

CC 1-22-2025

#10

Weed Abatement
Program

Presentation

Weed Abatement Program

Cupertino City Council
January 22, 2025



CUPERTINO



Weed Abatement Program

- In place to prevent fire hazards posed by vegetative growth and combustible materials
- Managed by the Santa Clara County Department of Agriculture
- City Code 9.08 requires property owners to remove or destroy weeds
- Compliance is required annually by April 30 and throughout the year



Weed Abatement Program

- Noncompliant properties are added to the program
- Properties remain on the list for three years
- They are removed, if found to be hazard free during that time
- December 3, 2024 Council adopted Resolution No. 24-111 accepting the County report of noncompliant properties

Owner Responsibilities

Minimum Safety Standards

- Vegetation height must not exceed 6 inches
- Includes roadways and driveways
- Clear vegetation from 30' from structures
- Clear combustible debris
- Clear under the eaves of houses
- Clear roof and gutters
- Trim tree branches 10' from chimney

Example

Non-Compliant



Compliant



Example

Non-Compliant



Compliant



Abatement Options

- Option 1: homeowner completes the required work
- Option 2: authorized contractor completes the work, charges appearing on next property tax bill

Inspections

- The County begins conducting property inspections after April 30
- Every property in the program receives an initial inspection
- All properties are charged a \$105 inspection fee
- Fee covers County cost of servicing the property



Noticing to Property Owners

- December 20, County sent abatement and public hearing notice
- January 10, City sent a reminder letter

Recommended Action:

- Conduct hearing for impacted property owners to contest the matter of proposed abatement
- Adopt Resolution No. 25-006 ordering abatement of public nuisance from weeds or other fire hazards pursuant to provisions of Cupertino Municipal Code Chapter 9.08 and Resolution No. 24-111.

CC 1-22-2025

#12

FY 2025-2027 City Work
Program

Presentation

Council Prioritization & City Work Program (CWP) 2025-2027

01/22/2025

Tina Kapoor, Deputy City Manager



Recommended Actions for Tonight

1. Review each Councilmember's 10 projects for the FY 25-27 City Work Program. Total of 48 projects listed in Attachment C.
2. Receive a verbal overview of the prioritization process to finalize the City Work Program for the Goal Setting Workshop.
3. Confirm meeting date for upcoming Priority and Goal Setting Workshop.

Discussion Outline

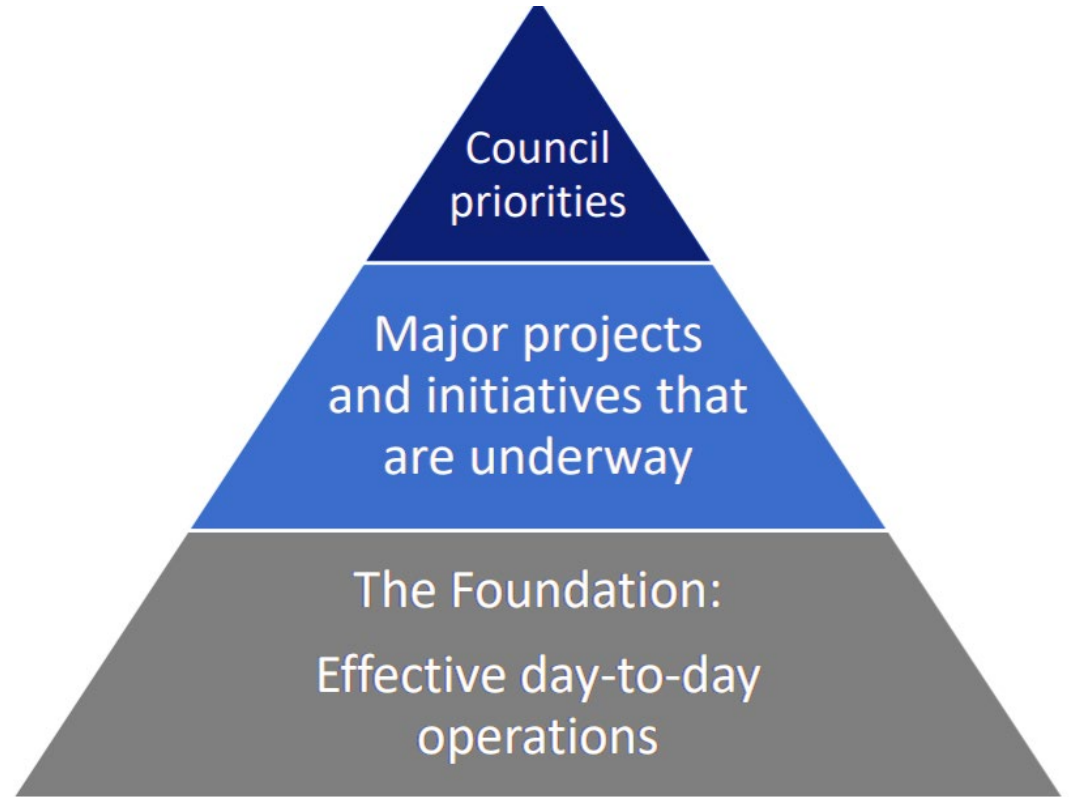
- What is CWP/Council Priorities
- Ingredients for a successful CWP
- The Two-Year CWP Process
- Councilmember Top Priorities for FY 2025-2027
- Preliminary Resource Allocation
- Community Survey
- Proposed CWP Adoption Process in February 2025

