



## CITY COUNCILMEMBER REPORT

Meeting: Tuesday, May 20, 2025

Reporting Councilmember: Mayor Liang Chao

Report Dates: 4/30/25 to 5/13/25

- Last Activity Report in the [May 6, 2025 Council Meeting Agenda](#)

### **Section 1: Announcement - Message from the Mayor:**

#### ❖ Mayor's Initiatives:

- **Cupertino Stories:** You are welcome to email entries to [CupertinoStories@gmail.com](mailto:CupertinoStories@gmail.com).
  - Thank you to Cupertino Science Technology University (CSTU) for managing the project. They have developed tools to convert audio/video stories to text.
  - The website will be redesigned soon to accept story submissions.
- **Booth at the Festivals:** Thank you for volunteers helping to support the Mayor's Initiatives Booth at April 5 Earth Day Festival and April 26 & April 27 Cherry Blossom Festival.
- **Dance in the Plaza:** The first **Dance in the Plaza was held on Saturday April 12 from 2:30-5:30pm**. Thank you for Amazing Taiwan for sponsoring the event. We had a lot of fun. The second Dance in the Plaza will be held in June. Date to be announced later.
- **Volunteer Appreciation:** The Mayor hosted an Appreciation Dinner for CERT, CARE, ARM volunteers and block leaders on April 17 after a proclamation was presented to them at the April 15 Council Meeting. About 50 people attended. Many have served over 10, 20 years and some even served 30 years. Thank you to AlphaX for sponsoring the dinner.
- **Tech Icon: Cupertino Stories of Entrepreneurship on Sunday June 1 4pm to 6pm at Community Hall.** Register at <https://www.techicon.org/register>. We will hear the stories from two Cupertino entrepreneurs [Arun Santhebennur](#), CEO & Co-Founder of Voicegain & [Srini Dharmaji](#), Head of Product at Airtime. Arun is currently the CEO & Co-Founder of Voicegain and Srini is currently the Head of Product at Airtime. Amongst them, they've founded five different companies in the technology space.
- **Community Multicultural Juried Art Show at the AAPI Multicultural Festival:** The Cupertino Art Show will be held on Saturday May 24, from 12pm to 4pm in collaboration with the [APPI Multicultural Festival](#). Submit your entries by May 18 at <https://aapicommunityjuriedartshow.artcall.org/> ([Call for Submission flyer](#))



- ❖ **Monthly Chat with Mayor 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 last Mayor's Chat was held at Lee's Sandwiches on May 12th. We started at 4:30pm to meet local businesses, where Daniel Degu, the Economic Development Manager, also joined. Then, we had the monthly chat in a packed room with Acting City Manager Tina Kapoor..
  - The next Monthly Chat with the Mayor will be held on Monday June 9th at 5pm. The location is to be announced later.

**YOUR CITY, YOUR VOICE MATTERS !**

**MONTHLY CHAT WITH MAYOR**

**MONDAY, MAY 12**  
**5PM ~ 6PM**

Residents and businesses are invited to these meetings to talk about any topic they wish in a relaxed setting.

Mayor Liang Chao

Meet you at **LEE'S SANDWICHES**

20363 STEVENS CREEK BLVD  
CUPERTINO, CA 95014  
(IN THE ST. JOSEPH PLAZA)

PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES:  
LeeSandwiches.com ☎ 408-446-5030  
Dr. Thai PremierCareDentistry.com ☎ 408-889-6058

SIGN UP FOR E-NOTIFICATIONS:  
[Cupertino.gov/MayorChat](https://cupertino.gov/MayorChat)

CHECK OUT MAYOR'S INITIATIVES:  
[Cupertino.gov/MayorInitiatives](https://cupertino.gov/MayorInitiatives)

CUPERTINO

**MONTHLY CHATS**  
With Cupertino Mayor Liang Chao

Get ready to discuss the issues that matter most to you. Mayor Liang Chao is hosting a Monthly Chat Series in Cupertino throughout 2025. Residents and businesses are invited to these meetings to talk about any topic they wish with one of the City's decision-makers.

Monthly Chats will be held on the second Monday of each month at 5 to 6 p.m. with the location to be announced ahead of each Monthly Chat.

Suggestions for future locations to host Monthly Chats are welcome. Please email your ideas to [LChao@cupertino.gov](mailto:LChao@cupertino.gov).

**2025 DATES**

Monday, January 13	Monday, July 14
Monday, February 10	Monday, August 11
Monday, March 10	Monday, September 8
Monday, April 14	Monday, October 13
Monday, May 12	Monday, November 10
Monday, June 9	Monday, December 8

For more details and upcoming locations, please visit [cupertino.gov/mayorchat](https://cupertino.gov/mayorchat).

