



POLICY AND SERVICES COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 12, 2010

Chair Yeh called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. in the Council Conference Room, 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California.

Present: Yeh (Chair), Holman, Price, Shepherd

Absent: None

1. Oral Communications

None.

2. Preliminary Discussion of 2011 Federal and State Legislative Program.

Assistant to the City Manager, Kelly Morariu stated that representatives from Van Scoyoc Associates, our legislative advocates, were present to provide an overview of what had been happening in Washington, DC.

Steve Palmer, Vice President of Van Scoyoc Associates, stated this past Congress was mainly focused on health care reform, financial issues due to the downturn in the economy, and the oil spill in the gulf.

Thane Young, Vice President of Van Scoyoc Associates, stated that the Federal government has been running on a continuing resolution for its budget. This year Palo Alto had requested funding for the San Francisquito Creek Flood Control Project, the Highway 101 overpass, and several other projects. The San Francisquito Creek project was the only one that received funding so far. He believes that all appropriations would be lumped into one Bill and it was expected to receive between \$350-650k.

Mr. Palmer stated that the High Speed Rail issue at the Federal level was quieter than at the local level. The process continues, money is being appropriated for High Speed Rail, grants are being awarded by the Department of Transportation and Federal Rail Authority (FRA). The FRA is working with

manufactures to insure interoperability and standards for High Speed Rail. He stated that reduced funding is going to be the focus of the new Congress.

Ms. Morariu stated that Staff is still reviewing State priorities and will come back in November with the final focus areas for the State. She stated that several of the past priorities will be continuing. Staff will be monitoring the November elections to watch the results of the Propositions. In November departments will finalize appropriations requests, in December the list will be approved by this Committee, and final comment and approval by Council would come back in January 2011.

Chair Yeh inquired if Staff was looking for action on all of the overall Guiding Principles tonight.

Ms. Morariu stated that Staff was looking for comments or concerns on the Guiding Principles, and any changes the Committee wants to make. These would then come back in December for final review.

Council Member Holman asked if the overall Guiding Principles apply to the state and federal government.

City Manager, James Keene answered yes.

Council Member Price stated the statements are consistent with the League of California Cities Mission statement.

Ms. Morariu stated that Staff uses the Guiding Principles to make decisions throughout the year.

Chair Yeh stated these work well to help Staff take quick action when things come up.

Council Member Holman asked if the Committee wants to specifically call out the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) housing mandates. There was a need for more specific reference to the ABAG requirements.

Ms. Morariu stated it is contained in the State program, but if there is a need to call it out further, Staff can do that. She stated that the Guiding Principles are at the 30,000 level and the State level programs are at a lower level and these are where we may want to focus our attention on as they affect Palo Alto.

Mr. Keene stated that the generality of the Guiding Principles gives Staff a broad area to work with and suggested that we leave the ABAG requirements as they are at this time.

Council Member Price stated the Guiding Principles should be kept general and flexible.

MOTION: Council Member Price moved, seconded by Council Member Holman, that the Policy and Services Committee confirms the Overall Guiding Principles for 2011.

MOTION PASSED 4-0.

Chair Yeh stated the Committee will have a chance to hear from Staff on Federal funding, but the Committee could provide preliminary thoughts on what we can look forward to in 2011.

Council Member Price asked for clarification if there was funding already received for the San Francisquito Creek project and no funds had yet been provided for the Foothills Fire Prevention and Highway 101 Pedestrian Bridge project. Do we assume that the City should continue to advocate for these last two projects.

Mr. Palmer stated it is up to Staff to determine if they wish to make those two projects a priority. He stated that there was support for the flood control project. There was interest in the Highway 101 project but there were no funds appropriated for it. He stated that they had heard that the Foothills Fire Prevention project was not eligible for funding.

Mr. Young stated that on the Foothill Fire Prevention project, there is another opportunity for the City to pursue this through the Federal Emergency Management Administration as a pre-disaster mitigation grant.

Mr. Palmer stated that if the Highway 101 Pedestrian project is a top transportation priority for the City, he would recommend that the City move forward not only with a single-year funding request but multi-year funding also.