What is CWP?



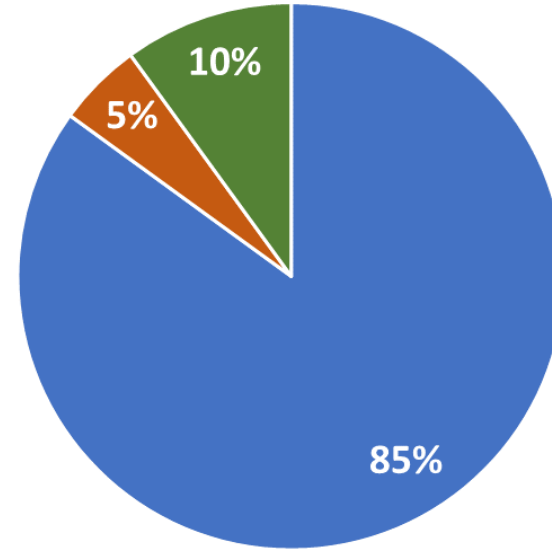
- Council's Opportunity to Provide Policy Direction.
- Identify Council's Top Priorities.
- Allocate Limited Resources.
- Report Periodically on Progress.

Context For Priorities



Time Allocation of Management Staff

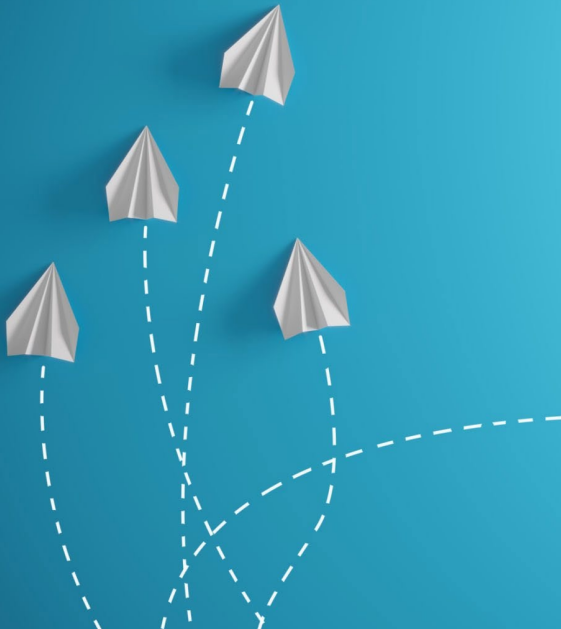
Management's Staff Time



- Day-to-Day management of municipal services
- Unforeseen challenges
- City Work Program

Ingredients for a Successful CWP

- Realistic goals with a focus on most important priorities.
- Creation of and agreement on process.
- Understanding limited organizational capacity.
- Ensuring accountability on implementing council priorities.



