Regular Session

A. Call To Order

Mayor Nash called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Combs, Mueller, Nash, Taylor, Wolosin
Absent: None
Staff: Interim City Manager Justin Murphy, Assistant City Attorney Greg Rubens, City Clerk Judi A. Herren

C. Agenda Review

None.

D. Report from Closed Session

No reportable actions.

E. Public Comment

- Jeff Schmidt spoke in support of community centers, teachers, parents, and creating a destination for community activities.

F. Presentations and Proclamations

F1. Introduction: Menlo Park Fire Protection District Chief Mark Lorenzen

Mayor Nash introduced Menlo Park Fire Protection District Chief Mark Lorenzen.

F2. Presentation: Downtown market study (Attachment)

Interim City Manager Justin Murphy introduced the item.

HdL ECONSolutions representatives Barry Foster and Kirstin Hinds made the presentation (Attachment).

- Katie Behroozi spoke in support of reviewing the Downtown Specific Plan and pedestrian and bike safety considerations, and requested clarification on economic issues facing businesses.
- Fran Dehn spoke in support of improving and revitalizing the Downtown.
- Adina Levin spoke in support of the opportunity in the housing element for improving the Downtown.
- Jeff Schmidt expressed challenges for commercial brokers connecting to property owners.
City Councilmember Mueller exited the meeting.

The City Council discussed bringing vibrancy to the Downtown, parking garage mixed-use with housing, housing element to expand the Downtown mix-use options, grants to restaurants in Downtown, next steps for short, min, and long-term, need for economic Development Director.

The City Council received clarification on consumer demand and market supply and sales tax revenue.

City Councilmember Mueller rejoined the meeting.

G. Consent Calendar

G1. Adopt a resolution authorizing the city manager to execute a software service agreement with PerfectMind for a parks and recreation registration management platform per the recommendations in the City Council approved Information Technology Master Plan (Staff Report #22-045-CC)

G2. Adopt a resolution initiating the Menlo Park landscape assessment district proceedings for fiscal year 2022-23 (Staff Report #22-046-CC)

G3. Waive second reading and adopt an ordinance amending Municipal Code Chapter 16.92 (Signs-Outdoor Advertising) to allow increased signage for qualifying projects within the SP-ECR/D (El Camino Real/Downtown specific plan) zoning district (Staff Report #22-047-CC)

**ACTION:** Motion and second (Taylor/Combs), to approve the consent calendar with the exception of item G3., passed unanimously.

**ACTION:** Motion and second (Combs/Taylor), to waive a second reading and adopt an ordinance amending Municipal Code Chapter 16.92 (Signs-Outdoor Advertising) to allow increased signage for qualifying projects within the SP-ECR/D (El Camino Real/Downtown specific plan) zoning district, passed 4-0 (Mueller recused).

H. Regular Business

H1. Adopt a resolution to install no parking restrictions on a portion of El Camino Real and timed parking restrictions on a portion of College Avenue (Staff Report #22-048-CC)

Assistant Public Works Director Hugh Louch made the presentation (Attachment).

- Katie Behroozi spoke in support of bike and pedestrian safety and the pedestrian median.
- Frank Schumann spoke in opposition of the parking removal.
- Cherith Spicer spoke in opposition of the parking removal.
- Adina Levin spoke in support of the parking removal and crosswalk implementation.
- Karen Grove spoke in support of the parking removal.
- John Donahoe, Director of Planning and Entitlement for Stanford University, spoke to describe Stanford’s responsibilities and constraints related to the development of Middle Plaza and to note that Stanford had never opposed removal of parking on the east side of El Camino Real.

The City Council received clarification on the safety of the El Camino Real and Middle Avenue intersection, the safety benefits of the median related to the removal of parking and costs and project delays if median construction is postponed.
The City Council discussed the value of removing parking, future bike lane plans on El Camino Real, adding a bike lane on the eastside of El Camino Real in the short term, the impact of the median on new residents and business at Middle Plaza, and voting at the March 1, 2022 meeting on this item.