Council Member Price asked if the Transportation Authorization Bill covers broader transportation issues than High Speed Rail, or is it fixed rail only. Will there be other options that the State of California could pursue.

Mr. Palmer stated the Transportation Authorization Bill traditionally focused funding for highway, and it was funded by Federal Gas Tax. Until recently there weren't any programs for rail programs.

Council Member Shepherd stated she was concerned because Caltrain wasn't going to be able to get federal dollars to update their system. On the Federal Legislative focus area, she asked if Staff can return in December with wording specifically for High Speed Rail. She stated she would like to see the City introduce national standards for High Speed Rail. She wanted to know if the City should be communicating with the Department of Transportation or the Federal Rail Authority on this subject, or can our legislative advocates help us with this.

Mr. Palmer answered that he had insured that both of the above agencies received a copy of the letter that the City had drafted last week regarding High Speed Rail.

Council Member Shepherd asked if the City letter went to far with the statements contained in it.

Mr. Palmer stated he had not received any feedback from anyone.

Council Member Shepherd stated that she felt that the City needs to continue to advocate for set standards and make ourselves heard since there is nothing in place so far.

Mr. Palmer stated it is difficult to know where those decisions will be made, it is not clear how far the Federal government will go with setting standards. The Department of Transportation and Federal Rail Authority are not going to set the standards at this time. They will probably let the states set the guideline.

Council Member Shepherd asked when Staff comes back in December to bring language for state and federal level that is more specific.

Mr. Morariu stated that last year the Federal issues were more broad, and there really weren't any policy issues written for High Speed Rail. Staff will be able to bring something back in December.

Council Member Shepherd stated she is concerned because Memorandum of Understandings are getting written with regards to High Speed Rail. She asked if there was anything that could be done if the funding was done by the private sector.

Mr. Palmer stated it is a harder issue because there aren't any public funds to build these systems. The uncertainty of ridership is keeping most private investors away until these numbers are verified.

Mr. Keene stated that from the projects we had last year, what would we like to see moving forward, and can we winnow them down. We will need to find out if there are opportunities to work with federal agencies, they may have more opportunities for assistance. Even if there are Congressional changes, the administration is there and we can take advantage of that. He asked if there is anyway that through Palo Alto and other local cities to get traction to get this completed effectively.

Council Member Shepherd stated that Senator Simitian said that Feb. 1, 2011 was the deadline for the High Speed Rail Authority to put together their business plan. The problem is that if the funding is suspended, we are left with an Environmental Impact Report that basically makes houses unsellable, with other unresolved issues.

Council Member Holman requested that when the legislative advocates come back that they provide input on how they perceive that Palo Alto can be more effective in our strategies.

Mr. Palmer stated that he doesn't see any new significant sustained funding coming for systems like Caltrain. He stated there are other nontraditional funds being awarded to commuter and freight train systems. Funds for Caltrain could be found in the other discretionary funding grants. He stated he believes that the City's position is already known with federal legislators. Continued letters and conversations with legislators is the way to keep the communications open.

Mr. Young stated he believes Palo Alto is taking the right approach by bring other communities in California together to discuss the issues and have a continued effort and leadership role in this process.

Mr. Palmer stated the difficulty is that this initiative is coming down from the President, and breaking through that is going to be a challenge.

Council Member Holman stated the awareness of the challenges and the discord is pretty focused in a few communities and making legislators aware of it is difficult.

Council Member Price requested that when the federal legislative advocates return that they bring a chart that shows where funding programs reside, as they relate to the Department of Transportation versus Federal Rail Authority.

Chair Yeh stated High Speed Rail is a high priority, but so is the San Francisquito Creek Flood program. He stated that one of the other priorities that he would want to look for federal funding for would be for some of our infrastructure backlog, including redundant electric transmission lines. He would also like brought back for the December meeting a list of federal funds still available to communities to compete for. Additionally, for the Water Resources Development Act, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission has embarked on an aggressive upgrade to the Hetch Hetchy Water System. This water is used regionally and would benefit from federal funds.

Mr. Keene stated the redundant Stanford transmission line would benefit not only the University, but the Children's Hospital and the main hospital as well.