The Two-Year CWP Process

- 20 Projects
- Council focus on highest priority items.
- Acknowledgement of organizational capacity.
- Staying on track with the adopted work program.
- Clear process for agendizing future items.













Council's Top Priorities for FY 2025-2027













- Initial Top 10 projects submitted by each Councilmember (with preliminary estimates)
- Proposed list of projects
 - Existing CWP items
 - TBD
 - Staff Proposed









Mayor Chao Top 10 List

#	Title	Description	Lead Department	Council Goal	Est budget	Est staff hours
Proposed Items						
1	Enhance Senior Services	Due to the high cost of senior centers, many seniors have to "age in place", but do still need services typically provided in senior centers, in addition to common home maintenance.- - Utilizing the survey results conducted in 2022 and 2023 to meet the needs of Cupertino seniors - Consider consultant services similar to Palo Alto or Saratoga Senior Center to enhance services, while reducing cost to the city. NOTE: Cupertino Age-Friendly could make a presentation on the result of 2023 survey, in collaboration with the city staff. NOTE: Successful Aging Solutions & Community Consulting (SASCC), who runs the Saratoga Senior Center could provide a free gap analysis and feasibility analysis	Parks and Recreation	Quality of Life	\$\$\$	
2	Tax Measures on the 2026 Ballot	- Real Estate Transfer Tax (similar to Mountain View, San Jose and other cities) for large transactions - to capture profits made as a result of upzoning - Head tax (similar to Mountain View and other cities) for large employers or renegotiate tax sharing agreements - Sales tax (to be collected only if the county takes away the remaining 0.25%)	City Attorney's Office/ Administrative Services	Sustainability and Fiscal Strategy	\$\$	
3	Reduce the Scope of Memorial Park Plan to under \$40M	The Memorial Park Plan like other plans tend to include too many features in one park, which the city cannot afford to accommodate. We should reduce the scope to reduce the scope to under \$40M to only essential elements	Public Works	Sustainability and Fiscal Strategy	\$\$	
4	Adopt LOS and improve TDM Accountability	Adopt LOS (Level of Service), in addition to VMT (Vehicle Miles Traveled), in any traffic assessment, since LOS is still a better measure of traffic impact. Adopt requirements to ensure accountability of TDM (Traffic Demand Management) system since TDM often does not mitigate traffic impact as intended.	CDD/ Public Works	Transportation	\$\$	
5	Defensible Impact Fee Nexus Study for Traffic Impact Fee, Retail Impact Fee, BMR Impact Fee	With almost every infill project approval and revision, we are losing almost all retail with almost zero parking. New units tend to provide more town homes, rather than much needed smaller starter units or senior flats. With potential challenges to waive impact fees and design standards, a defensible Nexus study is necessary to protect the city in order to collect impact fees since California Constitution does not allow unfunded mandates levied on cities.	City Attorney's Office/CDD/Public Works/ CMO	Sustainability and Fiscal Strategy	\$\$	
6	Urban Forest Plan to improve foliage coverage	Develop/Implement an urban forest plan to improve the foliage coverage of public spaces. - There are trees that use less water, but provide larger foliage coverage, for public spaces - Protect mature trees in parks and sidewalks, rather than cutting down a whole row of trees. - Protect mature trees in private commercial areas NOTE: To expand the current work program item on the Tree List.	Public Works	Sustainability and Fiscal Strategy	\$\$	
7	Strategies to Enhance Sales Tax Revenue	Develop strategies to improve sales tax revenue, including, but not limited to: - With each infill redevelopment, provide transparency on the retail space and loss in retail categories and sales tax revenue - Find out what businesses generate B2B taxes in Cupertino and in other cities - Attract businesses that generate sales taxes to Cupertino - Explore potential incentives to attract them to Cupertino, such as tax breaks or fee waivers	City Manager's Office	Sustainability and Fiscal Strategy	\$\$	
8	Enhance Notification Methods for Development Projects and General Plan Amendments	* Consider a community meeting requirement for any major project application, especially those requiring a general plan amendment, as some other cities have adopted.* Consider increasing notification radius from 300 feet to 500 feet (or even 1000 feet for major projects) for any project application, especially those requiring a general plan amendment.* Consider additional notification requirements for any project application seeking waivers of existing standards, such as parking reduction, building height, setback, retail space reduction, and impact fees.NOTE: For city-wide general plan amendment, notification through the newspaper has been insufficient.	Community Development	Public Engagement and Transparency	\$	
9	Enhance Art In-Lieu Fee policy for better engagement	Each development project has to dedicate art in-lieu fee, but the selection process does not engage the public to benefit the city as a whole. Explore policies adopted in other cities for better public engagement. NOTE: To expand the current work program item "Art in Public and Private Areas": Revisit Municipal Code standards for art in public and private development, including the standards in the Municipal Code and developing an Art-in-lieu fee policy.	Community Development	Quality of Life	\$	
10	Commission Enhancement	- Reinstate Economic Development Committee - Reinstate Legislative Review Committee - Reinstate Environment Review Subcommittee under Planning Commission - Restore and improve the responsibility of Audit Committee to include more oversight authorities - Extend Planning Commission to cover transportation related issues, including lane reduction.	CAO/ City Manager's Office/	Public Engagement and Transparency	\$	











