools, compared with Sunnyvale K-8 schools
 - The outreach to Sunnyvale K-8 schools started in August 2023 in multiple Back-to-School Nights, while there has been zero outreach to West San Jose or Cupertino K-8 schools until February 15, 2023 with on PTA meeting. Almost 6 months late.
- Important New CVRA Case: about the August 2023 California Supreme Court decision to clarify that by-trustee-area election is not the only alternative to comply with CVRA

-

(Last Activity Report in the Feb. 21, 2024 Council Meeting Agenda.)