

**Mayor**  
Gabe Quinto  
**Mayor Pro Tem**  
Rebecca Saltzman



**Councilmembers**  
William Ktsanes  
Lisa Motoyama  
Carolyn Wysinger

This information can be interpreted for you free of charge. Visit City Hall at 10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, CA 94530 or learn more at [www.elcerrito.gov/LanguageAccess](http://www.elcerrito.gov/LanguageAccess)

Esta información se puede interpretar gratuitamente. Visite el Ayuntamiento en 10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, CA 94530 o obtenga más información en [www.elcerrito.gov/LanguageAccess](http://www.elcerrito.gov/LanguageAccess)

这些信息可免费为您解释。请访问位于 10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, CA 94530 的市政厅, 或访问 [www.elcerrito.gov/LanguageAccess](http://www.elcerrito.gov/LanguageAccess) 了解更多信息

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2026**

**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING (6:00 PM)**

Hillside Conference Room - 10890 San Pablo Ave, El Cerrito

**Join Via Zoom:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81198129526?pwd=DIIOdSD5zzkMLETAPORQ7iJnvN51IS.1>

**Meeting ID:** 811 9812 9526 **Passcode:** 711428 **Dial in:** 1-408-638-0968

**Public Comments:**

1. In-person, by submitting a request to speak to the City Clerk.
2. Via Zoom, using the "[Raise Hand](#)" feature to request to speak.
3. By phone, dialing \*9 to "raise your hand", and \*6 to unmute.
4. Online, using the "[Submit Comments](#)" feature on the [meeting event](#).
5. Via email to [cityclerk@elcerrito.gov](mailto:cityclerk@elcerrito.gov) indicating **Public Comments – Agenda Item #**.

Written comments received by **2:00 PM** the day of the meeting will be provided to the City Council and posted online in advance of the meeting. Comments received after the deadline will be provided to the City Council and posted after the meeting.

**Accommodations:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk at 510-215-4305. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable accommodations. Closed Captions are available via zoom.

**Conduct:** Pursuant to the El Cerrito City Council [Rules of Order and Procedure](#).

**Mayor**  
Gabe Quinto  
**Mayor Pro Tem**  
Rebecca Saltzman



**Councilmembers**  
William Ktsanes  
Lisa Motoyama  
Carolyn Wysinger

---

**6:00 PM ROLL CALL - CONVENE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**1. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

*All persons wishing to speak should sign up with the City Clerk. Remarks are typically limited to 3 minutes per person and to items on the special meeting agenda only.*

**2. COMMISSION INTERVIEWS, STATUS AND APPOINTMENTS**

**Action Proposed:** Staff requests that City Council conduct interviews and, at the conclusion of interviews, confer with staff regarding the ongoing recruitments, any remaining vacancies, and the scheduling of further special meetings to conduct interviews (if applicable). Council may decide to make appointments at the conclusion of the meeting.

**Contact:** Holly M. Charléty, City Clerk, City Management

**3. ADJOURN SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

*The City of El Cerrito serves our diverse community by providing exceptional services that create a safe and resilient future for all.*



# AGENDA BILL

Agenda Item No. 2.

**Date:** February 10, 2026  
**To:** El Cerrito City Council  
**From:** Holly M. Charléty, City Clerk, City Management  
**Subject:** COMMISSION INTERVIEWS, STATUS AND APPOINTMENTS

---

## ACTION PROPOSED

Staff requests that City Council conduct interviews and, at the conclusion of interviews, confer with staff regarding the ongoing recruitments, any remaining vacancies, and the scheduling of further special meetings to conduct interviews (if applicable). Council may decide to make appointments at the conclusion of the meeting.

## BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

City staff continues to publicize board, commission and committee vacancies as they occur. Vacancies are published on the City’s website and in the West County Times; posted at City Hall, the Community Center, the Library and other various locations throughout the City including Little Libraries. Staff continues to utilize the City Manager's Update, social media outlets, and press releases to increase awareness and opportunities for residents to participate by attending meetings and/or serving on a Board, Commission or Committee.

