



North Fair Oaks Community Council

*A Municipal Advisory Council to the
San Mateo County Board of Supervisors*

2600 Middlefield Rd,
Redwood City, CA
650-363-1800
www.nfoforward.org

Brooks Esser, Chair
Blair Whitney, Vice-Chair
Everardo Rodriguez
Juan Carlos Prado
Niket Sirsi
Kathleen Daly
George Saman

November 16, 2023

7:00 pm

The North Fair Oaks Community Council provides recommendations on the issues of community health, safety, welfare, public works, and planning for the North Fair Oaks geographic area. It holds regular monthly meetings to address the needs of the community, act as a forum, and serve as an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors.

The North Fair Oaks Community Council was held in person at the Fair Oaks Community Center (2600 Middlefield Rd, Redwood City) and by teleconference using Zoom <https://smcgov.zoom.us/j/99408813549>. It began at 7:00 PM and Spanish interpretation was available.

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members Blair Whitney, Juan Carlos Prado, Niket Sirsi, Everardo Rodriguez, Kathleen Daly, Mariela Peralta, Kelly Parisi, and Chair Brooks Esser

Staff Present: Timothy Fox, Community Affairs Office, Joshua Caspillan, Kenny Chu, Jennifer Castro-Lara, and Bo Unga

2. Public Comment

OCA, Kenny Chu – United Hate Against Week background. The County Board of Supervisors proclaimed November 12th – 18th as United Hate Week where the county rejects hatred prejudice, racism, sexism bigotry or violence in any matter towards any individual regardless of race, ethnicity, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, or economic status.

AGENDA

3. Welcoming new Council Members

Welcoming new Members + Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Members Kelly Parisi and Mariela Peralta have been appointed by County Attorney Tim Fox.
Council Members Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vice Chair Blair Whitney Council Member Niket Sirsi
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Public comment

4. Minimum Wage Ordinance Increase. (10 mins)

<p>Presentation by Deputy County Executive, Justin Mates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum Wage Ordinance Increase <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Board of Supervisors approved minimum wage (2023) ○ Effective January 1, 2024, New Wage Increase \$17.06 ○ Applies to employers regardless of size in unincorporated SMCo • For more info go to smcgov.org/minwage
<p>Council Members Comment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vice-Chair Blair Whitney <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maybe offer employees payment, in which they didn't receive from their employer. Maybe that can be another resource too. • Council member Niket Sirsi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What was the percentage increase and how did that compare to the inflation rate that it was greater of or maximum of? ○ Have we done any studies. As in if this is a livable wage. Is this a livable salary to live by this? • Council member Kathleen Daly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The livable wage isn't even close. There are jobs out there that have a higher wage than \$17. No one can live here on a minimum wage. • Council member Everardo Rodriguez <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ I'm wondering about people that work for companies that are not based in San Mateo County – if someone lives here but drives for Uber. How would that work if the employer is not from the city. • Council member Mariela Peralta <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As a business owner – once the minimum wage goes up, we also raise out prices within our businesses as well. I hope we can revisit this and work something out where wages go up but small businesses don't need to increase their prices. • Council member Kelly Parisi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Is there any supplementation of businesses that are adversely affected based on massive construction? Are there any tax deductions or anything with their income is drastically reduced based on the construction?
<p>Public Comment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Public comment

5. Middlefield Road Update. (30 mins)

<p>Presentation by Krzysztof Lisaj from Department of Public Works</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sanitary Sewer Work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 100% Completed with Sanitary Sewer Work ○ Storm Drain/Green Infrastructure Installation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 90% complete - Completed new underground storm drainpipes and Green
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	<p style="text-align: center;">Infrastructure Basins installation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Green infrastructure vegetation to be planted. ○ Joint Trench Work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 95% completed - Remaining areas include 3 crossing under UPRR and two crossings under Redwood Junction train tracks ○ Surface Improvements (Sidewalks and Curb & Gutter- 90% completed) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Phases 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8 & 10 are completed - Remaining portions of work in Phases 9 ○ Site Furnishings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trees to be planted - Benches, bike rack and trash receptacles to be installed ● Project Challenges: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Working around community needs for access and limiting impacts ○ UPRR and SamTrans input for railroad crossing ○ Weather impacts may slow construction ● Accomplishments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Completed concrete work on majority of phases (only 1 remain) ○ Installed streetlights and pedestrian lights for all phases ○ Completed jack and bore work under railroad tracks to install sanitary sewer pipes ● Remaining Work: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Joint trench jack and bore <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Middlefield Rd- in construction - Redwood Junction- start early Dec. ○ Landscaping elements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bio-retention planting-in construction - Trees- in route and will be installed in Dec. ○ Site amenities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Solar charging benches - Bike racks - Trash receptacles ○ Final paving (RR to 5th)- Nov. 27th to Dec. 4th <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Night Paving - -Weather and Temperature dependent ○ Striping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New lane configuration anticipated in early December 2023
<p>Council Members Comment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Council member Niket Sirsi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Have we checked and made sure that there's enough space on both sides for parked cars and giving enough space like they must open doors or into the bike lanes well as moving traffic? ○ PG&E will take up to 18 months to finish that? ● Vice chair Blair Whitney <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Is Comcast going to be underground as well?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Is there a conduit where some of the competing internet providers can pull cables or do they have to pay a tariff to AT&T to go through theirs? ○ The completion was supposed to be 18 million, but now it's 24 million. ● Council member Kathleen Daly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Is there any big disruption that come from the work whether it's PG&E or anything that business owners or people can anticipate that might affect them for that time? ○ Is there anything like a calendar in terms of understanding some of the beautification things that will happen like when the trees will get planted? ○ The benches, tress, lighting, regardless of the wires being pulled. Were not taking the next 18 months, were talking the next few months? ● Council member Juan Carlos Prado <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Can you let us know at what stage will the Wi-Fi be out and about? Is that considered stage 9 or 10? ○ That's not considered apart of the final project. ● Council member Everardo Rodriguez <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Right now, it feels like we have lots of stop signs on each corner or street. I understand the safer the better, but I wonder if the stop signs are going to remain where they are now? ● Council member Mariela Peralta <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ When will this all be completed? ● Council member Kelly Parisi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What was the original timeline of the completion of this project? ● Chair Brooks Esser <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There will be six to eight carriers which they'll be pulling lines that will take about a month or two to pull their lines through the conduit, is that true? ○ How long does it take the power polls out? How long does that process take? ○ Have the residential neighborhoods been notified with the night paving and etc.?
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Deputy Executive Justin Mates - Outdoor dining was not part of the design for Middlefield Road Project. But NFO Council have expressed interest in, and the County is looking into it now.

