



**Title:** Community Services and Facilities Element Subcommittee Discussion

**From:** Jeremy Dennis, Advance Planning Manager, Planning and Community Environment Department

### **Background**

At their August 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Palo Alto City Council directed that the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) form subcommittees to assist the CAC and staff with a “deeper dive” into the subject matter of each element of the Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan). The subcommittee meetings are to be fully noticed and publicly available, but they are not required to be Brown Act-regulated bodies. The CAC voted to adopt a subcommittee process and appointed members as proposed by the co-chairs at the October 20, 2015 CAC meeting.

The Community Services and Facilities Subcommittee met on November 4<sup>th</sup> and provided direction to staff on further refinement of the draft element and areas of “controversy” to be discussed by the full CAC. The CAC met on November 17<sup>th</sup> and provided further guidance back to the subcommittee, and also added 3 new members to assist with their review. This memo provides instructions and background material to facilitate an in-depth discussion of the Community Services and Facilities Element. Based on the discussion during the meeting, a revised draft Community Services and Facilities Element will be prepared for review by the City Council on January 11, 2015.

### **What to Expect at the Meeting:**

The purpose of this subcommittee meeting is to review comments and suggestions made by the CAC at their November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, provide staff with recommendations to revise the draft element, and prepare a memo to be provided to the City Council for their review of the draft element on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016. This memo will include a discussion of areas of continued controversy, with minority opinion captured if necessary, for Council review.

### **CAC Comments**

The CAC met on November 17<sup>th</sup> and provided extensive feedback and suggestions to revise the draft element. The CAC authorized the subcommittee to confirm that the revised draft element reflected all of their feedback and to provide pros and cons on items that did not have consensus. Staff has revised the Community Services Element and has blue-lined the draft to show the locations of these changes. Staff requests that the Subcommittee review the blue-lined draft to ensure CAC input was captured correctly and appropriately placed in the draft.

Two issues were left out the draft element as we did not believe there was a consensus decision, and should be discussed by the subcommittee:

- Restoring previous policies C11 (Support and promote the provision of comprehensive child care services in Palo Alto by public and private providers, including employers) and C14 ( Encourage inter-generational interaction in providing solutions to child care needs),
- Using "homeless" instead of "unhoused"

Additionally, an alternative library section table is attached to this staff report, as recommended and developed by a CAC member.

Once these changes are agreed upon, staff will finalize the draft.

### Pros and Cons

On October 20<sup>th</sup>, the CAC adopted rules on subcommittees. Subcommittees have two primary missions – assess staff capture of CAC commentary and review of consensus/controversial items, and producing a “pros and cons” document of those areas of remaining controversy. As stated in a memo from the co-chairs:

“Each CAC Element Subcommittee will then prepare a report of succinct pro and con argument for each alternative identified for each controversial issue identified at the CAC meetings, or based on input to the CAC meetings. This deliverable, an expansion of the previous deliverable, is to be given to staff no later than three weeks prior to the Council Action meeting on the element”

Based on the subcommittee’s discussion of the draft document and whether any controversial elements remain, a “pros and cons” document will be produced specifying both sides of the issue for Council review. This document will be part of the staff report on February 1<sup>st</sup> to the Council.

### Attachments

- Attachment One – Blue-lined Draft Community Services Element
- Attachment Two – Alternate Library Table