Ms. Morariu stated that unless there are other issues that the Committee would like to discuss, Staff will be bringing the Guiding Principles back in December.

3. Project Safety Net Follow-up.

Division Manager, Recreation Services Rob De Geus stated that Staff is here with two recommendations: 1) the City Council adopt a City of Palo Alto Suicide Prevention Policy, and 2) the City Council adopt a Resolution to adopt the 41 Developmental Assets as a framework for guiding all policy and programs in the City as they relate to youth development.

Vic Ojakian stated that he worked with Council Member Price on the Suicide Prevention Policy. He provided highlights of the policy, and stated that this policy aligns with the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors policy. He stated what is also necessary is an Emergency Crisis Plan for emergency responders.

Council Member Price stated that the policy implies that there should be administrative procedures in place and it is key to make this program successful. Although the City is not a service provider for this, they need to collaborate with organizations like Project Safety Net. She recommends that the City adopt the Santa Clara County Resolution.

Mr. Ojakian stated the County efforts are continuing. We completed the strategic plan and now we are in the implementation phase of the plan. There will be 5 subgroups to look at different components of the plan.

Council Member Shepherd asked how much the gatekeeper program costs.

Mr. Ojakian stated that at the County level they are under negotiations with one of the groups that provides one of the better programs. They provide both

in-class and online training. We hope to sign a contract within the next several months.

Council Member Shepherd asked if money is required right now to fund the program.

Mr. Ojakian stated they are looking at ways to cut the costs, by buying a lot of licenses.

Council Member Shepherd stated the problem is with the funding part, if it is weak or you don't have funding, then there isn't a policy.

Mr. Ojakian stated the reason they put "if available" in the first sentence of the last paragraph of the policy, is in case they can't get funds. It was purposely left open on City funding the program.

Council Member Shepherd stated that maybe something else needs to be not funded so that we can move forward with this.

Mr. Ojakian stated that when outside donors see that you have passed a policy it says that it is something that I care about. Put yourself in a position without getting too specific. As far as outside donors, the City is telling them that this is something we care about by adopting this policy, and we need to find funding for it.

Council Member Price stated this is just the preliminary step, adding the next layer dove tails what Project Safety Net has already done. What steps need to be taken with Project Safety Net to refine this and convince them that this is worth funding.

Council Member Shepherd suggested to delete on the last page of Attachment 1, in the first sentence of the 3rd paragraph "if available", and change "and shall be sought through" to "and shall be augmented by private donations, grant applications."

Mr. Ojakian stated that Rob De Geus has been tasked through Project Safety Net to try to seek outside funding.

Mr. Keene suggested to change "if available" to "as available".

Council Member Shepherd agreed with the change.

Council Member Holman stated she had a concern in Attachment 1, the last sentence of the first paragraph where it states, "shall be". She stated that she felt it was a directive that the City may not be able to achieve.

Mr. Ojakian stated that he believes that that is not the way that it would be understood.

Council Member Holman reiterated that she believed that it directs us to do something that we may not be able to do. She didn't want to put the City in a position where they may not be able to do something.

Mr. Ojakian stated that one of the issues that we face is that people don't want to go out and talk about mental health issues because of the negativity surrounding it.

Council Member Holman stated that it reads to her that the City would provide mental health care and that is not what this is supposed to do.

Council Member Price stated that it does not say that we are going to create a mental health clinic, but what we are saying is that we support our community members in need. It makes a strong statement that we are here to support the community.

Mr. De Geus suggested deleting "there shall be" to alleviate Council Member Holman's concerns.

Council Member Holman agreed with the change.

Mr. Ojakian stated that we have lost a number of young lives, they didn't seek help, and we need to insure in our community that we let people know that there is support for them, there are other avenues available to them.

Council Member Holman stated she is comfortable with Mr. De Geus' suggestion.

Chair Yeh stated that the first paragraph of Attachment 1 is just the background and it is not the policy. It is a value statement that the City supports. He stated that he believed our policy should be provide to the Palo Alto Unified School District, Caltrain management and other local jurisdictions.

Mr. Ojakian stated that if the City passes this and the employees are held to it, they can then let others know about this policy and that they believe in it and others should know about it.