LEARN MORE

- ❖ **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 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.
- ❖ **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](mailto: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

### 2025-05-08 Santa Clara County Recycle and Waste Reduction Committee

- Accepted an update on the budget since there is a reduction in the expected revenue.
- Directed staff to explore adopting a Household Hazardous Waste Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Ordinance to address the increase in cost for jurisdictions to manage hazardous waste generated by

residents.

- A draft ordinance will be considered for adoption by the County for adoption. Alameda County has adopted the first EPR ordinance.

### Alameda County: 1<sup>st</sup> EPR Ordinance in the U.S.

- **7/24/2012:** Adopts first EPR ordinance for meds in U.S.
- **12/29/14:** PhRMA and other plaintiff organizations file a Petition For Writ of Certiorari asking the U.S. Supreme Court to consider the case – [Petition text](#)
- **5/26/15: Denied! National Impact!**
- EPR in U.S. allowed so long as the product has a public health and safety nexus



- State Bills related to EPR:

### CALL TO ACTION

- Local governments to lead to pass HHW ordinances to make changes at statewide adoption!
- Support EPR in CA:
  1. SB 501 (Allen) HHW EPR
  2. SB 561 (Blakespear) Emergency Distress Flare EPR
  3. SB 615 (Allen) Vehicle Traction Batteries EPR
  4. AB 998 (Hadwick) Vaping Products School Costs



## 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.

### 2025-05-01 Attended Award Ceremony for the 2025 Asian American Stories at HL Peninsula Restaurant at Milpitas

- The [Silicon Valley Community Media](#) have received over 90 one-minute stories to spotlight individuals who have made significant contributions to Asian American literature, film, art and culture.

### 2025-05-02 Attended the [2025 TiEcon](#) Gala Dinner at Santa Clara Convention Center

- TiE was founded 33 years ago in Silicon Valley with members from all over the world. They foster



entrepreneurship by meaningful conversations and engagements throughout the year. The theme of the conference this year was AI Verse: Technology, Industry, Trends.

- The evening also features live band, songs and dancing.

**2025-05-03 [InAtalent](#) Volunteer Appreciation at Community Hall**

- InAtalent in its 9th year is dedicated to enriching communities through the passion and talents of volunteers. They have performed at senior and medical centers to bring joy to their residents and patients. They have sent cards and donated to them.
- I and Councilmember Mohan handed out certificates from the City and also Presidential Volunteer Awards to the volunteers.

**2025-05-04 Attended the fundraiser performance by Jazz bands from Be Natural Music at Dar Restaurant and Bar, Los Gatos**

- **Be Natural Music** began in Santa Cruz and has recently expanded with a new campus in Cupertino, near Blaney and Stevens Creek. The school offers music education for all ages and proudly supports more than 30 student-led bands in the Cupertino area.

**2025-05-04 Attended the Taiwan Hand Puppet Show at the Community Hall**

- An amazing performance by talented artists! Each hand puppet was handcrafted with delicate detail, bringing every character to life. A live band accompanied the show, perfectly syncing music with the puppets' movements. The children in the audience laughed with delight throughout the performance.
- After the show, a hands-on workshop invited kids to create their own hand puppets using plastic bottles and fabric scraps—an inspiring and creative experience for all!

**2025-05-05 Attended CUSD's Future Ready Learning Dinner and Discussion at the former Meyerholz Elementary School GLC**

- The keynote speaker addressed the essential skills children will need in an age where AI is transforming every aspect of our lives. The speech was followed by small group discussions focused on CUSD's goals for student success.

**2025-05-09 Attended 2025 West Valley College Scholarship Celebration, invited by the League of Women Voters, Southwest Santa Clara Valley**

- Many organizations that provide scholarship awards have the opportunity to meet with the recipients and share their life experiences, along with valuable advice for their academic journey. The League of Women Voters of Southwest Santa Clara Valley offers an annual scholarship made possible through a generous donation from a late member.

**2025-05-09 Attended the Health Expo at the Cupertino Senior Center**

- The Health Expo was well attended, featuring a wide range of senior service providers.
- Volunteers from the Cupertino Stories team hosted a booth to share information about the project and encourage attendees to submit their own stories.

**2025-05-12 Monthly Chat with Mayor at the Lee's Sandwiches**

- The **pilot Business Corner** kicked off at 4:30 PM, offering a chance to connect with local businesses.
- At 5:30 PM, businesses were invited to give a 30-second pitch and share flyers or giveaways. Dr. Thai of Premier Care Dentistry and Annie Le, owner of Lee's Sandwiches, shared the services they provide.
- Residents brought up a range of community concerns—from the 100-truck activity at Vallco to speeding on Prospect Road. We encouraged everyone to follow up by sending emails or submitting Cupertino 311 tickets so we can address these issues promptly.

