



Staff Liaison

Bridget Cooney | (510) 559-7008
bcooney@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
COMMITTEE ON AGING**

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2024, at 3p.m.

City of El Cerrito Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Ave
El Cerrito, CA 94530

This Meeting Place is Wheelchair Accessible

3:00 p.m. CONVENE REGULAR MEETING

- 1. ROLL CALL** – Chair Dr. Pansy Kwong, Vice Chair Katherine Cesa, Members Buddy Akacic, Linda Cain, Carol Kehoe, Steve Lipson, Pamela Wagner, Bruce Yow
- 2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**
Remarks are typically limited to three minutes per person and may be on anything within the subject matter jurisdiction of the body. Remarks on non-agenda items will be heard first, as well as introduction by individuals interested in serving on the advisory body. Remarks on agenda items will be heard at the time the item is discussed.
- 3. COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISON ANNOUNCEMENT AND REPORTS (5 minutes)**
Councilmember and/or Staff may report on matters of general interest to the Committee on Aging, Council policies, priorities and significant action taken by City Council.
- 4. EL CERRITO POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESENTATION (15 minutes)**
Informational presentation on matters of public safety related to seniors living in El Cerrito. Information only presentation. No action will be taken.
- 5. RICHMOND STREET COMPLETE STREETS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PRESENTATION (15 minutes)**
Informational presentation on the Richmond Street Complete Streets Improvement Project by Jessie Maran, Project Manager, CSW/Stuber-Stroeh Engineering Group, Inc.
- 6. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**
Pass a motion to adopt the minutes from the Committee on Aging meeting on July 17, 2024.
- 7. WORK PLAN 2023-24 ACCOMPLISHMENTS (5 minutes)**
Discussion and consider a motion to adopt 2023/2024 Committee on Aging Workplan accomplishments.
- 8. COMMITTEE ON AGING LIAISON REPORTS (5 minutes)**
Liaisons for the Advisory Council on Aging, West County Senior Coalition, Christ Lutheran and St. John's One-Day Per Week Senior Centers, and Senior Living Facilities in El Cerrito, report on matters of interest to the Committee on Aging. Reports are limited to three minutes per group.

9. COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 minutes)

Remarks are typically limited to three minutes per person and are informal announcements on matters of general interest which are announced by Committee on Aging Members.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Next Meeting: October 16, 2024, at 3:00p.m. in the Council Chambers
- El Cerrito Recreation Department Informational Presentation (October)
- Work Plan Goal Setting 2024/25-2025/26 (October)
- Adoption of the annual COA meeting Calendar (November)

11. ADJOURNMENT

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Staff Liaison, (510) 559-7008. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the members regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at City Hall, 10890 San Pablo Ave during normal business hours.



AGENDA MATERIALS

**REGULAR COMMITTEE ON AGING MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2024, at 3:00p.m.**

AGENDA ITEM 6 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Draft Meeting Minutes – July 17, 2024

AGENDA ITEM 7 – WORKPLAN 2023/2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION TO ADOPT

1. DRAFT 2023-2024 Workplan Accomplishments



Recreation Department

Staff Liaison

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MINUTES COMMITTEE ON AGING **DRAFT**

Wednesday, JULY 17, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.

City of El Cerrito Council Chambers

10890 San Pablo Ave

El Cerrito, Ca 94530

This meeting place is wheelchair accessible.

CONVENE REGULAR MEETING

Chair Dr. Kwong called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Dr. Pansy Kwong, Vice Chair Katherine Cesa; Members: Buddy Akacic, Linda Cain, Carol Kehoe, Steve Lipson (arrived at 3:04 p.m.), Pamela Wagner (arrived at 3:04 p.m.), Bruce Yow

Absent: None

Also Present: Bridget Cooney, Staff Liaison, Mark Deleon, Recreation Coordinator

Members from the Public: Harold Schultz, Ling Song

2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Harold Schultz introduced himself as a long-time resident of El Cerrito. Mr. Schultz shared a recommendation for the City to install chairs or benches for seniors on Schmidt Lane from Richmond Street to the Recycling Center.

Ling Song introduced herself as a long-time resident of El Cerrito. Ms. Song voiced support for Mr. Schultz recommendation to install chairs or benches in El Cerrito. Ms. Song stated that she thought she was attending a meeting about transportation and excused herself.

Public Comment not on the agenda received from Cordell Hindler and Jenny Hammer were included in the supplemental materials.

3. COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Member Kehoe announced a presentation by a Kaiser representative at Christ Lutheran Senior Center on Monday, August 19, 2024, at 11:30am.

Vice Chari Cesa announced that John's Gioia's office that Measure X funds were used to repurpose an old building near Contra Costa College into fifty-four micro apartments with support services for unhoused persons.