Vice Mayor Moore Top 10 List

#	Title	Description	Lead Department	Council Goal	Est budget	Est staff hours
Proposed Items						
1	Work Program Discussion	Review Work Program History, key takeaways, best practices, mission and vision, goal categories, staff suggestions for process improvement and workload management.	City Manager's Office	Sustainability and Fiscal Strategy	\$	
2	Support for the Unhoused 2.0	Continue this work program item. Determine best practices for limited budget smaller cities to support the unhoused. Review RV practices in surrounding cities. Review transitional housing outcomes in surrounding cities.	Community Development	Quality of Life	\$	
3	Public Safety 2.0	Current Work program has license plate readers and strengthening of the block leader program. This would expand to include 1) fire safety public education (staff has this underway paired with SCCFD and County Weed abatement) 2) night time public safety of pedestrians and bicyclists: "We're Bright at Night" type of campaign which can involve Bike/Ped Commission/SR2S/Fall Bike Fest and more, possibly grants are available and 3) add another round of earthquake preparedness public service announcements. 4) updates on the CA home insurance crisis may also be provided to see how Sacramento is working on it and consider support for efforts. 5) Add at least one Public Safety forum from Sheriffs and FD on a topic of choice (the cybersecurity forum was very informative, for example).	City Manager's Office	Quality of Life	\$\$\$	
4	Green Up Cupertino	1) Review and consider an update to the Green Business Certification program and consider a relaunch of it. And/or: 2) Coordinate Caltrans/VTA I-280 clean ups like the De Anza exit events with public volunteer opportunities (aim for two per year).	Public Works/CMO	Sustainability and Fiscal Strategy	\$\$	
5	Tree List 2.0	Continue the tree list update and add to begin planting any missing parkway trees along SCB and De Anza Blvd. and adding trees to turfed (grass) areas of parks with the goal of planting 100 or more trees on city property annually and creating one tree grove (mini forest like the redwood grove by the Library) in an underutilized area in a park. Hold at least one tree planting event the public can participate in. Provide some education regarding the importance of trees for our environment (carbon sequestration).	Public Works	Sustainability and Fiscal Strategy	\$\$	
6	City Water Conservation/ Turf Conversion	Analyze city's water use and determine where reductions and improvements may be made holistically. Address CUSD water usage from Field Use Agreement in the analysis. Provide more publicly available information regarding artificial turf/plastics in the environment. Convert city owned turf areas to climate appropriate/native plantings with goal of converting 1 acre of non-functional turf to California pollinator supporting plantings/trees.	Public Works	Sustainability and Fiscal Strategy	\$\$\$	
7	City Properties 2.0	Stocklmeir, Torre, City Hall and other properties need maintenance and plans for the future.	Public Works	Quality of Life	\$\$	
8	Bus Stop Inventory	Determine what stops need upgrades (shade/seating/safety lighting). Coordinate with VTA for improvements.	Public Works	Transportation	\$	
9	SV Hopper 2.0	Determine fiscal sustainability of the program post-grant funding. Provide at least 2 updates on ridership/costs annually.	Public Works	Transportation	\$	
10	Environmental hazards	Add Geotracker and DTSC sites to the GIS mapping layers in the city to improve public awareness.	Information & Technology	Public Engagement and Transparency	\$	











