



# CITY OF CUPERTINO

## AGENDA

### PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION

10185 North Stelling Road, Quinlan Conference Room

Thursday, July 10, 2025

6:00 PM

Members of the public wishing to observe the meeting may do so in one of the following ways:

- 1) Attend in person at Quinlan Community Center, 10185 North Stelling Road
- 2) The meeting will also be streamed live on and online at <https://youtube.com/@cupertinocitycommission>

Members of the public wishing to comment on an item on the agenda may do so in the following ways:

- 1) Appear in person at Quinlan Community Center.
- 2) E-mail comments by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 10 to the legislative body at [publicsafetycommission@cupertino.gov](mailto:publicsafetycommission@cupertino.gov). These e-mail comments will also be posted to the City's website after the meeting.

Oral public comments may be made during the public comment period for each agenda item.

Members of the audience who address the legislative body are requested to complete a Speaker Card and identify themselves. Completion of Speaker Cards and identifying yourself is voluntary and not required to attend the meeting or provide comments.

#### CALL TO ORDER

#### ROLL CALL

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Subject: May 8, 2025 Public Safety Commission Meeting Minutes  
Recommended Action: Review and approve the May 8, 2025 Public Safety Commission meeting minutes.  
[A - Draft Minutes](#)

#### POSTPONEMENTS

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

*This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Commission on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Commission and not on the agenda. Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes. In most cases, State law will prohibit the Commission from making any decisions with respect to a matter not on the agenda.*

## WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

### OLD BUSINESS

### NEW BUSINESS

2. Subject: Study Session on a state law mandated update to the Health and Safety Element. (Application No(s): GPA-2025-001; Applicant(s): City of Cupertino; Location: citywide)  
Recommended Action: That the Public Safety Commission receive the report and provide input on the recommended policy areas and/or programs in the Health and Safety Element.  
[Staff Report](#)  
[1. Memo from Placeworks dated June 24, 2025](#)
3. Subject: Public Safety Subcommittee Update  
Recommended Action: Receive an update from the Public Safety subcommittee.
4. Subject: Presentation on the Block Leader Program  
Recommended Action: Receive a presentation from Staff Liaison on the Block Leader Program.

## REPORTS/UPDATES

5. Subject: Monthly Update Reports  
Recommended Action: Receive Monthly Update Reports from:
  - Santa Clara County Fire District
  - Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office

## STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS

### FUTURE AGENDA SETTING

### ADJOURNMENT

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), anyone who is planning to attend this meeting who is visually or hearing impaired or has any disability that needs special assistance should call the City Clerk's Office at 408-777-3223, at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting to arrange for assistance. In addition, upon request in advance by a person with a disability, meeting agendas and*

*writings distributed for the meeting that are public records will be made available in the appropriate alternative format.*

*Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the members after publication of the agenda will be made available for public inspection. Please contact the City Clerk's Office in City Hall located at 10300 Torre Avenue, Cupertino, California 95014, during normal business hours.*

*IMPORTANT NOTICE: Please be advised that pursuant to Cupertino Municipal Code section 2.08.100 written communications sent to the City Council, Commissioners or staff concerning a matter on the agenda are included as supplemental material to the agendized item. These written communications are accessible to the public through the City website and kept in packet archives. Do not include any personal or private information in written communications to the City that you do not wish to make public, as written communications are considered public records and will be made publicly available on the City website.*



# CITY OF CUPERTINO

## Agenda Item

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**25-14105**

**Agenda Date: 7/10/2025**  
**Agenda #: 1.**

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Subject: May 8, 2025 Public Safety Commission Meeting Minutes

Review and approve the May 8, 2025 Public Safety Commission meeting minutes.



**CITY OF CUPERTINO  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION  
10185 N Stelling Rd, Quinlan Conference Room  
Thursday, May 8, 2025  
6:00 PM  
DRAFT MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Das called the Public Safety Commission meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. in the Quinlan Community Center Conference Room, 10185 N Stelling Rd.