Member Kehoe announced that there is a Federal Grant ride share program for disabled and senior people. Member Kehoe reported that she didn't know anything else about the program or the organization responsible for the grant program. Member Kehoe stated she would report back at a future meeting if she was able to find out more information.

4. COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISONS ANNOUNCEMENT AND REPORTS

Staff Liaison reported a resolution to amend the City's classification plan passed at City Council meeting on 7/16/24.

Staff Liaison Cooney reported that there is an upcoming election on November 5, 2024, and anyone interested in running for City Council should contact the City Clerk's office.

Staff Liaison Cooney reported that the next City Council meeting will be held on August 20, 2024.

Staff Liaison Cooney reported that August 6, 2024, is National Night Out.

Staff Liaison Cooney announced that the Ukulele performance by the three older adult education programs (Christ Lutheran, St. John's and Sakura Kai) was held at the Community Center on May 29, 2024. The performance was very successful with over forty seniors in the audience. The Recreation Department looks forward to hosting the ukulele groups again to join the Community Center Sing-Along group for the city's annual Holiday Sing-Along event on December 17, 2024.

Staff Liaison Cooney reported that the July 4th and worldOne Festival was successful. Surveys are being sent to all vendors and class car showcase participants.

Staff Liaison Cooney reported that Fall rEC Guides will be mailed to homes in El Cerrito later in the week and registration for programs and activities for El Cerrito residents opens on July 30, 2024, at 9am.

Staff Liaison Cooney announced two upcoming presentations scheduled at the Community Center. Balance and Fall Prevention on August 18, 2024, and Aging Successfully at Home on September 18, 2024.

Staff Liaison Cooney reported that the Adult Programs and Senior Services Division will be hosting weekly Drop-in Senior Social hours at the Community Center beginning on September 4, 2024. Various activities will be available during Senior Social hours including cards, chess, and mahjong. Coffee and tea will be available for a suggested \$1 donation.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Moved/Second: Member Wagner Moved/Member Kehoe Second

Action: Adopted the minutes with edits from the Committee on Aging meeting held on May 15, 2024.

Ayes: Chair Dr. Kwong, Vice Chair Cesa, Member Akacic, Member Cain, Member Kehoe, Member Lipson, Member Wagner, Member Yow

Nos: None

Abstention: None

6. COMMITTEE ON AGING LIAISON REPORTS

West County Senior Coalition – No meeting.

City Housing Facilities in El Cerrito – Vice Chair Cesa reported that former Committee on Aging member Janet James received a plaque from the City for more than thirty years of service on the Committee on Aging.

Vice Chair Cesa reported that Eskaton Hazel Shirley Manor is fully occupied and they recently hired a new Social Services Coordinator.

Member Kehoe and Member Lipson reported attendance at the Advisory Council on Aging (ACOA) on June 23, 2024.

Member Kehoe reported that the ACOA is hiring a new Director.

Member Kehoe reported on a presentation by Contra Costa County Senior Legal Services.

Member Lipson reported on the California Senior Legislature. Member Lipson reported that AB817 did not pass.

Member Akacic reported that St. John's Senior Center is experiencing some challenges trying to renew their MOU with the church and the school district

Member Kehoe reported there is a new technology and AI program at Christ Lutheran Senior Center.

7. YOUTH ADVISORY BODY MEMBERSHIP DISCUSSION

Action: Motion to request the City advertise for a youth member appointed to the Committee on Aging.

Moved/Second: Vice Chair Cesa (moved)/Member Wagner (second)

Ayes: Chair Dr. Kwong, Vice Chair, Cesa, Member Akacic, Member Cain, Member Kehoe, Member Lipson, Member Wagner, Member Yow.

Nos: None

Abstention: None

8. COMMITTEE ON AGING NEWSLETTER DISCUSSION

Item number 8 discussion took place out of order and was discussed, and action taken prior to item number 7.

Action: Motion to approve the August-September Committee on Aging Newsletter for publication and distribution with edits.

Moved/Second: Member Kehoe (moved)/Member Cesa (second)

Ayes: Chair Dr. Kwong, Vice Chair Cesa, Member Akacic, Member Cain, Member Kehoe, Member Lipson, Member Wagner, Member Yow

Nos: None

Abstention: None

9. WORKPLAN DISCUSSION

Committee members discussed possible goals for the Bi-Annual Workplan. Possible goals related to making recommendations for the installation of a park bench at the entrance to the Hillside Natural Area on Schmidt Lane and recommendation to remove the Senior Center sign at the Hana Gardens entrance were discussed. Discussion to be continued at future meetings.

Action: Motion to invite Recreation Director Christopher Jones to provide and update to the Committee on Aging meeting on the Recreation Department.

