

## **Sunnyvale City Council Summary - Tuesday, April 8, 2025**

The Sunnyvale City Council meeting was held in person at Sunnyvale City Hall on April 8, 2025, beginning at 7:00 PM.

The following council members were present at the meeting:

- \* Mayor Klein
- \* Vice Mayor Sell
- \* Councilmember Cisneros
- \* Councilmember Mellinger
- \* Councilmember Srinivasan
- \* Councilmember Chang
- \* Councilmember Lay

### **I. Report on Sunnyvale City Vacancies and Recruitment/Retention Efforts:**

- Assembly Bill 2561 mandates annual public hearings on vacancies, recruitment, and retention.
- The City's total FTE count is 956.68, with 4.12 frozen positions; SEA Local 21 has an 8.7% vacancy rate, while other units have lower rates.
- HR initiatives include updated civil service rules, online application resources, remote exam platforms, and a compensation study.
- The city recently added 21.5 FTEs and completed negotiations with PSOA; public safety vacancies and turnover rates were discussed.
- Recruitment involves initial screening, subject matter expert review, and interviews; vacancies exist across all levels.

### **II. Councilmember reports on intergovernmental committee activities:**

- Councilmember Mellinger reported on her first Airport Land Use Commission meeting, receiving and discussing the annual update and work plan.

- Councilmember Lay attended a Caltrain meeting focusing on sustainability, potential regional transit bonds, and grade crossing improvements.
- Vice Mayor Sell reported on a VTA meeting, discussing express lanes, congestion reduction, revenue generation, and ongoing union negotiations.
- Councilmember Srinivasan highlighted Fremont High School's robotics team achievements, including extensive outreach and mentoring.

### **III. Closed Session Reports:**

- Closed session regarding the City Manager's performance evaluation (Item A). No information shared publicly.
- Closed session addressed existing litigation, \*Ose Torres v. City of Sunnyvale\* (Item B). No information released.

### **IV. Special Orders of the Day:**

- Proclamations recognizing Arab American Heritage Month, Fair Housing Month (highlighting Project Sentinel), and National Library Week.
- Library Superintendent Garrett Kuramoto discussed National Library Week events.

### **V. Presentations: Valley Water Rate Increases and Water Supply**

- Valley Water Directors Santos and Sweet presented proposed rate increases to address aging infrastructure.
- Aaron Baker (Valley Water) discussed groundwater sustainability and coordination with SFPUC.
- Darren Taylor (Valley Water CFO) detailed the 54th Annual Report, outlining financial analysis for FY26 water charges and infrastructure projects.
- A 9.9% increase in groundwater charges was proposed for FY26, projected to taper; water rate assistance programs are available.

### **VI. Valley Water's Current Water Supply Status and Future Projects:**

- Groundwater conditions are healthy, with above-normal storage (excluding Anderson Reservoir).

- Statewide reservoir levels are favorable; Valley Water has sufficient carryover supplies and allocations.
- A joint study with Sunnyvale will explore water reuse opportunities and Wolf Road pipeline improvements.
- Valley Water aims for 24,000 acre-feet of regional water reuse annually by 2035.
- Significant infrastructure investment is needed; grant funding and cost management are underway.

## **VII. South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Project:**

- Phase 1 (San Jose) is under construction; Phase 2 is concluded.
- Phase 3 (Sunnyvale) is under study, a multi-objective project led by the US Army Corps of Engineers.
- The Phase 3 scoping study is approximately \$16 million and 8 years long, awaiting approval.
- Alternatives include ecotone restoration, levee improvements, and salt pond restoration.

## **VIII. Valley Water Capital Improvement Projects & Funding:**

- Rinconada Water Treatment Plant (RWTP) Reliability Improvements: \$720 million project, nearing completion.
- Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project: In planning and design phase; board decisions expected in 18 months.
- San Jose Purified Water Program: \$100 million demonstration facility planned.
- Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofits: Retrofit project will take 6-7 years; expected to be awarded in late 2026.
- WIFIA Loans: Three loans secured; applications for two more submitted.

## **IX. Sunnyvale Youth Advisory Community Benefits Projects:**

- The Sunnyvale Youth Advisory (SYA) presented community projects, including a native plant initiative, website improvements, internship database, literacy program, and seed bank proposal.
- Council members discussed project sustainability and the potential formalization of the SYA as an

official city advisory body.

#### **X. Oral Communications: Public Comment**

- Public speakers addressed various topics, including Sunnyvale Sister City Association programs, a Baylands Park restoration project, and Fremont High School robotics team achievements. Residents from Charles Street voiced concerns about development impacts.

#### **XI. Village Center Master Plan Hearing:**

- Councilmembers Mellinger and Lay moved to agendaize a hearing on the Village Center Master Plan no later than July 1st.
- Concerns were raised about delays and the potential negative impact on the community, particularly regarding Village Center 4 and the Lucky Supermarket.
- Councilmember Lay emphasized the importance of ensuring proper objective standards are in place to prevent adverse developments.
- The motion passed unanimously (7-0).
- Discussion included potential segmentation of Village Center 4 to expedite the process.

#### **XII. Sunnyvale Youth Advisory Committee Structure and Future:**

- Council discussed formalizing the SYA as an official city advisory body; SYA outlined their plan to maintain project momentum.

#### **XIII. July 4th Celebration and Other Business:**

- The July 4th celebration budget was approved, with a suggestion to utilize Moffett Field runway. Estimated expenditure is \$50 per attendee.

#### **XIV. Other Discussions:**

- Concerns were raised regarding potential overinvestment in water infrastructure if conservation surpasses projections.
- Collaboration with Google on flood protection as part of their campus development.
- Sunnyvale East West Project design efforts are ongoing.

- East Channel Trail improvements are cost-shared with Sunnyvale; design is part of the flood protection project.
- Positive feedback on the Earth Day event was shared.