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioners present: Nirmalendu Das, Sidharth Rajaram, Sashikala Begur, Ravi Kiran Singh Sapaharam

Commissioners absent: None

City/County Staff present: Marta Drown, Jessica Suntay, West Valley Patrol Division  
Lieutenant Shawn Flores, Assistant Fire Chief Hector Estrada

Guest Speakers: None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Subject: March 13, 2025 Public Safety Commission Meeting Minutes

Recommended Action: Review and approve the March 13, 2025 Public Safety Commission meeting minutes.

Vice Chair Rajaram motioned to approve the March 13, 2025 Public Safety Commission meeting minutes as submitted. Commissioner Sapaharam seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**POSTPONEMENTS**

None

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Sonali Padgaonkar, Cupertino resident, discussed the Block Leader Program.

Marc Majewski, Cupertino resident, discussed the Public Safety Commission vacancy.

Sudeep Kumar, Cupertino resident, discussed a cross Cupertino Commission working group.

### ***Action Items***

Marta Drown, Block Leader Coordinator, to report back on:

- Policy requiring 80% of residents to sign a petition in order to install a Neighborhood Watch sign
- Status of ALPRs
- Data trend of solved burglary cases

### **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

None

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

2. Subject: Presentation on the Neighborhood Watch Program

Recommended Action: Receive a presentation from the Sheriff's Office on the Neighborhood Watch Program.

Lieutenant Shawn Flores and Block Leader Coordinator Drown, presented on the Neighborhood Watch Program.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions and made comments.

Chair Das opened public comment and the following people spoke on the item.

Sonali Padgaonkar, Cupertino resident  
Sudeep Kumar, Cupertino resident

Chair Das closed public comment.

3. Subject: Commissioner discussion on proposals to combat public safety concerns such as theft, burglaries, vandalism, and threats

Recommended Action: Discuss proposals to combat public safety concerns such as theft, burglaries, vandalism, and threats.

Chair Das proposed forming a Public Safety subcommittee.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions and made comments.

Chair Das opened public comment and the following person spoke on the item.

Sudeep Kumar, Cupertino resident

Chair Das closed public comment.

Commissioner Begur motioned to create a Public Safety subcommittee lasting two months, comprising Vice Chair Rajaram and Commissioner Begur for the purpose of investigating the needs of the Sheriff's Office and examining bottlenecks. Commissioner Sapaharam seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

## **REPORTS/UPDATES**

4. Subject: Monthly Update Reports

Recommended Action: Receive Monthly Update Reports from:

- Santa Clara County Fire District
  - o Reported as submitted.
- Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office
  - o Reported as submitted.

Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office reported before the Santa Clara County Fire District.

Chair Das opened public comment and the following person spoke on the item.

Marc Majewski, Cupertino resident

Chair Das closed public comment.

## ***Action Items***

Block Leader Coordinator Drown to report back on:

- Resident resources after a theft has occurred
- Invite Commission to upcoming Wildfire Workshops hosted by Santa Clara Fire District

## **STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS**

Block Leader Coordinator Drown presented the staff update as submitted.

Vice Chair Rajaram reported on the Public Safety Fair.

## **FUTURE AGENDA SETTING**

Chair Das requested a Public Safety subcommittee report.

Chair Das requested a presentation on the Block Leader Program.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Das adjourned the meeting at 9:03 p.m. to the July 10, 2025 meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Marta Drown, Block Leader Coordinator

Parks and Recreation Department

*Minutes approved at the \_\_\_\_\_ regular meeting*

DRAFT



# CITY OF CUPERTINO

## Agenda Item

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**25-14106**

**Agenda Date: 7/10/2025**

**Agenda #: 2.**

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Subject: Study Session on a state law mandated update to the Health and Safety Element.  
(Application No(s): GPA-2025-001; Applicant(s): City of Cupertino; Location: citywide)

That the Public Safety Commission receive the report and provide input on the recommended policy areas and/or programs in the Health and Safety Element.



**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
PLANNING DIVISION**

CITY HALL  
10300 TORRE AVENUE • CUPERTINO, CA 95014-3255  
TELEPHONE: (408) 777-3308 • FAX: (408) 777-3333  
CUPERTINO.ORG

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION STAFF REPORT**

Meeting: July 10, 2025

**Subject**

Study Session on a state law mandated update to the Health and Safety Element.  
(Application No(s): GPA-2025-001; Applicant(s): City of Cupertino; Location: citywide)

**Recommended Action**

That the Public Safety Commission receive the report and provide input on the recommended policy areas and/or programs in the Health and Safety Element.