Councilmember Fruen Top 10 List

#	Title	Description	Lead Department	Council Goal	Est budget	Est staff hours
Proposed Items						
1	Urban Forest 10-Year Plan	Develop a plan and implementation strategy to increase the tree canopy in Cupertino to achieve at least 30% coverage in every city neighborhood by 2035 using climate-resilient species.	Public Works/ Community Development	Sustainability and Fiscal Strategy	\$\$	
2	Small Business Revitalization Plan	Develop a plan and implementation strategy to support (1) new small business establishment; (2) preservation of existing small businesses in order to improve placemaking in the city and the city's revenue stream.	City Manager's Office	Quality of Life	\$\$	
3	Active Transportation Plan	Continue the existing CWP item.	Public Works	Transportation	\$\$	
4	Public Engagement Strategy and Policies in Support of Planning Initiatives	Consolidate existing CWP (Attachment B Item 10) and proposed CWP public engagement-related items (Attachment B Items 4 and 5) to establish more focused policies governing public outreach and engagement with respect to General Plan amendments and rezonings with special consideration to lessons learned from the 6th RHNA Cycle Housing Element revision.	CDD/CMO	Public Engagement and Transparency	\$\$	
5	Commercial Diversification Plan	Develop a plan and implementation strategy to diversify the range and types of medium-sized businesses operating in the city.	City Manager's Office	Quality of Life	\$\$	
6	Permit Streamlining and Simplification for Small Home Upgrades	Develop a suite of improvements to (1) improve access to, and (2) speed the processing of permits for small home upgrades so as to enhance compliance and improve overall efficiency.	Community Development	Quality of Life	\$	
7	Heart of the City Specific Plan Update	Continue the existing CWP item.	Community Development	Quality of Life	\$\$\$	
8	Bicycle Facilities	Continue the existing CWP item.	Public Works	Transportation	\$	

Councilmember Mohan Top 10 List

#	Title	Description	Lead Department	Council Goal	Est budget	Est staff hours
Proposed Items						
1	Business Revitalization	Explore options to support small businesses, fill empty storefronts, and encourage entry of new forms of retail to promote revitalization	City Manager's Office	Sustainability and Fiscal Strategy	\$\$	
2	Expedite and/or streamline building permit and inspection permit processes	This is needed to remove gridlock in construction, repairs and remodeling. When processes get cumbersome, they get circumvented. Delays impact property tax and permitting fees revenues	Community Development	Sustainability and Fiscal Strategy	\$\$	
3	City Hall Seismic Safety Issues	Determine options to deal with City Hall seismic safety: pros and cons of retrofit, remodel, lease temporary facility, purchase a new building	Public Works/CMO	Sustainability and Fiscal Strategy	\$	
4	Urban Forest Program	Expand tree list review in current CWP to include specifics to develop an urban forest plan to increase trees, landscaping and greenery in all parts of	Public Works	Quality of Life	\$\$	
5	Leadership Academy	Re-establish leadership program in collaboration with neighboring cities and non-profits - to educate the public on public policy issues, and encourage new participation in city's civic life.	City Manager's Office	Public Engagement and Transparency	\$	
6	Update City's Impact fees	Update governing policies and guidelines for all impact fees	City Attorney's Office	Sustainability and Fiscal Strategy	\$\$	
7	General Plan Community Meetings	Consider community meetings for any development or project that requires a GP amendment.	Community Development	Public Engagement and Transparency	\$	
8	Blackberry Farms Pool and Picnic Area - CEQA Review	Consider eliminating the 100-day restricted operation of Blackberry Farms picnic area facilities, including Swimmy Pools. Current restrictions have a negative impact on the City budget by limiting fee-use activities year round.	Parks and Rec/Public Works	Quality of Life	\$\$	
9	Lehigh Quarry	Continue to monitor quarry activities and present bi-annual updates to Council. Collaboration with County and neighboring cities is encouraged.	Community Development/CMO	Public Engagement and Transparency	\$	
10	Ad Hoc Senior Commission	Establish an ad-hoc senior commission to create channels of communication between the senior population, senior center, senior living facilities - and address concerns re: housing, transportation, medical facilities.	Parks and Recreation/CAO	Quality of Life	\$	