## Interview Schedule

Interviews scheduled for this meeting are as follows:

Interview Time	Applicant	Interviewing for:
6:00 PM	Intro/Overview of Process	N/A
6:15 PM	Nathan TinClair	Planning Commission
6:30 PM	James Tory Knowles	Arts and Culture Commission
6:45 PM	Kimberly White	Financial Advisory Board
7:00 PM	Jia Ma	Citizens Street Oversight Committee
7:15 PM	Justin Van Zerber	Financial Advisory Board
7:30 PM	Melissa Newton	Human Relations Commission
7:45 PM	Anne Perkins	Park and Recreation Commission
8:00 PM	Council Discussion on Appointments	N/A

**Additional Interviews**

City Council has an additional Special Meeting scheduled to conduct interviews on [Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 6:00 PM](#). Meeting materials, including the final interview schedule, will be posted and available online no later than Thursday, February 19, 2026. At the time of publication for this meeting, staff anticipates no less than 8 additional interviews to be held.

**Additional Eligible Applicants**

In addition to the eligible applicants scheduled for interview, the following applicants are currently eligible and have previously interviewed with the City Council:

Henry Pinkard	Planning Commission	9/23/2025 Interviewed, not appointed
---------------	---------------------	---

**STRATEGIC PLAN CONSIDERATIONS**

This action supports the [City's Strategic Plan Goal\(s\)](#) of:

- *High Performing Organization by increasing communication and public engagement to ensure access to services and promote community events.*

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS**

This section is not applicable to this agenda item.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

This section is not applicable to this agenda item.

**LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

This section is not applicable to this agenda item.

**Reviewed by:**



Holly Charléty, City Clerk

**Attachments:**

1. Commissioner Interview Worksheet
2. List of Pending Applications

**EL CERRITO BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENT WORKSHEET  
SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

**Legend**

*ACC = Arts and Culture Commission*

*COA = Committee on Aging*

*CCCA = Contra Costa Council on Aging*

*CSC = Civil Service Commission*

*DOA = Date of Appointment **Indicates a PARTIAL TERM***

*EDC = Economic Development Committee*

*FAB = Financial Advisory Board*

*HRC = Human Resources Commission*

*PC = Planning Commission*

*PRC= Park and Recreation Commission*

*UFC = Urban Forest Committee*

**ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION (2 Seats)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Term</b>
	DOA – 3/1/2029
	DOA – 3/1/2029

*2 existing vacancies*

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>
James Tory Knowles

**CITIZEN STREET OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (5 Seats)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Term</b>
	3/1/2026 - 3/1/2030
	3/1/2026 - 3/1/2030
	3/1/2026 - 3/1/2030
	DOA – 3/1/2028
	DOA – 3/1/2027

*Hill termed out, 2 existing vacancies*

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>
Jia Ma (incumbent)
Kathy Fleming (incumbent)

**CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION (2 Seats)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Term</b>
	DOA – 3/1/2029
	DOA - 3/1/2027

*2 existing vacancies*

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>
Lillia Refes (also pursuing CCCA)

**DESIGN REVIEW BOARD (3 Seats)**

Name	Term
	3/1/2026 - 3/1/2030
	3/1/2026 - 3/1/2030
	DOA – 3/1/2027

*Chuaqui termed out, 2 existing vacancies*

Eligible Applicants
Drew Cruz Patterson (also pursuing PC)
Benedicto Vega (also pursuing PC)

**FINANCIAL ADVISORY BOARD (2 Seats)**

Name	Term
	3/1/2026 – 3/1/2030
	DOA – 3/1/2029

*1 existing vacancy*

Eligible Applicants
Kimberly White (incumbent)
Justin Van Zerber

**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION (3 Seats)**

Name	Term
	DOA – 3/1/2027
	DOA – 3/1/2027
	DOA – 3/1/2027

*3 existing vacancies*

Eligible Applicants
Melissa Newton (also pursuing COA)

**PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION (5 Seats)**

Name	Term
	DOA – 3/1/209
	DOA – 3/1/2027

*2 existing vacancies*

Eligible Applicants
Anne Perkins
Julia Salinas (also pursuing EDC)

