
Citizens' Advisory Committee

Memo-24-10

Meeting SP 24-01

March 25, 2024

To: Citizens' Advisory Committee
From: Lea Rauscher, Assistant General Manager
Subject: Review and Discuss Citizens' Advisory Committee Draft Annual Work Plan

REVENUE/COST

There is no cost associated with this item.

BACKGROUND

The Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) develops its annual Work Plan at the same time Staff develops the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority's (Authority's) agency-wide annual Work Plan. The CAC's annual Work Plan supports the CAC's purpose to provide many avenues of input to and from the Open Space Authority and aligns with the Board-approved agency-wide annual Work Plan and agency priorities. The Board will receive the agency's Budget and Annual Work Plan for consideration and approval at their June 13, 2024, meeting. The CAC annual Work Plan will be presented to the Board for consideration and approval at the June 27, 2024, Board meeting.

DISCUSSION

The expertise and participation of CAC members in key projects is a valuable contribution in helping the agency fulfill its mission, vision, and goals. Agency priorities for fiscal year 2024/2025 focus on the areas of opportunities where the Authority is uniquely positioned to advance regional conservation.

- Connecting people to the Valley's natural and agricultural lands in unique, meaningful and innovative ways
- Wildlife connectivity in critical last chance landscapes like the Diablo Range, Santa Cruz Mountains, Coyote Valley and Upper Pajaro Watershed and other important natural and working lands
- Land protection and stewardship for nature and climate with "light on the land" recreation to improve regional quality of life for all
- Promoting equitable access to nature and empowering community-based educational programs with urban grants to meet people where they are
- A nimble and creative government agency that fosters partnerships for conservation outcomes
- Permanent protection of and support for vital agricultural lands
- Innovative local environmental policy and education about the importance of open space
- Implementing a comprehensive approach to nature-based solutions for climate change

Staff will share the Draft Fiscal Year 2024/2025 CAC Work Plan topic areas and lead a discussion to build the Draft Work Plan content, noting where the CAC's immediate efforts could be most beneficial to agency operations and projects. A final draft will be presented by Staff to the CAC on May 20, 2024, for a vote to recommend the Draft Fiscal Year 2024/2025 to the Board for approval.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Committee discuss the Draft Work Plan topic areas and share their feedback.

Attachment(s): Exhibit C – DRAFT Fiscal Year 2024/2025 CAC Work Plan