**Discussion**

*Background:*

State law requires cities to initiate an update to the Safety Element (called the Health and Safety Element in the Cupertino General Plan) concurrently with an update to their Housing Element. While the process was initiated at the same time as the update to the 2023-2021 Housing Element update, the timeline for update of the Health and Safety Element has slipped for a variety of reasons, including, due to staff vacancies.

*Analysis:*

The City contracted with Placeworks, a planning consultancy firm, to assist with the preparation of the statutorily required updates to the Health and Safety Element. Placeworks staff has prepared a memo which outlines the topic areas for input from the Planning Commission to incorporate into a public draft of the Health and Safety Element. (See Attachment 1) This information will also be presented to the Planning Commission for its input at its regular meeting on July 8, 2025.

It is anticipated that a draft Health and Safety Element will be presented for consideration in late fall 2025.

**Environmental Impacts**

There are no environmental impacts from conducting this study session on a statutorily required update to the City's Health and Safety Element.

### Next Steps

The Public Safety Commission and public's input will be considered in drafting the Health and Safety Element, which will be presented for adoption by the Planning Commission and City Council later this year.

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Prepared by:

Piu Ghosh, Planning Manager

Reviewed and Approved for Submission by:

Luke Connolly, Acting Director of  
Community Development

### Attachments:

1. Memo from Placeworks dated June 24, 2025

## MEMORANDUM

DATE June 24, 2025

TO Luke Connolly, Assistant Director of Community Development  
Piu Ghosh, Planning Manager

FROM Tammy L. Seale, PlaceWorks, Principal  
Jacqueline Protsman Rohr, PlaceWorks, Project Manager  
Miles Barker, PlaceWorks, Associate

SUBJECT City of Cupertino Health and Safety Element Update - Policy Concepts Memo

### Introduction

The Safety Element is one of the State mandated elements of a General Plan focusing on natural and human caused hazards and the risks they cause to the community. The State requires cities to update Safety Elements upon the revision of the Housing Element or Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, both of which were adopted in 2024. The goal of the Safety Element is to protect the community, including residents, businesses, infrastructure, and the environment, from natural disasters and other hazards by establishing goals and policies that address potential hazards, evacuation, and emergency preparedness. This Health and Safety Element Update includes revised background content, updated mapping of hazards, updated policies and strategies to meet State law, a climate change vulnerability assessment, new adaptation and resilience policies and strategies, and an evacuation-constrained residential parcel analysis.

This memorandum provides an overview of the California Government Code requirements for General Plan Safety Elements, how the Cupertino Health and Safety Element will meet these requirements, and policy concepts for your consideration.

### Regulatory Framework

#### UPDATES TO SAFETY ELEMENT STATE LAW SINCE 2015

Since the previous Health and Safety Element was adopted in 2014, several new laws have come into effect. These include:

- **Senate Bill 1241:** Expands requirements related to flood and wildfire hazards by mandating the identification of responsible agencies and enhancing coordination efforts. It also emphasizes minimizing risks to new development and essential facilities from wildfire and flooding.

- **Senate Bill 379:** Requires the integration of climate change adaptation and resilience into the Safety Element, including preparation of a vulnerability assessment and the development of goals, policies, and implementation actions to improve community resilience.
- **Senate Bill 2140:** Allows for the incorporation of the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan into the Safety Element, which can increase eligibility for State and federal disaster relief funding.
- **Senate Bill 99:** Requires identification of residential parcels in hazard zones with less than two ingress/egress routes.
- **Assembly Bill 747/1409:** Requires the identification of evacuation route capacity, safety, and viability and evacuation locations under a range of hazard scenarios.

