



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: 3/10/2026
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Locations: Teleconference and
City Council Chambers
751 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

Regular Session

A. Call To Order

Mayor Nash called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Combs, Nash, Schmidt (remote – Brown Act), Taylor
Absent: Wise
Staff: City Manager Justin Murphy, Assistant City Manager Stephen Stolte, City Attorney Nira Doherty, Assistant to the City Manager/ City Clerk Judi A. Herren

C. Agenda Review

None.

D. Public Comment

- Tom Ziola commented on a dangerous condition for bicyclists on the 300/400 block of El Camino Real.

E. Presentations and Proclamations

E1. Proclamation: Women’s History Month (Attachment)

Mayor Nash introduced the proclamation.

Junior League of Palo Alto-Mid Peninsula President-elect Kristy Bonham and Executive Vice President Kris Bish accepted the proclamation (Attachment).

F. Consent Calendar

- F1. Accept the City Council meeting minutes for February 10, 2026 (Attachment)**
- F2. Consider the travel requests for City Councilmembers for the 2026 Progress Seminar (Staff Report #26-031-CC)**
- F3. Authorize the city manager to execute an amendment to the agreement with Knorr Systems Inc. for aquatics systems maintenance in an amount not to exceed \$130,114.38 during fiscal year 2025-26 (Staff Report #26-032-CC)**



ACTION: Motion and second (Taylor/ Combs), to approve the consent calendar, passed 4-0-1 (Wise absent).

G. Study Session

- G1. Provide direction on the Slow Streets Program and implementation process (Staff Report #26-033-CC)

Senior Transportation Planner Catrine Machi made the presentation (Attachment).

- Bill Kirsch spoke in opposition of the new Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan (NTMP) and the data driven process.
- Laura Melahn spoke in opposition of the 85th percentile metric and provided a history of accidents occurring where the community requested safety measures.
- Katie Behroozi spoke in support of the Complete Streets Commission (CSC) and city staff proposed slow streets program.
- Janet Poses spoke in support of simple measures to slow traffic.

The City Council received clarification on the legacy project queue, areas of concentration criteria for bike/ pedestrian usage, speedbump cost, including location of childcare centers and schools, use of the State database, data collection processes, counting of bike/ pedestrians, evaluating projects based on the length of time on the waiting list, funding, and the 85th percentile vehicle speed metric.

The City Council discussed the roles of City Council and staff in projects, determining a point system, including Beechwood School and Belle Haven School in the Plan and adding consideration of lighted stop signs near schools.

The City Council directed staff to:

- Incorporate equitable distribution among districts
- Incorporate the development of a report to City Council summarizing the progress of the program and inclusive of a list of projects deemed not eligible, to be provided as an informational item

H. Regular Business

- H1. Authorize initiation of a Proposition 218 notification process in preparation to adopt maximum solid waste rate increases for the next five fiscal years at a public hearing May 12 (Staff Report #26-034-CC)

Public Works Director Azalea Mitch and R3 Consulting Group, Inc. President Garth Schultz made the presentation (Attachment).

The City Council received clarification on the Proposition 218 protest process, Bayfront Landfill closure maintenance, Recology contract update, and inclusion of street sweeping costs in the solid waste rates.

ACTION: Motion and second (Combs/ Nash), to authorize the initiation of a Proposition 218 notification process in preparation for the adoption of maximum solid waste rate increases for the next five fiscal years

(2027 to 2031) at a public hearing May 12, passed 4-0-1 (Wise absent).

- H2. Authorize initiation of a Proposition 218 notification process in preparation to adopt maximum water rate increases for the next three fiscal years at a public hearing May 12 and consider and adopt a resolution establishing procedures for compliance with Assembly Bill 2257 (Staff Report #26-037-CC)

Public Works Director Azalea Mitch made the presentation (Attachment).

The City Council directed staff to proceed with Option 1 at three years.

ACTION: Motion and second (Combs/ Schmidt), to authorize the initiation of a Proposition 218 notification process in preparation for the adoption of maximum water rate increases for the next three fiscal years (2027 to 2029) at a public hearing May 12; and adopt a resolution establishing procedures for compliance with Assembly Bill (AB) 2257, passed 4-0-1 (Wise absent).

I. Informational Items

- I1. City Council agenda topics: March – April 2026 (Staff Report #26-035-CC)
I2. City Council fiscal year 2025-26 work plan update (Staff Report #26-036-CC)

J. City Manager Report

City Manager Justin Murphy reported out on the Spring Activity Guide opening March 14 and the City Council priority setting meeting March 21.

K. City Councilmember Reports

Mayor Nash reported out on the Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE) and Council of Cities meetings and a meeting with San Mateo County Sheriff Binder and Menlo Park Police Chief Norris.

L. Adjournment

Mayor Nash adjourned the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

Assistant to the City Manager/ City Clerk Judi A. Herren

These minutes were approved at the City Council meeting April 14, 2026.