Moved/Second: Member Akacic (moved)/Chair Dr. Kwong (second)

Ayes: Chair Dr. Kwong, Vice Chair Cesa, Member Akacic, Member Cain, Member Kehoe, Member Lipson, Member Wagner, Member Yow

Nos: None

Abstention: None

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 21, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers
- COA Work Plan Accomplishments and Goal Setting (Ongoing)
- Recreation Department Director Presentation (August)
- El Cerrito Police Department Presentation (September)
- Adoption of Annual Committee on Aging Meeting Calendar (November 2024)

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Dr. Pansy Kwong adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Special Committee on Aging meeting of July 17, 2024, as approved by the Committee on Aging.

Dr. Pansy Kwong, Chair

Bridget Cooney, Staff Liaison



BIENNIAL WORK PLAN FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025-2025/2026

COMMITTEE ON AGING

Chair **Dr. Pansy Kwong**; Vice-Chair **Katherine Cesa**; Members **Buddy Akacic, Linda Cain, Carol Kehoe, Steve Lipson, Pamela Wagner, Bruce Yow**

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Recreation Department

PRIOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Updated annually by July 1 and provided to City Council on Consent

Goal/Objective	Activities Supporting Goal	Status
Share information and resources with Seniors living in El Cerrito that support the various needs of the aging community including health and wellness, support services, food instability and transportation. Strategic Plan Goal: Livability and Belonging Community Safety Environmental Sustainability	Support Recreation Staff by sharing Senior Resource Fair flyers and information about the event with seniors and service providers in the community. Participate at the Senior Resource Fair by volunteering at the event.	Accomplished – November 2024
Recognize residents turning 100-years or older through the Mayoral Certificate of Recognition. Strategic Plan Goal: Livability and Belonging	In partnership with the City Clerk’s office, Committee on Aging members submitted names of seniors living in El Cerrito who are 100 years old or older for recognition through the Mayoral Certificate of Recognition Program. Gather and share names of additional Centenarian’s to staff liaison as they become aware of seniors eligible for recognition.	Accomplished for FY23-24 – program is continuous

	Committee members confirm residents on the list are still living in El Cerrito and report back on their findings.	
Improve communication and outreach to seniors living in El Cerrito by publishing and distributing a Committee on Aging Newsletter. Strategic Plan Goal: Livability and Belonging	Committee on Aging members research items of interest including upcoming programs, services and activities for seniors living in El Cerrito and compile a newsletter (citing all sources). Committee members review draft newsletters and edit the document content and approve for publication. Recreation staff print COA newsletters once approved and Committee members distribute newsletters in the Community.	Ongoing – Accomplishment for 2023-24: Published & Distributed 4 newsletters (Jul-Sept; Oct-Dec; Feb-Mar; Apr-Jun)
Advocate for improved conditions and experiences for seniors walking in El Cerrito both using city parks, and walking on city streets, in El Cerrito. Strategic Plan Goal: Community Safety, Livability and Belonging	Identify and report trip hazards and other potential safety concerns for seniors using public spaces in the City. Advocate for improved bus stops at Potrero and Moeser and San Pablo. One member (Dr. Kwong) of the Committee on Aging will serve on the ADA Advisory committee for the City to advocate for seniors living in El Cerrito.	Completed Councilmember Fadelli shared with the COA in April 2024 that Cal-Trans allocated \$80,000 to improve bus stops along San Pablo Ave including those bus stops identified by the COA as needing improvement. Improvements are to be completed in 2024.



SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA MATERIALS

COMMITTEE ON AGING MEETING WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2024, at 3:00p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 2 – ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

1. Public Comments received by 9:00a.m. on September 18, 2024.



SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA MATERIALS PUBLIC COMMENT INDEX

COMMITTEE ON AGING MEETING WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2024, at 3:00p.m.

The following Public Comments were received by 9:00 a.m. 07/17/2024, were provided directly to Committee on Aging members in advance of the meeting, and were posted online as supplemental materials at:

<http://www.el-cerrito.org/Archive.aspx?ADID=7702>

AGENDA ITEM 2 – ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

1. Ira Sharenow

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Committee on Aging Not on the Agenda
Date: Saturday, September 14, 2024 10:35:17 AM

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

I think the Committee on Aging needs to start advocating for seniors.

The senior center was closed on March 19, 2020, 1640 days ago.

What is up? Have senior activities ALL been moved to the community center? Near City Hall there is a building that says, "Senior Center". Is that a genuine senior center?

I looked at the ACFR FY 2023 Table 18. It looks like senior services appear to be cut in half. But I am not sure what the numbers mean.

On Page 144 recreation staff seems to be down. Were senior services cut.?

I am also confused by comments made by El Cerrito's

senior management. On the one hand they claim that the city is doing well financially. On the other hand, they seem to be saying they can only pay \$1 a year for a senior center. City spending is up by many millions of dollars. There is a lot of money for highly paid consultants. Why can the city not afford more senior services?

Conclusion: The Committee on Aging needs to do a better job of actively advocating for seniors.

Ira Sharenow

El Cerrito, CA