Chair Yeh stated that he liked the fact that the County Plan was also a part of this.

Mr. De Geus asked if the information on the County Plan belongs in our policy.

At 8:33 p.m. City Hall lost power, and the following minutes are brief synopsis of what was covered.

Chair Yeh stated that he was in favor of the policy with the changes in wording that had been discussed.

Council Member Shepherd asked how this would come back.

Mr. Keene stated it would come back to full Council and then become policy for City Staff.

Mr. Ojakian stated that it would also be good to pass the County Resolution that had been provided in the last packet.

Council Member Shepherd reminded everyone that May is Mental Health Month.

Council Member Price asked if this could be taken to the Santa Clara County Cities Association and become a part of the County Strategic Plan, or was the plan for each city to endorse it and change it to fit their needs.

Mr. Ojakian stated the intent was to have each city pass it.

Council Member Price asked if it would be better to have this not be a part of the County Strategic Plan and the City Resolution be separate.

Mr. Ojakian stated that the County Plan has basic information.

Council Member Price stated that it should be two pieces so there is context.

Chair Yeh asked that when this goes to Council would it be better to have both the Resolution and the policy at the same time. He asked who would be reviewing the policy annually, would it be City Staff.

Mr. Ojakian stated that it would be good to have Council review it either every 6 months or annually.

Mr. De Geus stated that it would be better to bring this back to Policy and Services for review, before it went to Council on Consent.

Council Member Price stated it would be good to annually reaffirm the policy and to keep ongoing engagement.

Council Member Holman asked why there aren't specific entities such as Stanford and Palo Alto Medical Foundation as a part of this.

Mr. Ojakian stated Project Safety Net started as a collaboration between the schools and the City. We have tried to include other agencies as funding sources.

Council Member Holman stated she was referring to sources of services and not funding sources.

Mr. Ojakian stated that there are MOU's in place through Project Safety Net for services for the community.

MOTION: Council Member Price moved, seconded by Council Member Shepherd, that the Policy and Services Committee recommends to the City Council to: 1) adopt a City of Palo Alto Suicide Prevention Policy with the noted changes.

MOTION PASSED 4-0.

Management Analyst, Greg Hermann spoke about the 41 Developmental Assets Resolution. He spoke about organizations within the community, and divisions within the City who accepted the assets, and the specifics on implementation.

The discussion centered around the 41 Developmental Assets and if they would come back to Policy and Services Committee each year for review. It was decided that they would not come back for review, but rather as a tool for what has happened during the past year, lessons learned, and how can it be improved. The topic of training was discussed and there is a 2 hour course provided by Santa Clara County, however there are currently Community Services employees who can conduct the training.

MOTION: Council Member Shepherd moved, seconded by Council Member Holman to adopt a Resolution to adopt the 41 Developmental Assets as a framework for Guiding Principals and Programs in the City as related to youth development, with changes to come back annually, to include a copy of the assets.

The discussion then focused on the financial impacts of implementing the program and the monitoring of how the 41 Assets are being applied. It was decided that Community Services working with various community groups could return with a report to Policy and Services Committee.

INCORPORATED INTO THE MOTION WITH THE CONSENT OF THE MAKER AND SECONDER to have reports on the financial and operational issues return to Policy and Services and have Youth Council review it

The Committee discussed the need to review projects and their desire to weigh in on projects on both the policy and financial side as well.

MOTION PASSED: 4-0

4. Discussion of 2010 Council Priorities Workplan-Selection of Top 3 Priority Items.

Ms. Morariu asked if there was an interest by the Committee to discuss their two top priorities and then look at those and get consensus on what the Committee wants to focus on.

Chair Yeh stated that the Committee should start with Council's Top Priorities, then agendaize further discussion for one of the remaining meetings this year.

Council Member Holman stated that her focus was on economic development which means attracting business retail and services to the City. Her second priority was transparency, accountability and oversight. She stated that in Attachment 1, Strategy 2a and 2b, she felt they should be combined with an interest in how we expend funds. Her third priority was under Land Use and Transportation, she believed it was critical in how we review projects.