6. Garbage Rate Increase. (15 mins)

<p>Presentation by Lillian Clark from Office of Sustainability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Mateo County Role in SBWMA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Set rates annually ○ Ensure Contractor Compliance with the Franchise Agreement ○ Make program recommendations and conduct special events ○ Manage customer feedback ○ One member of a 11 Member Agency • Rate Setting Process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Annual audit of revenue and costs ○ Apply indices such as CPI ○ The SBWMA allocates the costs to member agencies ○ Review surplus or shortfalls in revenue ○ The County conducts an independent analysis or rate recommendations ○ Final rate recommendation is considered by the Board of Supervisors for approval • SB 1383 Requirements for County Areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Residential: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Residents in are required to participate in the County organics curbside collection service - Residents are required to properly sort their organic waste into the correct containers. ○ Businesses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Business are required to subscribe to and participate in their jurisdiction’s organics curbside collection service; or - Self-haul organic waste to a certified composting facility, all receipts will be verified - Certain businesses will be required to participate in an edible food recover program
<p>Council Members Comment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council member Kathleen Daly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Do cities have better ability to negotiate compared to an unincorporated city? ○ Where do those batteries go when the trucks collect them? • Council member Niket Sirsi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How much input or recommendations do we get in terms of controlling it so one of the things you mentioned for both contractors are that fuel is a huge cost? ○ Are there initiatives to encourage solar EV? ○ Any thoughts on how other countries allow dog waste in their compost? We don’t obviously in ours. • Council member Everardo Rodriguez <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Is plastic repurposed still a thing? What are we doing with plastic? ○ Regarding the trash can sizes, the 20 gallon is the same as the 32 gallons?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At some point I think we all will come to terms with pollution. ○ Do you collaborate with County with the SEC SMC? ○ The report up is not available in Spanish – it could be helpful especially in cities like North Fair Oaks. ● Vice Chair Blair Whitney <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It would be great if some of the apartment complexes offered battery buckets, especially the medium to small apartments. ○ It’s confusing where to put the batteries – where would I put the batteries? On top or by the trash? ○ Maybe improve the communication two way how the city of Palo Alto does. ● Council Member Juan Carlos Prado <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Once a year they do a large pickup. How much notice is that you notify before you want that to happen?
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No Public comment

7. Report Out

County Executive’s Report, presented by Justin Mates

- Holiday event, Dec. 2nd – keep a lookout.

Council Member’s Report, presented by North Fair Oaks Community Council

- Vice-chair Blair Whitney
 - The Redwood City Library is still a good source. Attended a United Hate Against Week event at the RWC Library.
 - Commend Casa Circulo with all the fun activities they do!
- Council Member Ever Rodriguez
 - Attended a California Energy Commission meeting – there’s a project to help meet the clean energy goals and de commissioning the gas lines in the state. They are looking into vulnerable communities like North Fair Oaks, to tackle help with the issues. Hopefully they can present in a meeting.
- Council Member Niket Sirsi
 - There are some concerns with the flooding of the storms. Is there a way the County will provide additional information to be prepared when those storms come. Such as any readiness plans or more information about it.
- Council Member Juan Carlos Prado
 - No report out.
- Council Member Mariela Peralta
 - After discussing with fellow businesses around North Fair Oaks, we are interested in bringing back the festival for summer of 2024 to get businesses excited about Middlefield almost being completed. Just a fun community event for residents and everyone. That way businesses can meet residents and vice versa.
- Council Member Kathleen Daly
 - Adding to what Ever was saying, Belhaven – there can be a connection with their grant they’ve received, and I can connect with someone from Belhaven.
- Council Member Kelly Parisi

- Building on the festival idea, there’s also an annual event that happens every August, “Neighbors Night Out” – these are natural opportunities to gather community.
- Chari Brooks Esser
 - No report out.

The meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Next Council Meeting:

Thursday January 18, 2024; 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

For more information on future meetings, agendas, minutes, and presentations/presentation materials, please visit: <https://www.smcgov.org/ceo/north-fair-oaks-community-council>