**ACTION:** Motion and second (Combs/Mueller) to remove parking on east side of El Camino Real in front of Middle Plaza & Stanford Park Hotel (67 spaces), implement one-hour time limit parking between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday to Friday except Holidays on the south side of College Avenue from El Camino Real to approximately 160 feet westerly, modify El Camino Real and Middle Avenue intersection to add a crosswalk on the south leg, and direct staff to return with median options, failed 2-3 (Taylor, Nash, and Wolosin dissenting).

**ACTION:** Motion and second (Wolosin/Nash), to adopt a resolution to Install no parking zone on the east side of El Camino Real from the southerly driveway of 700 El Camino Real to the Menlo Park/Palo Alto city limit. Install no parking zone on the west side of El Camino Real from Middle Avenue to College Avenue. Implement one-hour time limit parking between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday to Friday except Holidays on the south side of College Avenue from El Camino Real to approximately 160 feet westerly. Update existing one-hour time limit parking on the north side of College Avenue from the end of the existing no parking zone to approximately 50 feet westerly to between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday to Friday except Holidays, and direct staff to modify two residential parking on College Avenue to timed parking, passed 3-2 (Combs and Mueller dissenting).

I. **Informational Items**

I1. City Council agenda topics: March 22 – April 12, 2022 (Staff Report #22-041-CC)

J. **City Manager's Report**

Interim City Manager Justin Murphy reported out on current advisory body recruitment, the Independent Redistricting Commission public hearing review of submitted maps, and Springline project below market rate housing drawing.

K. **City Councilmember Reports**

City Councilmember Taylor reported out on upcoming C/CAG, SFO Roundtable, and District based Reimagining Public Safety Subcommittee meetings.

Mayor Nash reported out on MidPen Housing’s Gateway Rising wall rising.

L. **Closed Session**

L1. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code: (one potential case)

L2. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—EXISTING LITIGATION**

Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9

Name of case: City of Menlo Park vs. Pacific Gas and Electric Co., et al. (San Mateo County Superior Court No. 21-CIV-06284)
Call to Order

Mayor Nash reconvened the meeting at 9:56 p.m.

Report from Closed Session

Assistant City Attorney Greg Rubens reported out on item L1., the City Council voted 5-0 to intervene in litigation and no reportable actions for item L2.

M. Adjournment

Mayor Nash adjourned the meeting at 9:57 p.m.

Judi A. Herren, City Clerk

These minutes were approved at the City Council meeting of March 22, 2022.
Menlo Park Downtown Market Study

Development Driven by Data

January 2022
Trade Area Overview

Retail Market for Downtown Menlo Park

- Menlo Park residential population = 35,131
  - Daytime population = 42,000
- Residential population within 20-minute drive time = 255,000
  - Daytime population = 370,000
- 13,297 households with 2.64 people per housing unit
- Residents are 84% White Collar and 16% Blue Collar
- 54.8% have a college degree
- Average household income is $248,661 (San Mateo County Average = $165,184)
- Median household income is $160,784 (San Mateo County Median = $122,641)
- Menlo Park is ethnically diverse with 56.6% White, 20.1% Hispanic, 9.3% Asian, 5.1% Black, 2.3% Pacific Islander and 6.6% Other
Downtown Menlo Park

Benefits and Opportunities

• 200 unique and upscale shops, galleries, markets, retailers, financial institutions, personal services, and dining choices

• Mixed-use and new residential developments in and near downtown projected to produce new consumer opportunities

• Renovation of Guild Theatre to host more events

• Caltrain station, Stanford University and several corporate campuses within close proximity

• Temporary outdoor seating and community space

• Weekly Farmers Market, Spring and Fall Art Stroll, and Summer Block Party & Fest
Competing Downtowns

Redwood City
- Caltrain station easily accessible to downtown
- **Mixed use, residential units, and evening activity in DT**
- Saturday Farmers Market
- **15-18 hour downtown, with restaurants open past 10pm**
- Downtown Events, such as outdoor concert and movie series, music in the park, Chalk Full of Fun event, & more

Mountain View
- **Mixed use, walkable center**
- Caltrain station easily accessible to downtown
- Castro Street closed through January 2023 with outdoor dining and public seating available
- **15-18 hour downtown environment**
- Downtown events, such as Thursday evening Farmers Market, Taste of Mountain View, outdoor concert and movie series, & more

Palo Alto
- **Healthy mix of retail, dining, and entertainment**
- Caltrain station easily accessible to downtown
- **Prominent nightlife with 18-hour environment**
- Saturday Farmers Market
- Ample public parking, including large parking plazas

Los Altos
- **Mixed use, including over 150 shops within 6-block triangle of unique cafes and boutiques**
- Lush green-scape lining streets creating small town atmosphere
- **Events held on 1st Fridays (of each month) with live music 6-8pm**
- Free public parking on streets and in parking plazas
What makes a successful downtown?