## UPDATING THE SAFETY ELEMENT TO MEET STATE LAW REQUIREMENTS

The California Government Code requires all local jurisdictions to update their Safety Element upon each revision of the Housing Element or Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. This update ensures that the Health and Safety Element meets current State law requirements and contains important components, such as climate change adaptation and evacuation. The following sections of the Government Code require updates to the existing Health and Safety Element to ensure continued consistency with regulatory requirements:

- **Section 65302(g)(2) – Flood Hazards (SB 1241):** The existing Health and Safety Element includes limited flood-related policies. The update will revise and expand these policies, add new ones, and include updated background information, such as recent flood mapping, past flooding events, flood control agency roles, and vulnerable critical infrastructure. The Health and Safety Element will also address flood resilience strategies for both existing and future development in flood-prone areas.
- **Section 65302(g)(3) – Fire Hazards (SB 1241):** The existing Health and Safety Element has some limited information about fire risk in Cupertino. The updated Health and Safety Element will include revised mapping (including new Fire Hazard Severity Zone Local Responsibility Area and State Responsibility Area maps), current wildfire conditions, responsible agencies, and policies to protect new development and essential facilities from fire hazards.
- **Section 65302(g)(4) – Climate Change Adaptation (SB 379):** The updated Health and Safety Element will incorporate a climate change vulnerability assessment, using the City's existing assessments and related documents. New goals, policies, and strategies focused on adaptation will also be added to address climate change adaptation and resilience based on the findings of the climate change vulnerability assessment.
- **Section 65302(g)(5) – Evacuation Constraints (SB 99):** The updated Element will identify residential parcels in hazard-prone areas that lack two or more emergency egress routes. The Health and Safety Element will include policies and strategies will be prepared to respond to the results of this mapping effort.
- **Section 65302(g)(15) – Evacuation Routes and Scenarios (AB 747):** The updated Health and Safety Element will include the identification of evacuation routes and locations capacity, safety, and viability under a range of scenarios. The City will conduct an evacuation analysis, which will identify

evacuation routes and locations, and information about their performance under different emergency scenarios.

## **Policy Concepts**

The following policy concepts are divided into the topics of the Health and Safety Element, including:

- Emergency preparedness and response
- Fire hazards
- Hazardous waste and materials
- Seismic and geologic hazards
- Flood and inundation hazards
- Climate change resilience

The policy concepts are based on the finding from the Vulnerability Assessment, findings from the evacuation-constrained residential parcels mapping, State requirements and guidance, and mitigation actions from the County's Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, including Cupertino's Annex. These concepts will inform preparation of updated goals, policies, and actions in the Element. Policy concepts with an asterisk (\*) directly relate to new development, redevelopment, or existing development.

### **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE**

#### **Existing**

- Coordinate with regional and local agencies on regional hazard mitigation planning, monitoring, and budgeting.
- Protect Cupertino from sea level rise through monitoring sea levels and updating flood insurance rate maps.
- Continue crime prevention through awareness programs and building and site design.

#### **Updated**

- Continue to provide emergency communications, notices, and hazard preparation/response/recovery materials, in multiple languages and formats appropriate for people with access and functional needs.

#### **Gaps and New Policy Concepts**

- \*Ensure new development and redevelopment comply with the most current version of the California Building Standards Code and local ordinances.
- \*Require new development to have at least two ingress and egress routes and explore secondary means of access in evacuation constrained residential areas.
- \*Require hillside development to provide and maintain adequate emergency access.
- Ensure adequate evacuation through maintaining potential evacuation routes and increased public awareness.
- Ensure adequate response times for emergency services.

## **CITY OF CUPERTINO | HEALTH AND SAFETY ELEMENT UPDATE**

### **POLICY CONCEPTS**

- Integrate the current County Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan by reference into the Health and Safety Element.
- Maintain inter-jurisdictional cooperation and coordination with agencies.
- Work with Santa Clara County to provide alerts about emergency situations through early-warning and notification systems in multiple languages and formats.
- Work with local agencies, volunteer groups, and community-based organizations to provide resources and educational programs to help residents respond to hazardous events.

## **FIRE HAZARDS**

### **Existing**

- \*Discourage the use of private security gates that act as a barrier to emergency response.