Councilmember Wang Top 10 List

#	Title	Description	Lead Department	Council Goal	Est budget	Est staff hours
Proposed Items						
1	Emergency Operations Readiness	Review fire, earthquake tornado, active shooter, Tsunami, hazardous transport accident policies; and ensure EOC is active and functioning with a permanent position not consultant running the program.	City Manager's Office	Sustainability and Fiscal Strategy	\$\$	
2	Economic Development	Restore economic development committee, explore grant writer position, attract startups and companies in the tech ecosystem.	City Manager's Office	Sustainability and Fiscal Strategy	\$\$	
3	Small Business Revitalization Ordinance	Streamline permitting process, explore more themed events like restaurant week and bobatino, attract more festivals, create a small business council, provide regulatory support.	City Manager's Office/ Parks and Rec	Sustainability and Fiscal Strategy	\$	
4	SFH permitting review process.	Improve turnaround times. Set SLA's for staff and outsourced reviewers, customer service KPI's, templates to reduce back and forth, internal staff expertise to reduce consulting expenses. Simplify permitting for small home	Community Development	Quality of Life	\$	
5	Major thoroughfare congestion study and road improvements.	Study De Anza, Stevens Creek, Stelling, Wolfe, Homestead, and Bollinger, Road improvement options include adaptive traffic signals, no turns on red near schools during school hours, street paving, and traffic enforcement of bikers, cars, and pedestrians.	Public Works	Quality of Life	\$\$	
6	Memorial Park Renovation	Reduce plan or place in phases, consider revenue models such as concessions and services in the mix for the park.	Parks and Recreation/Public Works	Quality of Life	\$	
7	City Hall Retrofit and EOC Readiness Plan	Implement the previously approved 2022 Council plan with EOC migration.	Public Works	Sustainability and Fiscal Strategy	\$	
8	Public Safety - Block Leader and Neighborhood Watch	Strengthen Block Leader/Neighborhood Watch programs to ensure the leaders are active and expand the coverage of active neighborhoods.	City Manager's Office	Quality of Life	\$	
9	License Plate Readers	Deploy city-owned license plate readers and implement policies to allow neighborhood-owned ones.	City Manager's Office	Quality of Life	\$\$	
10	5G Ordinance	Update 5G Ordinance	Public Works	Quality of Life	\$	

Items to Remove

Mayor Chao

- Recycled Water Feasibility Study

Councilmember Mohan

- City Treasurer Review
- Financial, Investment, and Cashflow Policy Review
- General Plan Notifications
- Heart of the City (HOC) Specific Plan update
- Public Engagement Strategy
- Art in Public and Private Areas




Councilmember Fruen

- Consolidate Tree list items into Urban Forest 10-yr Plan
- Consolidate Public Engagement Strategy and General Plan Notifications

Councilmember Wang


- Lehigh Quarry
- Tree List
- Art in Public and Private Areas
- Bicycle Facilities


