

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Another Town Website Enhancement

Under the "City Government" heading across the masthead of the Town's website is a pull-down menu that includes "Support Agencies." Staff is currently working on identifying and posting links to the websites of the referenced "support agencies" that feature the public schools serving Los Altos Hills, animal control services through the City of Palo Alto, solid waste services through Los Altos Garbage Company, the two water suppliers to Town residents and more. Completion of this enhancement is scheduled for early November 2004.



City Manager Maureen Cassingham

Foothill College President's Advisory Council Fall Meeting Update

On October 20, 2004, President Bernadine Fong convened the fall meeting of her community Advisory Council, to brief the group on several key topics. She advised that the College is facing a short-term decline in enrollment primarily due to the decrease in visa-holding students. The College's FY04-05 budget has been balanced with some help from the state. Employee pay reductions to help with the projected budget shortfall were restored. Employee benefit cost-sharing will, however, continue. Measure E construction continues including a new exit from the campus and demolition of the campus center. The Facilities Master Plan into 2015 forecasts a 1-2% enrollment increase over the next 10 years. Therefore, various options are being considered for additional space including the NASA/Ames site, leased or purchased new facilities along Highway 101, continued use of the current Middlefield Campus at the Cubberly High School site and the remaining 100,000 square feet of buildable space on the Foothill campus.

CPR/AED Training Scheduled for Town Staff and Committee Members

In October the staff and Emergency Communications Committee CERT members received 3 1/2 hours training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in facilitating CPR. The Town has ordered and will be installing two AEDs, one in the Council Chambers and the other in the Administrative Offices at its temporary quarters on or about December 1st. The units will be relocated to the New Town Hall when it is ready for occupancy. AEDs are being installed in more and more public places after facilities' staffs are properly trained to use them. Most adults who can be saved from cardiac arrest are in ventricular fibrillation or pulseless ventricular tachycardia. Electrical defibrillation provides the single most important therapy for the treatment of those victims. Resuscitation science places great emphasis on early defibrillation. A victim's best chance for survival is when there is revival within four minutes. Acquiring AEDs and having Town staff and other "responders" trained to use them may be a lifesaver at our public meetings and the Town offices.

—Maureen Cassingham, City Manager

PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Revising the Town's General Plan and Zoning Ordinance to better reflect the Town's goals with regard to public education in the Hills has been a top priority for the Planning Commission this quarter. At the direction of the City Council, the Commission reviewed the Town General Plan and Zoning Ordinance and forwarded the following recommendations concerning schools to the City Council:



Planning Director Carl Cahill

The Planning Commission recommended to the City Council that the Pinewood School site be assigned a dual designation as a "Public School/ Private School." The General Plan currently designates the Pinewood School site as a public elementary school. However, the Town conditionally permitted a private high school (Pinewood School) to operate at this location in the 1970's. While the Commission would have preferred that the site remain designated for public school use only, the General Plan should have been amended at the time that the conditional use permit was issued for the private school. Pursuant to California Law, the use permit runs with the land and all related property and personal rights are freely transferable. The Commission recommended that the General Plan Land Use Element be amended to update the list of private school sites in Town. The General Plan amendment identifies two locations for private schools: the Pinewood School site and the Saint Nicholas School site.

The Commission recommended certain amendments to the Town Zoning Ordinance adding definitions for "public school" and "private school." "Public Schools" and "Private Schools" are already referenced in Zoning Ordinance sections 10-1.703(f),(g) as conditionally permitted uses. However, the Zoning Ordinance, prior to amendment, did not specifically define public and private schools. The Commission also recommended that the Zoning Ordinance be amended to correct certain inconsistencies with the General Plan. In conformance with the General Plan, the Zoning Ordinance, as amended, conditionally allows public and private schools at certain locations in Town only where designated on the General Plan Land Use Diagram. The City Council adopted virtually all of the Planning Commission's recommendations in November.

—Carl Cahill, Planning Director

Town of Los Altos Hills

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 7:30AM - 12 Noon ~ 1 PM - 5:30 PM

CLOSED 12 Noon - 1 PM

*For Council Agenda and Minutes,
See our Website:
www.losaltoshills.ca.gov*