- Walkability & easily accessible connections
- Mixed-use including residential units, retail, entertainment & dining
- 15-18 hour Downtown environment (activity throughout the day and into the evening)
- Placemaking, offer gathering places and interesting spaces
- Establishing branding and adding gateway features and wayfinding signage
- Hosting frequent community and special events
- A rising population, and diversity in people and business offerings
- Uniform and evening store/restaurant hours
- Strong economic opportunities and critical mass of successful businesses
- Parking availability
Examples of Activities and Events

- Concert series or music events
- Food events (Ex. multiple and ongoing “Taste of Menlo Park” events)
- Summer movie series
- Brew or wine festival
- Educational series (children, adult, and family friendly)
- Classic car events
- Arts festivals
# Consumer Demand and Market Supply

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City of Menlo Park By Establishment</th>
<th>Consumer Demand</th>
<th>Market Supply</th>
<th>Opportunity Gap/Surplus (%)</th>
<th>Opportunity Gap/Surplus ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bar/Drinking Places (Alcoholic Beverages)*</td>
<td>$3,992,302</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>-100%</td>
<td>-$3,992,302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Materials/Supplies Dealers</td>
<td>$38,845,055</td>
<td>$23,468,632</td>
<td>-40%</td>
<td>-$15,376,423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other General Merchandise Stores</td>
<td>$77,438,638</td>
<td>$53,694,707</td>
<td>-31%</td>
<td>-$23,743,931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-Service Restaurants</td>
<td>$54,519,861</td>
<td>$45,436,160</td>
<td>-17%</td>
<td>-$9,083,701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casual/Limited-Service Restaurants</td>
<td>$55,454,147</td>
<td>$48,630,582</td>
<td>-12%</td>
<td>-$6,823,565</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The opportunity gap/surplus (%) represents the amount of demand under or over supply; therefore, a larger negative percentage represents a larger gap within that retail segment.

* This use requires a Conditional Use Permit (CUP)
Sales & Use Tax

Trends and Per Capita Comparison

• 222 active businesses in Downtown Menlo Park generating sales tax
• Annual sales tax revenue increased 16% from 2014 to 2019
• COVID-19 Pandemic lead to a -24% sales tax revenue decrease from 2019 to 2020
• Menlo Park sales dollars per capita (SDPC) were on average $13,551.81
• The highest sales tax performers in Downtown Menlo Park make up 88.3% of the total sales tax revenue generated in FY20/21, including:
  1. General Consumer Goods ($269,873)
  2. Restaurants & Hotels ($235,641)
  3. Food & Drugs ($213,108)
Top 20 Sales Tax Producers

Downtown Menlo Park

[List is in alphabetical order, not in ranking.]

- Ace Hardware
- Amici’s Pizzeria
- Angela
- Bow Wow Meow
- Bistro Vida
- Cheeky Monkey Toys
- Chef Kwan’s
- Derby Interiors Design
- Draeger’s Market
- Fleet Feet Sports
- Gray’s Paint
- LB Steak / Camper
- Left Bank
- Mattress Firm
- Mike’s Camera
- Refuge
- Ristorante Carpaccio
- Stacks
- Trader Joe’s
- Walgreens
Focus Groups Summary Report

Summary of input from Downtown business owners/operators, stakeholders & Menlo Park Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors:

• Improve aesthetics of Downtown to create a modern and branded look and feel
• Increase support for local business operations – shop local
• Encourage expansion of mixed use
• Improve parking accessibility and availability
• Revisit Specific Plan, or create new Downtown Development Plan and solicit suggestions and ideas from stakeholders
• Public engagement through special events, public art, live music, etc
Next Steps and Recommendations
## Placemaking & Enhancing a Sense of Place