Preliminary Resource Allocation

Staffing Estimates	
 - Small	1-300 hrs
 - Medium	301-1000 hrs
 - Large	1001+ hrs

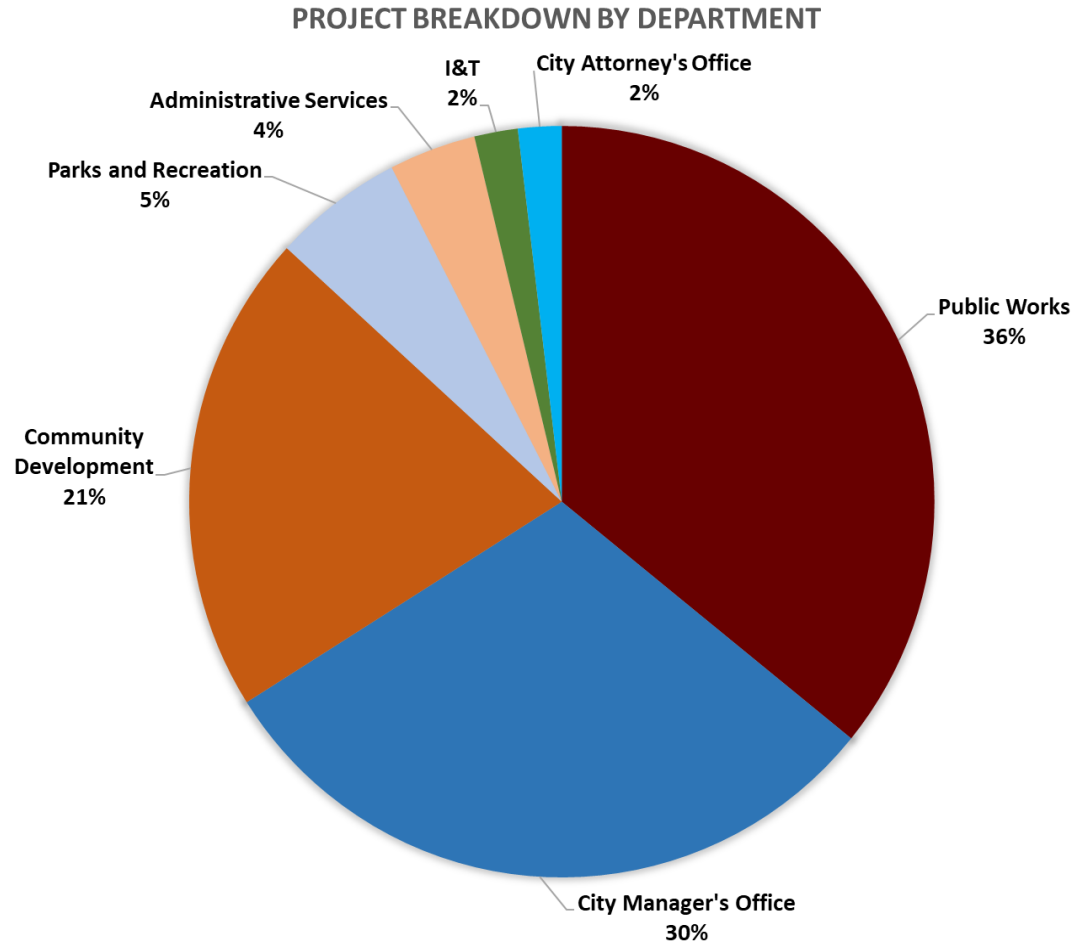
Budget Estimates	
\$ - Small	Under \$60k
\$\$ - Medium	\$61k-\$500k
\$\$\$ - Large	\$500k+

Hmm.. Large or Small?

City Hall Seismic Safety Issues	Determine options to deal with City Hall seismic safety: pros and cons of retrofit, remodel, lease temporary facility, purchase a new building	Public Works/CMO	Sustainability and Fiscal Strategy	\$	
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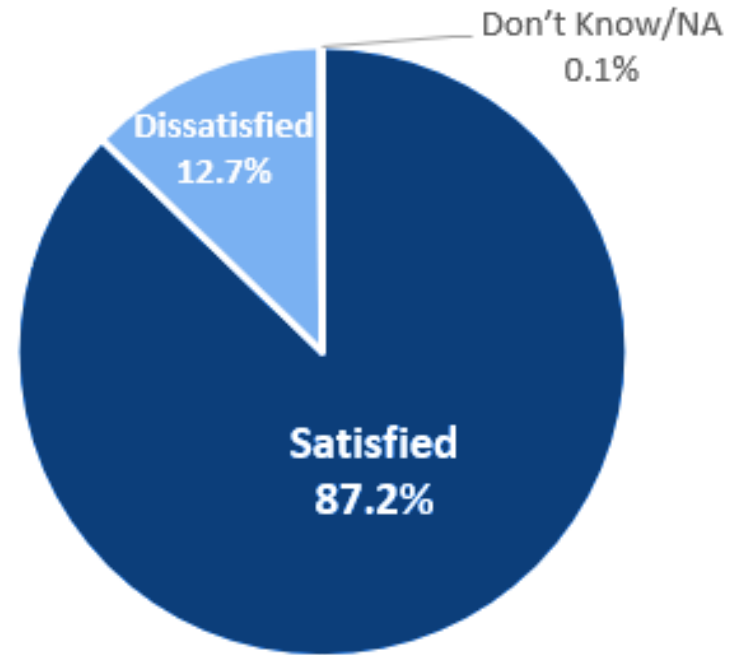
Strategies to Enhance Sales Tax Revenue	<p>Develop strategies to improve sales tax revenue, including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - With each infill redevelopment, provide transparency on the retail space and loss in retail categories and sales tax revenue - Find out what businesses generate B2B taxes in Cupertino and in other cities - Attract businesses that generate sales taxes to Cupertino - Explore potential incentives to attract them to Cupertino, such as tax breaks or fee waivers 	City Manager's Office	Sustainability and Fiscal Strategy	\$\$	
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Breakdown of Initial List of CWP Projects By Departments



