

TOWN OF LOS GATOS
AD HOC CITIZEN COMMITTEE
February 23, 2016, 1:00 p.m.

110 E. Main Street
Town Council Chambers
Los Gatos, California

MINUTES

Call to Order

The Ad Hoc Citizen Committee meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m.

Members and Staff present:

Vice Mayor Marico Sayoc
Council Member Steve Leonardis
Lee Fagot, Resident
Mark Robinson, Resident
Jak Van Nada, Resident
Laurel Prevetti, Town Manager
Jennifer Callaway, Assistant Town Manager
Stephen Conaway, Finance Director
Lynn Lampros, Deputy Town Attorney
Christina Gilmore, Assistant to the Town Manager
Shelley Neis, Clerk Administrator

Verbal Communications

John Shepardson provided written communication to the Committee.

Agenda Items

1. Approve the February 18, 2016 Ad Hoc Committee Draft Minutes

The Committee made the following corrections:

- Pg. 2, Item #2 add waste management as one of the proposed UUT taxes.
- Pg. 2, Item #3 change the next committee meeting date to reflect February 23, 2016.

The Committee unanimously approved the draft minutes with the above changes.

2. Discuss Information Contained in the Staff Report

The Committee reviewed and discussed the information contained in the staff report. Staff shared preliminary consultant cost estimates, project timelines, polling approaches, and tax measure recommendations received from the Lew Edwards Group and Godbe Research.

In light of two proposed sales tax measures that, if approved, would raise sales tax to the capped limit, staff provided information about a sales tax option. The two proposed taxes are a potential ½ cent sales tax measure from the Valley Transportation Agency (VTA) to fund regional transportation projects and a ¼ cent from Santa Clara County to fund homelessness programs. The current County-wide cap for sales tax is 9.50%. Together, if they are placed on the November ballot and approved by voters, would increase the sales tax from 8.75% to 9.50%. Campbell, Cupertino, Morgan Hill, and Sunnyvale are currently considering placing sales tax increases for each of their cities on the November ballot.

3. Discuss and Make Recommendations to Council Regarding Potential Ballot Measure(s)

The Committee discussed the pros and cons for recommending a User Utility Tax (UUT), Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT), or a Sales Tax to the Town Council for placement on the November ballot. The Committee voted in favor of the following motion as its recommendation to the Town Council for review and consideration:

MOTION: Motion by Council Member Sayoc to forward a recommendation to the Town Council to enter into an agreement with one of the two consultants to initiate polling to determine if a Sales Tax versus a User Utility Tax (UUT) would be palatable to Town of Los Gatos residents. **Seconded by Committee Member Robinson.**

VOTE: Motion passed 5-0

The Committee asked staff to include in the staff report to the Town Council the following information:

- Additional information from the two potential consultants regarding their costs and services.
- The February 18, 2016 Committee recommendation to place a 2% increase to the Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) on the November ballot
- If the Council considers placing a TOT initiative on the November ballot, the Committee does not recommend conducting polling for a TOT tax measure
- The list of cities considering placing a Sales Tax measure on the November ballot

Adjourned at 2:16 p.m.