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Near-Term (within 6 months)</th>
<th>Key Partners</th>
<th>Effort</th>
<th>Near Term Launch Dates</th>
<th>Suggested Near Term Success Metrics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consider continuing and expanding the Santa Cruz Street Café parklet program with modifications to establish consistent design standards to include beautification of street barricades.</td>
<td>Chamber of Commerce Downtown Business Alliance Downtown property owners</td>
<td>Light</td>
<td>Quarter 1, 2022</td>
<td>Investments in local businesses to meet improved parklet program standards</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Short-Term (within a year)</th>
<th>Key Partners</th>
<th>Effort</th>
<th>Short Term Launch Dates</th>
<th>Suggested Short Term Success Metrics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Explore ways to work with property owners, commercial brokers, and the Menlo Park Chamber of Commerce to use vacant spaces with interim uses such as ‘pop up businesses’ (examples are Los Altos, Danville, and Santa Cruz) or for a business incubator program, as well as requiring property owners to install a temporary store front look for vacant building spaces.</td>
<td>Chamber of Commerce Downtown Business Alliance Downtown property owners Menlo Park Public Art Allied Arts Guild</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Begin meeting with property owners and commercial brokers Quarter 2, 2022</td>
<td>Percent of vacant spaces with temporary store front installation Total vacancy rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Placemaking &amp; Enhancing a Sense of Place</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mid-Term (within 1 to 2 years)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Key Partners</strong></td>
<td><strong>Level of Effort</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Create more appealing signage for Downtown including banners, wayfinding signs, as well as designing/installing an entryway arch at the intersection of El Camino Real and Santa Cruz Avenue.</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consider developing design guidelines for Downtown Menlo Park to enhance and provide a more consistent look to the streetscape appearance with architectural aspects, design elements, public hardscape and landscape features.</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance hardscape improvements including sidewalks, parking plaza, and pedestrian walkways between the streetscape and parking plazas.</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Longer-Term (2 to 3 years)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Key Partners</strong></td>
<td><strong>Level of Effort</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consider closing two blocks of Santa Cruz Avenue to create a pedestrian mall environment and make the Downtown more walkable and expanding outdoor dining opportunities for restaurants in this area.</td>
<td>City; Chamber; Downtown Business Alliance</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Creating More Activity in Downtown Area & Producing More Consumer Demand

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Near-Term</th>
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<th>Launch Dates</th>
<th>Success Metrics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Establish a shop local marketing campaign</td>
<td>Chamber; Downtown Business Alliance; Downtown property owners; San Mateo County</td>
<td>Light</td>
<td>Quarter 1, 2022</td>
<td>Dollars spent in locally owned businesses; Retail sales per capita; Percent of businesses participating in marketing campaign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Create more special events for Downtown Menlo Park including farmer’s markets, street fairs, music nights, summer concerts, food events, art festivals &amp; more.</td>
<td>Chamber; Downtown Business Alliance; Menlo Park Farmers Market; Arts Guild; Pacific Fine Arts Festivals; partner with local hotels to promote events</td>
<td>Light</td>
<td>Quarter 2, 2022</td>
<td>Number of events created; Tourism revenue on event date(s); Retail sales on event date(s)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Creating More Activity in Downtown Area & Producing More Consumer Demand