Council Member Shepherd stated she remembered discussion at the last meeting that this meeting was going to set up methodology, agree and relook at the work we were doing with the Purpose and Mission statement of Policy and Services Committee. She stated that Council needs to look more strategically at what we do as a City. There is work that Policy and Services can do to prepare for next year with regards to budget development, relationship with Palo Alto School District, development agreements. She stated that although they have spoken about two-year goals there has not been an in-depth discussion of them. They need to look at and define the purpose and mission of the Policy & Services Committee, so that decisions they make to move forward become part of the culture of how Council operates.

At approximately 9:33 p.m. the power was restored.

Council Member Price stated that economic development is the combination of revenue generation and restructuring of City services. Her concern is the ability to pick subsets that are manageable over the next several months to work on. How do cities around us define core services, and how are they managed so you have the ability to provide the services and have the income to support them. She felt that the City is making progress on Community Collaborative for Youth Well Being. How can we make our work here the most effective and productive, the purpose of this committee is to provide guidance and influence for other decisions that have a fiscal impact. Our role needs to be defined as it relates to the Finance Committee, so that any member now or in the future has an understanding of those roles.

Council Member Yeh stated there has been some work done on defining the language in the Municipal Code as to the role of the Policy and Services Committee. The discussions should be more focused on programs and services and not the financial aspects of them. We should finalize this document over the next several meetings so we can bring it to Council. There may be a change in committee members the first of the year, and they should know what the issues are ahead of time. He suggested they take a subcommittee approach to look into each of the Council priorities.

Council Member Holman asked if there was an update on workplans or programs from the various departments. She stated it would be helpful to know what is manageable, what is the status of current projects. It is difficult to know what projects we can do without knowing the current workload.

Chair Yeh stated he felt that there were two things going on here, one was that the various departments needed to do workplans, and concurrently the Committee needs to decide their role and how do we have an impact.

Council Member Price stated that in order to have the influence on finance issues they need to have program and workload information in the January to March timeframe. Then their input could be heard by the Finance Committee.

Mr. Keene stated the challenge for the Committee is to not look at all the pieces, but look at some. The committees allow members to be immersed in a topic, and by working with only four people it makes the scheduling easier. The two committees do have overlapping issues to work on.

Council Member Price asked if the priorities of the Council should begin at the beginning of the fiscal year. Each committee wants to feel that they are providing value and insight into the priorities.

Chair Yeh asked how to address making this a 6 month process, when we just want to codify some of the strategic direction. If there is a draft report on the policy and services roles/responsibilities can it be discussed in a study session/discussion on October 27th or an action item on November 9th. Then the Committee can say here is the strategic vision of Policy and Services Committee.

Mr. Keene stated that there is enough information now to allow adoption of the role, purpose and work planning of the Committee. There might need to be further clarification, but it would be nice to have this in place before the new term begins in January 2011.

Council Member Shepherd asked if Staff can bring back what it means to have a goal for Council Priorities. Three of the priorities are very sustained, and 2 are things that we can piece meal. Project Safety Net and Emergency preparedness are clearly defined and already working. Is it possible to work through that after we work on the purpose and mission statement of the Committee. She stated there are many large projects and how are they supposed to respond on them.

Mr. Keene stated that specific actions or initiatives are brought to the Committee to focus on and have dialogue. A focus for 2011 may be the Bicycle Master Plan, which is part of sustainability. Part of that could be brought to the Committee for discussion, then you could see how it all connects.

Chair Yeh stated that a recommendation would be that the Council retreat incorporates this. As he has seen there have been some nebulous priorities each year and maybe they should be made multi-year priorities. He asked what is a priority, and this is something the Council should discuss.

Ms. Morariu stated that Staff could do a brief memo on the discussion tonight and bring it to Council.

Council Member Shepherd asked how to make it happen. During the last budget process there were a lot of issues such as the deletion of crossing guards, and homeowners have to pay for sidewalk repair, that caused great concern. Are we going to come up with a technique to go to the community to talk about these types of issues.

Chair Yeh stated looking at future meetings, it would be good for us to look at revised language about Policy and Services, and then a supplemental staff report discussing the timing. In September and May departments could look at the budgets and proposed cuts in services. They can then look at potential investors before it comes out in the City Manager's budget and it is purely reactive at that point.