### **Updated**

- \*Require new development in High and Very High Fire Zones to comply with the California State Minimum Fire Safe Regulations and other State laws for ignition-resistant materials, defensible space, ingress and egress, emergency access, water supply for fire-flow, and fire protection plans.
- \*Coordinate long term water supply for firefighting through water extension letters for new development and working with water providers.
- \*Require existing public and private roadways to comply with current fire safety regulations.
- Involve Santa Clara County Fire Department early in development projects to ensure modifications as needed.

### **Gaps and New Policy Concepts**

- \*Avoid new residential development in high fire risk areas.
- Maintain adequate fire protection and enhance fire service capabilities through proactive maintenance of fire equipment, development review processes, and training fire personnel.
- Prioritize vegetation management and fire risk reduction along roadways and in open space areas.
- Develop plans for rebuilding and redevelopment after a major fire that incorporate site remediation, fire-wise design, and reduced future vulnerabilities.
- Offer educational materials, rebates, and incentives for property owners to retrofit their buildings and properties to improve fire safety.

## **HAZARDOUS WASTE AND MATERIALS**

### **Existing**

- Coordinate enforcement of standards for containment, handling, and disposal of hazardous materials in accordance with regulatory requirements to prevent spills, leaks, or illegal dumping.
- Provide educational resources to residents about the local sources of hazardous waste and materials in the community.
- Support efforts to reduce the level of risk from toxic and hazardous materials in Cupertino through regulations and educational efforts.

**Updated**

- \*Require environmental site assessments and mitigation for development near hazardous waste and materials sites.

**Gaps and New Policy Concepts**

- Continue to require radiofrequency studies for wireless developments and address public concerns about radiofrequency exposure and transparency.

**SEISMIC AND GEOLOGIC HAZARDS**

**Existing**

- \*Require geologic and seismic hazard assessments for development in mapped fault, landslide, and liquefaction zones.
- Increase public awareness of seismic and geologic risks and preparedness.
- Encourage retrofits to existing buildings that improve resiliency to geologic and seismic hazards.
- Maintain and share up-to-date seismic and geologic hazard data.

**Updated**

None

**Gaps and New Policy Concepts**

- \*Limit hillside grading on steep slopes to minimize landslide and erosion risks.

**FLOOD AND INUNDATION HAZARDS**

**Existing**

- Coordinate dam-related evacuation plans and notification systems and ensure that Cupertino is prepared to respond to a potential dam failure.
- Maintain the structural and operational integrity of essential public facilities and services during flooding.

**Updated**

- \*Allow existing non-residential uses in floodplains.
- \*Limit new development in 100-year floodplains and regulatory floodways and encourage open space/recreation uses in these areas.

**Gaps and New Policy Concepts**

- Maintain effective stormwater drainage systems through site design, infrastructure design, and retrofit existing systems.

## CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE

### Existing

None

### Updated

None

### Gaps and New Policy Concepts

- \*Work with property owners and new developments to enhance shading through the installation of shade structures and green infrastructure in public and private spaces.
- \*Encourage new developments and existing property owners to incorporate sustainable features into their facilities, landscapes, and structures.
- Integrate extreme heat as a significant hazard of concern into emergency preparedness and response.
- Work with water providers to implement water conservation measures.
- Increase the resiliency of City-owned structures to severe weather events.
- Establish community resilience centers communitywide, outside of hazard zones, ensuring adequate transit services to these facilities.
- Use green infrastructure and nature-based solutions, wherever feasible, to absorb the impacts of hazards.



# CITY OF CUPERTINO

## Agenda Item

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**25-14107**

**Agenda Date: 7/10/2025**  
**Agenda #: 3.**

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Subject: Public Safety Subcommittee Update

Receive an update from the Public Safety subcommittee.



# CITY OF CUPERTINO

## Agenda Item

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**25-14108**

**Agenda Date: 7/10/2025**  
**Agenda #: 4.**

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Subject: Presentation on the Block Leader Program

Receive a presentation from Staff Liaison on the Block Leader Program.



# CITY OF CUPERTINO

## Agenda Item

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**25-14109**

**Agenda Date: 7/10/2025**  
**Agenda #: 5.**

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Subject: Monthly Update Reports

Receive Monthly Update Reports from:

- Santa Clara County Fire District
- Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office