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## Citizens' Advisory Committee

Memo-23-11

Meeting 23-02

March 27, 2023

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

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### **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) 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. Staff will present a draft agency-wide themes and focus for Fiscal Year 2023/2024 to the Board on March 30 for feedback. The Board will receive the agency's Budget and Annual Work Plan for consideration and approval at their June 8, 2023, meeting. The CAC annual Work Plan will be presented to the Board for consideration and approval at the June 22, 2023, 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 2023/2024 focus on four themes.

- Climate, biodiversity, and community resiliency
- People and nature
- Agricultural sustainability
- Organizational resiliency

The projects proposed for the Fiscal Year 2023/2024 agency-wide Work Plan, along with the programmatic work of the agency, have multiple benefits for enhancing the health of land, waters, wildlife and people. They are intended to position the agency to "meet the moment" especially in terms of addressing the dual climate and biodiversity crises; articulating the relevancy of nature to people, governments and employers in Santa Clara County and to inspire increased investment in protecting and restoring nature; making access to open space and parks more equitable and providing welcoming visitor experiences for all; creating an environment where the next generation of environmental stewards is empowered to lead; and ensuring organizational resiliency and financial sustainability so the Authority continues to effectively implement its mission for generations to come.

Staff will share the Draft Fiscal Year 2023/2024 CAC Work Plan topic areas and lead a discussion to build the Draft CAC Work Plan, 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 22, 2023, for a vote to recommend the Draft Fiscal Year 2023/2024 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 J – DRAFT Fiscal Year 2023/2024 CAC Work Plan*