

**MINUTES  
FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 2022  
SARATOGA CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING**

At 9:00 a.m., the City Council held a Special Meeting via teleconferencing through Zoom.

Mayor Walia called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. via teleconferencing through Zoom.

Prior to Roll Call, the City Clerk explained the City Council meeting was conducted pursuant to State law as recently amended by Assembly Bill 361, which allows the meeting to be conducted entirely by teleconference. The City Council has met all the applicable notice requirements and the public is welcome to participate. All Council Members, staff, and meeting attendees participated by Zoom. Information on how the public can observe the meeting and provide public comment was provided.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Tina Walia, Vice Mayor Kookie Fitzsimmons, Council Members Mary-Lynne Bernald, Rishi Kumar, Yan Zhao  
(All Council Members appearing via teleconference)

**ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** James Lindsay, City Manager  
Richard Taylor, City Attorney  
Crystal Bothelio, Assistant City Manager  
Britt Avrit, City Clerk  
Debbie Pedro, Community Development Director  
John Cherbone, Public Works Director  
Nick Pegueros, Finance and Administrative Services Director  
Kayla Nakamoto, Administrative Analyst  
Lauren Pettipiece, Public Information Officer  
Nicole Johnson, Senior Planner  
Christopher Riordan, Senior Planner  
David Dorcich, Associate Civil Engineer  
Mainini Cabute, Environmental Program Manager  
(All staff members appearing via teleconference)

**REPORT ON POSTING OF THE AGENDA**

The City Clerk reported the agenda for this meeting was properly posted on January 25, 2022.

Mayor Walia noted the number of attendees and the number of people expected to address the City Council on this item and asked if the City Council would like to consider reducing the public speaking time to one minute per person.

BERNALD/FITZSIMMONS MOVED TO **CHANGE THE PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME TO ONE MINUTE PER PERSON FOR THIS MEETING.** MOTION PASSED BY VERBAL ROLL CALL. AYES: BERNALD, ZHAO, FITZSIMMONS, WALIA: NOES: KUMAR. ABSTAIN: NONE. ABSENT: NONE.

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

1. EIR Project Description for Housing Element and General Plan Update including Housing Opportunity Sites Selection, Policies, and Programs  
**Recommended Action:**  
Provide direction on the Housing Opportunity Sites, distribution of units, and policies and programs to include in the project description for the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the General Plan and Housing Element Update.

Mayor Walia invited public comment on the item.

The following individuals spoke on this item: Cheriell Jensen, Petra Jacobskrueger, Linda, Glenda Aune, Ling Shao, KP, Sujatha, Lynne Lampros, Brian R, Graham, Madhu Krishnan, Mary Pat, Ellis, Emily, Sonya, Anoop Kumar, Vivian, David Anderson, Ying, Jose, Joy Ciffone, Jayne Sonnenschein, Bill Mullen, Taras, Kylie Clark, KY, LaSandra, Rashmi Shrivastava, Janet, Tista Kapoor, Khiem Hoang, Patricia Cowles, PS and family member, Esther Kim, Surabhi Pathak, Sue, Tim McNally, Wing Au, Terry, Classica, Diana, Amy, M. Robertson, Shuang, Terri, Dhans, James Lu, Kamath, Holly Anderson, Martin Snitow, Mahajan, M, Lei Chang, Birmingham, Joe Ting, Hao Ge, Shu Han, Feng, Daniel Rhoads, Uday Rau, Jean, Esther, Ralf, Ashok Madanahalli, Nipon, Anjali Mahajan, Tina and Gary, Zoom user, Priya, Letitia Lam

Debbie Pedro, Community Development Director, provided a presentation for this item.

Mayor Walia stated she will be recusing herself from discussion regarding the Argonaut Center, Blauer properties, and Pierce Road/Saratoga-Sunnyvale properties due to the proximity of those parcels to her personal residence.

Vice Mayor Fitzsimmons stated she will be recusing herself from discussion regarding the Village sites due to the proximity of those parcels to property her family owns and will recuse herself from discussion regarding the Heritage Orchard sites due to the proximity of the parcel to her personal residence.

Mayor Walia requested a recess and reconvened the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Council Member Kumar stated “For the record, I’ve stated this, our staff members, Debbie said, we have data that all the other cities are on parity with us they are at the same timeline with us; that’s not true, it’s false. The Cupertino status is they are currently reviewing the sites at the Planning Commission stage, so they are months behind us.”

The City Council identified tentative Housing Opportunity Sites that they would like to discuss further.

Council Member Zhao left the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

The City Council discussed tentative Housing Opportunity Sites in greater detail and continued to refine the list of Housing Opportunity Sites to be further assessed.

Mayor Walia requested a recess and reconvened the meeting at 2:21 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Walia adjourned the meeting at 4:17 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted:

Britt Avrit, MMC, City Clerk  
City of Saratoga