



MEMORANDUM

OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

To: Town Council

From: Laurel Prevetti, Town Manager

Subject: Manager's Weekly Memorandum

Date: March 17, 2023

Questions regarding the following should be directed to me. As specified by Town Policy, the Mayor or any two members of Council may request consideration of these or any items at a future Council Meeting.

1. Tuesday's Meetings

Tuesday's Town Pension and OPEB Oversight Trusts Oversight Committee Meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers, followed by the regular Town Council meeting at 7:00 p.m.

2. Storm Response

The storm of Tuesday, March 14 was unprecedented for the Town. Wind gusts in excess of 60 miles per hour occurred between 10:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. that day. The damage was substantial and created high volumes of calls. For comparison purposes, in February, Dispatch handled an average daily call volume of about 100 calls per day. On the day of the storm, Dispatch had a call volume of 473 calls that included 125 9-1-1 calls, 190 non-emergency line calls, and 158 administrative calls. 369 of the calls came into Dispatch during a four-hour period and were handled mostly by a single Dispatcher.

Police Patrol handled 111 calls for service. With Patrol staff at minimum staffing, this meant Detectives, Parking Control, Traffic Sergeant, the Disaster Aid Response Team (DART) and a Captain assisted in responding to calls for service throughout the day for a total of eight sworn personnel handling the 111 calls for service in the twelve-hour timeframe.

Parks and Public Works received 112 calls for service on the same day. An estimated 89 trees were damaged or fell during the event. The playground at Howe's Play Lot was destroyed due to tree fall. PPW crews and contractors have worked all week to respond to the issues and will continue their work in the coming weeks. In some cases, tree removal cannot be completed until PG&E is able to remove or de-energize power lines that are mixed in with the tree debris. In the coming days and weeks, the PPW crews will work to open roads, and remove trees from the sides of roadways and from within parks. The volume of

work facing the team is large and crews are doing their best to keep up with the demand. We ask for the public's patience while the storm recovery continues.

Parks and Public Works and the Police Department worked tirelessly to swiftly respond to calls throughout Town under challenging and dangerous conditions. They continue to work to support the community in the recovery efforts from the various storm damages and impacts.

Please join me in thanking the Town team for the excellent storm response.

3. **Housing Element Status**

Last night, the Housing Element Advisory Board reviewed the revised Housing Element which addressed the detailed comments from the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). In addition, staff received Property Owner Interest Forms and updated the pipeline projects, resulting in an overall housing capacity increase from 2,312 to 2,494 units and a buffer of 25%. The report to the HEAB offered an option to reduce the sites inventory to retain the 15% buffer. HEAB members voted 6-2 (Hudes and Mannina opposed) to retain all of the sites in the inventory.

The HEAB provided comments on other sections of the revised document, including adding more quantifiable outcomes for the implementation programs, balancing the constraints language with the benefits of certain local policies and guidelines, and other specific suggestions. The HEAB voted 7-1 (Hudes opposed) to submit the revised document with the HEAB's additional suggestions to HCD after the mandatory seven-day public review period. Council Member Hudes commented that the Town Council should review the document prior to submittal to HCD.

4. **Senate Bill 379: Solar Permitting Streamlining**

On Friday, March 10, individual Council Members received a petition from Los Gatos residents encouraging the Town to follow SB 379 and streamline the solar permitting process. Staff has reviewed SB 379 and have attended multiple online discussion and implementation meetings over the last few months. While the implementation deadline for the Town of Los Gatos is September 2024, staff intends to have it in place by the end of 2023. Staff has reviewed the requirements of the California Energy Commission's grant funding and will submit the application prior to the May 1, 2023 deadline.

LP:jj