Council Member Price asked what is the best use of our time between now and February to have some discussions on the budget, revenue generation, etc. that have implication on budget and the community. What is the smaller process that we can use between now and February that is realistic, manageable, and focuses on what we have discussed tonight. It needs to be done before the public outreach regarding the budget.

Mr. Keene stated he believed that most of the public was o.k. with what we did. If you look at the Service, Efforts, and Accomplishments Report, for the most part we get good marks. So much of what we do is in the 90th percentile. How do you focus on one or two things to give us.

Chair Yeh stated this might be an area where a subcommittee is formed with members who want to focus on one or two areas that they are really interested in.

Council Member Holman stated she understands and agrees with the earlier input regarding the Finance Committee and the role Policy and Services Committee would take. She wants to insure that during budget time, if we go to the public and tell them we are cutting services, we can say that we have looked at everything. She has looked at economic development and land use and we have not received high marks. If we look as a group and decide to look at 4 areas, then we could break up into two subcommittees and each one could then look at two areas with Staff.

Chair Yeh stated that as a group they are looking at all the topics and winnowing down the list, but one definite idea that we can follow up on is public/private partnerships.

Council Member Price stated that working with economic development as a focus is important especially if we start moving towards a better economy. This way as the economy gets better we can take advantage of opportunities. Each group needs to feel successes. The issue of the audit concept, is that it looks at what the departments are or are not doing, where can the work processes and outcomes be improved.

Mr. Keene stated that the City Auditor is reporting regularly on audits, and annual workplan to the Finance Committee, and it may be redundant to bring it here also. We have to divide the labor, as far as economic development we are not regularly looking at that.

Council Member Price asked if there was another focus on the Enterprise Funds and utilities.

Mr. Keene stated that this year we added contract funding, and then added a dedicated auditor for utilities. The Auditor and the Utilities Director have been meeting regularly to come up with a workplan. In any given year there are only so many audits that they can complete.

Council Member Holman stated it isn't all about the audits, its about economic development and revenue generation while it is not a good economy. It is a good opportunity to explore these because we have empty space to put businesses in.

Chair Yeh stated that they could pick some up coming dates to discuss a couple of these topics. He stated he and Council Member Shepherd are both interested in public/private partnerships and they have spoken to members of the Human Relations Committee. If there was a desire by Council Members Price and Holman to focus on economic development and work with Tommy Ferhenbach regarding buildings and use of space. There are two possibly still outstanding and one is oversight transparency which is under the City Manager's purview. It might not be something that we can bring back at this time due to the remaining meetings.

Mr. Keene stated that oversight is important to show accountability. If you take economic development and public/private partnership these are both arenas that are blended between the organization and the public. These are areas that due to the relations you have with citizens and providers out there, and their expectation of your engagement that you can have great input on. You are framing things that you hear from the public and then bringing it back to Staff.

Council Member Price stated we need Staff input in order to frame discussion around City core services.

Mr. Keene agreed with her statement.

Council Member Price asked about the timing for all of these issues to come back over the next few weeks.

Chair Yeh asked if the mission and purpose statements would be ready to come back to the Committee on October 26, 2010.

Ms. Morariu stated that the role of the Committee during the annual budget process still needs to be flushed out and written, and asked if there is a need to have a discussion on core services in December.

Council Member Shepherd asked when does the Council or City discuss that.

Mr. Keene stated that there is no magic way to do this, it is just another way to reframe things. Do you look at core service document or work on framework so you can say you have them.

Council Member Price asked that in all the places that Mr. Keene has worked, what worked the best. Can the process be better.

Mr. Keene answered yes we can make our process better, we have engagement participation, structure and clarity. The budget document can be better, but the biggest issue is when there are tough times and difficult decisions to make. That is when it is there are the hardest budget decisions to make.

Council Member Shepherd asked when do we get briefed on what was brought back in to the budget. What is in place now that we could be discussing such as the crossing guards. Some of the programs that were cut last year should have been brought to Policy and Services so we could have input.