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Short-Term (within 1 year)</th>
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<th>Launch Dates</th>
<th>Success Metrics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Work more closely with real estate brokers and property owners to improve tenant mix in the Downtown, including holding regular broker events.</td>
<td>Chamber; Downtown property owners; local and regional real estate brokers</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Quarter 2, 2022</td>
<td>-Occupancy rate by type of tenancy &lt;br&gt;-Number of annual broker events &lt;br&gt;-New business started</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drive more families to Downtown Menlo Park through tenant mix and the special events being held in the Downtown area.</td>
<td>Chamber; Downtown Alliance; Springline management; Local hotels</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Quarter 3, 2022</td>
<td>-Number % of family friendly events &lt;br&gt;-Number of businesses catering to families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work with the Guild Theatre to attract quality events to generate business for the theatre and produce more consumer demand in downtown Menlo Park.</td>
<td>Guild Theatre; Chamber</td>
<td>Light</td>
<td>Quarter 1, 2022</td>
<td>-Number of events held at Guild Theatre &lt;br&gt;-Percent tickets sold for Guild Theatre events &lt;br&gt;-Retail sales on event days / weekends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work with the Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Business Alliance in undertaking a brand development process</td>
<td>Chamber; Downtown Business Alliance</td>
<td>Light</td>
<td>Quarter 1, 2022</td>
<td>-Number % of businesses participating in brand promotion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work with the Chamber of Commerce to continue and expand restaurant possibilities</td>
<td>Chamber</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Quarter 2, 2022</td>
<td>-Percent of restaurants in Downtown Menlo Park offering expanded services, measured by type of service &lt;br&gt;-Percent of restaurants in Downtown Menlo Park offering outdoor dining &lt;br&gt;-Investments in outdoor dining improvements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Key Partners</td>
<td>Level of Effort</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Term (within 1 to 2 years)</td>
<td>Pursue more entertainment uses for Downtown to build upon the coming opening of the Guild Theatre.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>City; Chamber; Downtown Business Alliance; Guild Theatre</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pursue more of a 15-to-18-hour environment for Downtown Menlo Park, including expanding the use mix and adding more mixed-use development in the Downtown including more residential development.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>City; Chamber; Downtown Business Alliance; property owners; developers</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Work with the Chamber of Commerce to promote Downtown Menlo Park as a preferred location for Design/Home Furnishings/Furniture uses.</td>
<td>Light</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>City; Chamber</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
# Infrastructure Improvements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Near-Term</th>
<th>Key Partners</th>
<th>Effort</th>
<th>Launch Dates</th>
<th>Success Metrics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Develop a plan to install more bicycle racks, trash/recycling containers/public restrooms in the Downtown area and to evaluate the need for additional handicap or senior parking accommodations</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>Light</td>
<td>Quarter 3, 2022</td>
<td>Annual dollars invested in public infrastructure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Short-Term (within 1 year)</th>
<th>Key Partners</th>
<th>Effort</th>
<th>Launch Dates</th>
<th>Success Metrics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Develop a schedule to improve public hardscape improvements including streets, sidewalks, parking plazas &amp; light enhancements (for safety, aesthetics, etc.)</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>Light</td>
<td>Quarter 2, 2022</td>
<td>Percent of planned investment in Downtown infrastructure relative to all capital investments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Infrastructure Improvements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Mid-Term (1 to 2 years)</strong></th>
<th><strong>Key Partners</strong></th>
<th><strong>Level of Effort</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Create a master wayfinding signage program for Downtown Menlo Park.</td>
<td>City; Chamber; Downtown Business Alliance</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Longer-Term (2 to 3 years)</strong></th>
<th><strong>Key Partners</strong></th>
<th><strong>Level of Effort</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Study developing parking structures on city-owned/operated parking plazas in combination with mixed-use projects of affordable housing and retail at street level.</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## City Planning & Economic Development

### Near-Term

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effort</th>
<th>Key Partners</th>
<th>Launch Dates</th>
<th>Success Metrics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Light</td>
<td>City; Chamber; Downtown Business Alliance; Downtown Residents</td>
<td>Quarter 2, 2022</td>
<td>Percent of survey participants (residents, businesses, and property owners considered separately)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Work with the Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Business Alliance to undertake a Survey of Downtown Businesses and Residents to better understand their ideas to improve the Downtown.**

### Short-Term (within 1 year)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effort</th>
<th>Key Partners</th>
<th>Launch Dates</th>
<th>Success Metrics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Light</td>
<td>City; Chamber;</td>
<td>Quarter 2, 2022</td>
<td>The addition or selection of an ombudsperson Number of small businesses assisted as a percent of total businesses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>Quarter 3, 2022</td>
<td>Time it takes for the City to review applications</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Partner with the Chamber of Commerce to adopt a formal business ombudsman or concierge program to improve communication between the City and Downtown businesses.**

**City to look at ways to enhance the planning and entitlement process and improve ease and efficiency.**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mid-Term (1 to 2 years)</th>
<th>Key Partners</th>
<th>Level of Effort</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pursue a comprehensive review and update the nearly 10-year-old El Camino &amp; Downtown Specific Plan.</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Transforming Next Steps into Action Items

Action Item Summary...