**PLANNING COMMISSION (2 Seats)**

Name	Term
	3/1/2026 – 3/1/2030
	3/1/2026 – 3/1/2030

*Navarrete termed out*

Eligible Applicants
Nathan Tinclair (incumbent)
Henry Pinkard (interviewed 9/23/25)
Mordecai Stayton (also pursuing EQC)
Benedicto Vega (also pursuing DRB)
Drew Cruz Patterson (also pursuing PC)

**CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON AGING (1 Seat)**

Name	Term
	6/21/2026 -6/21/2028

*Incumbent did not re-apply*

Eligible Applicants
Lillia Refes (also pursuing CSC)

## Pending Applications as of 2/5/2026

Name	Board Name	Application Status	Application Date	Interview Date
<a href="#">James Tory Knowles</a>	Arts and Culture Commission	Active	01/05/2026	02/10/2026
<a href="#">Jia Ma</a>	Citizens Street Oversight Committee	Active	12/18/2025	02/10/2026
<a href="#">Kathy Fleming</a>	Citizens Street Oversight Committee	Active	02/04/2026	02/24/2026
<a href="#">Lillia Refes</a>	Civil Service Commission	Active	01/21/2026	02/24/2026
<a href="#">Howard Hickman</a>	Community Safety Committee	Active	01/06/2026	
<a href="#">Wayne Coburn</a>	Community Safety Committee	Active	01/05/2026	
<a href="#">Lillia Refes</a>	Contra Costa County Advisory Council on Aging	Active	01/21/2026	02/24/2026
<a href="#">Benedicto Vega</a>	Design Review Board	Active	01/27/2026	02/24/2026
<a href="#">Drew Cruz Patterson</a>	Design Review Board	Active	01/23/2026	02/24/2026
<a href="#">James Takano (youth applicant)</a>	Design Review Board	Active	02/02/2026	
<a href="#">Ann Lehman</a>	Economic Development Committee	Active	07/07/2025	
<a href="#">Beverly Green</a>	Economic Development Committee	Active	10/22/2025	
<a href="#">Jonathan Stern</a>	Economic Development Committee	Active	01/20/2026	
<a href="#">Julia Salinas</a>	Economic Development Committee	Active	01/29/2026	
<a href="#">Rahul Iyer</a>	Economic Development Committee	Active	07/14/2025	
<a href="#">Sandra Mayithara</a>	Economic Development Committee	Active	01/15/2026	
<a href="#">Han Miao</a>	Environmental Quality Committee	Active	06/25/2025	
<a href="#">Mordecai Stayton</a>	Environmental Quality Committee	Active	01/29/2026	
<a href="#">Sasha Hahn</a>	Environmental Quality Committee	Active	01/22/2026	
<a href="#">Justin Van Zerber</a>	Financial Advisory Board	Active	01/05/2026	02/10/2026
<a href="#">Kimberly White</a>	Financial Advisory Board	Active	12/03/2025	02/10/2026
<a href="#">Beverly Green</a>	Human Relations Commission	Active	10/22/2025	

Name	Board Name	Application Status	Application Date	Interview Date
<a href="#">Melissa Newton</a>	Human Relations Commission	Active	10/15/2025	02/10/2026
<a href="#">Anne Perkins</a>	Park and Recreation Commission	Active	01/12/2026	02/10/2026
<a href="#">Julia Salinas</a>	Park and Recreation Commission	Active	01/29/2026	02/24/2026
<a href="#">Benedicto Vega</a>	Planning Commission	Active	01/27/2026	02/24/2026
<a href="#">Drew Cruz Patterson</a>	Planning Commission	Active	01/23/2026	02/24/2026
<a href="#">Henry Pinkard</a>	Planning Commission	Active	09/02/2025	09/23/2025
<a href="#">James Takano (youth applicant)</a>	Planning Commission	Active	02/02/2026	
<a href="#">Mordecai Stayton</a>	Planning Commission	Active	01/29/2026	02/24/2026
<a href="#">Nathan Tinclair</a>	Planning Commission	Active	01/14/2026	02/10/2026