2024 Community Survey Results

Overall Satisfaction



Proposed Adoption Process for FY 2025-2027






BEFORE

- Councilmembers send revised list by Feb 14 (if workshop on 3/1).
- Staff will further refine estimates needed based on the revised list.

DURING

- Councilmembers will rank all projects on the list.
- Councilmembers will finalize CWP projects.

Preliminary Resource Allocation

Staffing Estimates	
 - Small	1-300 hrs
 - Medium	301-1000 hrs
 - Large	1001+ hrs

Budget Estimates	
\$ - Small	Under \$60k
\$\$ - Medium	\$61k-\$500k
\$\$\$ - Large	\$500k+

Examples of Small and Medium Projects

Reduce the Scope of Memorial Park Plan to under \$40M	The Memorial Park Plan like other plans tend to include too many features in one park, which the City cannot afford to accommodate. We should reduce the scope to under \$40M to only essential elements.
Bus Stop Inventory	Determine what stops need upgrades (shade/seating/safety lighting). Coordinate with VTA for improvements.
Active Transportation Plan	Continue the existing CWP item.
Leadership Academy	Re-establish leadership program in collaboration with neighboring cities and non-profits to educate the public on public policy issues, and encourage new participation in City's civic life.
Public Safety - Block Leader Neighborhood Watch	Strengthen Block Leader/Neighborhood Watch programs to ensure the leaders are active and expand the coverage of active neighborhoods.

Process for FY 2025-2027 CWP Workshop

OPTION 1	OPTION 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Councilmembers refine and send their Top 5 projects to staff after the January 22 Study Session.• Staff will bring refined estimates for revised list to the workshop.• Council will consider the list and finalize the FY 2025-27 CWP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Councilmembers keep 10 projects on their list after the January 22 Study Session.• Staff will bring refined estimates for these items to the workshop.• Each Councilmember will have 5 chips that can be placed on any of the 5 projects on the combined list.• Council will finalize the FY 2025-27 CWP.

2025 JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

2025 FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

2025 MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



Audit
Arts Comm
Comm Interviews

Comm Interviews
Planning Comm.

Observed Holiday

Hold for Comm Interviews

Glow Night Golf

Community Meeting

Planning Comm.

SR2S
Teen Comm.

2025 State of the City

Glow Night Golf

Arts & Culture Comm.

Holiday

Planning Comm.

Housing Comm.

City Council

Library Comm.

Parks and Rec Comm

Sweet-heart Social

City Council

TICC

Parks and Rec Comm.

Big Bunny 5K

Planning Comm.

SR2S Working Group
Teen Comm.

Public Safety Comm.

City Council

Bike/Ped Comm.
Compost Workshop

Spring Swing Scramble

Recommended Actions for Tonight

1. Review each Councilmember's 10 projects for the FY 25-27 City Work Program. Total of 48 projects listed in Attachment C.
2. Receive a verbal overview of the prioritization process to finalize the City Work Program for the Goal Setting Workshop.
3. Confirm meeting date for upcoming Priority and Goal Setting Workshop.

Thank you!