## **Section 4: Information of Interest to My Constituents: (updated on 4/8)**

- **Builders' Remedy (BR) Projects ([Status of Projects](#))**
  - ★ **BR Projects with incomplete application status (pursuant to Government Code Section 65941.1.)**
    - [20739 Scofield](#) (one block from Faria Elementary School, zoned R1-10): The project will replace one single-family home with 20-unit, 5 story, condominium on 15,004 sqft (0.34 acre) lot
    - [Vista Heights \(near entrance of Linda Vista Park\)](#) : The vacant site, zoned RHS, will build 33 units (8 condominiums and 25 single family homes on vacant hillside property of 86.1 acres.
    - [Upland Way](#) (11841 Upland Way, zoned RHS-70): 6 single family homes, including 2 affordable units, on vacant hillside property of 1.56 acres with average slopes greater than 30%
  - ★ **Other active BR projects:**
    - [Dividend Homes \(20085 & 20111 Stevens Creek Blvd\)](#), to the east of the Fire Station, on 2.6 acres, zoned R4 and commercial mixed use. The project will replace two existing office buildings with 57 for-sale townhomes., including 12 affordable units.
    - [Dividend Homes \(20045 & 20065 Stevens Creek Blvd\)](#), to the east of the Fire Station, on 1.77 acres, zoned commercial mixed use. The project will replace existing office buildings with 32 for-sale townhomes., including 6 affordable units.
  - ★ **Relevant News on the determination of incompleteness for BR projects:**
    - ["Los Gatos Files Declaratory Relief Action to Resolve Land Use Uncertainty"](#) (Press Release from the City of Los Gatos)
      - "That section [Gov. Code 65941.1] provides that applicants for land use approvals have 90 days after an initial 180-day deadline to submit any missing information needed to complete a formal application for a so-called "builder's remedy" housing project. **That section further stipulates that if the missing information is not submitted "within the 90-day period, then the preliminary application shall expire and have no further force or effect."**
      - "In an apparently conflicting reading, in letters dated August 30, 2024 and February 12, 2025, the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) **stated its view that there is not just one 90-day period but that successive 90-day periods can run indefinitely.** By filing this lawsuit, the Town is acting in good faith so that it will know how to comply with the law and ensure it can continue to serve its residents and property owners, while lawfully processing land use applications."
  - ★ **Other docs:**
    - The July 25, 2024 info memo, titled ["Scofield Drive SB330 Preliminary Application pursuant to Builder's Remedy"](#), has information about proposed BR projects and their review process.
- **[Other Residential Projects](#) - complete applications submitted, not yet approved:**
  - [Pizza Hut/Staples/ Fontana's \(20770, 20830, 20840, & 20850 Stevens Creek Blvd\)](#). adjacent to the Cupertino Crossroads Shopping Center): on 2.97 acres, zoned commercial mixed use. The project will replace existing retail stores with 59 townhome condominium units across eight, three-story buildings
  - [United Furniture \(10065 & 10075 Stevens Creek Blvd, across from Vallco\)](#), on 2.72 acres, zoned

## Councilmember Report

commercial mixed use. The project will replace existing retail stores with 55 townhome condominium units, with 10 ADUs, three-story buildings

- [Stevens Office Center \(20813, 20823, 20883 and 20807 Stevens Creek Blvd\)](#), on 6.93 acres, zoned commercial mixed use. The project will replace two office buildings and one retail building with 122 for-sale units (66 small-lot single family and 56 townhomes), including 24 affordable units
- [20865 McClellan Rd](#): on 0.99 acres, zoned R3TH. The project will replace one single-family home with 27 townhomes, including 4 affordable units, in three-story buildings
- [Evelich Court \(10857, 10867, 10877 & 10887 Linda Vista Dr\)](#): on 2.53 acres, zoned R3TH. The project will replace 4 single-family homes with 51 townhomes, including 11 affordable units
- **Other Residential Projects - SB 330 preliminary application submitted, but not complete applications:**
  - [Wolfe Road Housing Project \(10333 N. Wolfe Road\)](#): 250-300 total units across the 5-acre property. It will be 100% rental apartments. The affordable housing will benefit those making 80% or less of the area median income (AMI).
    - a full report on our Listening Phase at [this link](#).
    - February 12 Community Co-Creation Event at Collins Elementary School
- **Other Residential Projects - Revision of already approved projects:**
  - **Westport Senior Assisted Living Housing (revision submitted):** The developer Related has submitted a revision to add more units, reduce retail space, remove the underground garage and request a waiver of Parkland dedication Fee. It is going to the Planning Commission in May
    - Previous approval in 2021 and 2024: [Westport \(21267 Stevens Creek Blvd\)](#)
  - [Marina Plaza \(10145 N. De Anza Blvd, 10118 Bandlely Dr.\)](#), on 5.1 acres, zoned commercial and mixed use: The project will add more units, slightly reduce retail space, deliver over smaller for-sale starter homes under 1500 sq. ft. and an outdoor amphitheater.
    - Previous approval in 2022L Marina Plaza.
- **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 (not updated):

### 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](http://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:

## Councilmember Report

- 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
- **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”

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