**Action Item 1.**
Expand the Santa Cruz Street Café parklet program, adding consistent design standards to include beautification of street barricades and the extension of the existing Santa Cruz Avenue closure.

**Action Item 2.**
Establish a shop local marketing campaign for Downtown Menlo Park.
Transforming Next Steps into Action Items

Action Item 1.

Expand the Santa Cruz Street Café parklet program, adding consistent design standards to include beautification of street barricades and the extension of the Santa Cruz Avenue Closure.

- Parklets are an economical solution for businesses to continue to operating under public health restrictions and to take advantage of Menlo Park’s weather
- Consistent design guidelines and the beautification of street barricades will help create a more cohesive look and sense of place in the downtown
- Closure of Santa Cruz Avenue provides pedestrian access to the streets as walkways, encourages social distancing, and enhances business opportunities to safely serve patrons

- **Launch Date:** Quarter 1, 2022
- **Success Metric:** Investments in local businesses to meet improved parklet program standards
Transforming Next Steps into Action Items

Action Item 2.

Establish a shop local marketing campaign for Downtown Menlo Park.

- Shop local campaigns educate consumers on economic and social advantages that local businesses bring to a community
- Effective campaigns result in healthier businesses, job creation and enhanced retail opportunities
- Collaboration with partners can help tell a real and relatable story to educate consumers about shopping local in Menlo Park

• Launch Date: Quarter 1, 2022
• Success Metrics:
  • Dollars spent in locally owned businesses
  • Retail sales per capita
  • Percent of businesses participating in the shop local marketing campaign
Any questions?
PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON A PORTION OF EL CAMINO REAL AND COLLEGE AVENUE

City Council Meeting: March 8, 2022
AGENDA

- Background
- Council Questions
- Options for Council Action
BACKGROUND

- Middle Plaza development includes several street improvements as a condition of approval
  - New turn lane to access Middle Plaza
  - Signal upgrades
  - New crosswalk on south side of intersection
  - New 10-foot sidewalk on an easement from Stanford

- Middle Avenue is the only El Camino intersection without a median today

- Construction at the El Camino Real/Middle Avenue intersection is imminent
QUESTIONS FROM MARCH 1 MEETING

- Can the median be shifted east towards Middle Plaza?
- Can the sidewalk in front of Middle Plaza development be redesigned to provide a separated bikeway at sidewalk level?
- Is a wider median possible?
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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walkway Easement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planting Strip</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northbound lanes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southbound lanes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Existing sidewalk</td>
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Caltrans Right-of-Way

Current roadway centerline

Indicates street level bikeway is feasible. Not included in current evaluation

Note: Illustration only, dimensions vary along the block from Middle Avenue to College Avenue.
Feasible Short Term

1. Existing Conditions
   - Walkway Easement
   - Planting Strip
   - Existing sidewalk

2. Proposed 2' Median
   - Northbound lanes
   - Southbound lanes

Needs Long Term Planning

3. Shift 2' Median to the East
4. Install 4' Median
5. Bikeway in Existing Easement

Caltrans Right-of-Way
Current roadway centerline

Indicates street level bikeway is feasible. Not included in current evaluation

Note: Illustration only, dimensions vary along the block from Middle Avenue to College Avenue
FEASIBLE SHORT TERM MEDIAN OPTIONS

- Option 1 – Install 2-foot median, remove parking now
- Option 2a – Retain existing striping/post median, retain parking
- Option 2b – Option 2 + explore median enhancements

All options assume parking removal on the east side of El Camino Real

Glenwood @ Caltrain
## COUNCIL ACTION(S)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Potential Action</th>
<th>Rationale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Remove parking on east side of El Camino Real in front of Middle Plaza &amp; Stanford Park Hotel (67 spaces)</td>
<td>Remove parking before occupancy of Middle Plaza</td>
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<tr>
<td>Remove parking on west side of El Camino Real between Middle &amp; College Avenues</td>
<td>Install 2-foot wide median in short term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convert parking on first block of College Avenue to 1-hour parking</td>
<td>Provide customer parking for local businesses</td>
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