Mr. Keene stated a bigger policy issue is what is the boundary between what the school district does and what the City does. What is each of us is doing.

Council Member Yeh stated that he is aware of the standing committee between the two entities and we now have two subcommittees to look at other issues, is there time for a third committee to work on this.

Council Member Shepherd stated this goes far deeper than crossing guards, it goes to the middle schools. Do we start the conversation now so that we don't repeat what happened last year during budget season.

Chair Yeh asked if there is a City Staff member who would be the point person for city/school issues.

Mr. Keene stated that were three areas that Staff used when putting together the budget last year and they were: 1) where do we cut or reduce a service, 2) raise a revenue, and 3) where could we offload a service or cost share a

service. Those are policy decisions that this Committee could discuss. We are already getting participation from people in public/private partnerships which is helping.

Ms. Morariu stated that that discussion would be good in December and it would start the beginning of the budget discussion. With enough time we could have Budget staff prepare for that.

Council Member Shepherd asked how we know what was brought back in budget, or do we start from zero.

Chair Yeh stated that as Committee members if there is feedback in creating the report we should provide it to Staff now, so in December when this is brought back for discussion it would allow meaningful and deep discussion.

Council Member Holman stated that it would be helpful to see a list of all of the services that the City provides to Palo Alto Unified School District.

Mr. Keene stated Staff can get that.

Council Member Holman stated it would also be helpful to get the same information as it pertains to Stanford University, such as rent paid, where we are subject to getting new charges, or any other entity that may be in the same position with the City.

Ms. Morariu responded that the upcoming discussion in November on Public/Private Partnerships would help in that discussion, to help understand the funding mechanisms in place.

Council Member Holman stated she has heard discussions where Stanford is thinking of charging the City for the substation. That information would be helpful to know for our future discussions.

Council Member Price stated she feels the sooner Policy and Services has these discussions, the easier it will be to make decisions further in the future. She asked if the topics for future Policy and Services meetings have been finalized.

Chair Yeh stated that for October 26 house keeping stuff, such as goals.

Ms. Morariu stated the meeting was going to be about incorporating the goals into the Council Protocols, basically referencing back to the Municipal Code language and keeping it very generic. Then roll the goal, purposes, and work

plan into a part of the Council Protocols. Then the Committee would make a recommendation to full Council

Chair Yeh stated that would be on 10/26, there are several components. What about 11/9.

Ms. Morariu stated the memo from Policy and Services to recommend that Council discuss what is meant by Council Priorities be a part of the January retreat. A brief memo to bring that to Council can be discussed on 10/26.

Council Member Price asked if Council would still have a priority setting session in January if we are on a two-year cycle.

Mr. Keene stated that he has heard from other Council Members that we are on a two-year cycle. We need to figure out how to configure the retreat keeping this in mind.

Chair Yeh stated Nov. 9th would be discussions on public/private partnerships, Project Safety Net. Then on Nov. 30th would be discussion on economic development and working with Tommy Ferhenbach.

Council Member Holman asked if the topic on economic development would also be about revenue generation.

Chair Yeh stated that the Dec. 14th meeting would include follow-up on the legislative program, larger discussion on budget prioritization, PAUSD and Stanford-core service

Mr. Keene stated he may bring some information on Human Resources flexibility on Nov. 30th.

Council Member Holman asked if the land use issue was going to wait until next year.

Chair Yeh stated that that is a project process review. He asked if it specifically was permit processing or the larger picture.

Council Member Holman answered that it is the whole process.

Mr. Keene stated that we could discuss this at the next meeting so we can bring the right staff members to the meeting.

Council Member Holman asked if the land use item could be heard on Nov. 9th instead.

Chair Yeh stated that if it gets delayed it may get bumped to the next committee in January.

5. Discussion for Future Meeting Schedules and Agendas

Council Member Holman stated that she had given Staff a list of low hanging fruit and she wanted to insure that it was not forgotten, and wants to know how these fit in.

Ms. Morariu stated we can say that some of these can be addressed by Staff and don't need to be brought back to the Committee. We will work on it and get back with you.

Mr. Keene stated that the staff retreat was shortened to one day rather than three days.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.