



**CITY of CALABASAS**

**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

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**DATE: JUNE 19, 2023**

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS**

**FROM: KINDON MEIK, CITY MANAGER  
MICHAEL MCCONVILLE, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER**

**SUBJECT: PROGRESS UPDATE ON FY 22/23 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

**MEETING DATE: JUNE 28, 2023**

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**SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the City Council receive and file this progress update on the FY 22/23 Strategic Priorities.

**BACKGROUND:**

On April 13, 2022, the City Council formally adopted the FY 2022/23 Strategic Priorities as a means of prioritizing the City's policy areas of focus, as well as aligning specific projects and initiatives in support of the City's mission. The final Strategic Priorities selected were: (1) *Environmental Leadership*, (2) *Fiscal Resiliency*, (3) *Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness*, (4) *Recreation, Youth & Senior Services*, (5) *Organizational Excellence*, and (6) *Development & Infrastructure*.

To accomplish the adopted Strategic Priorities, the City Council also approved the fiscal year 2022/23 Workplan, which outlines staff action items and due dates towards the accomplishment of 12 Objectives to be carried out by the end of the fiscal year. As a result, the Workplan provides the benefit of properly allocating City resources and staff time, while also measuring project performance and staff deliverables throughout the year.

## **DISCUSSION:**

This report serves as a progress update on the FY 2022/23 Strategic Priorities. The following is a brief summary on the status of each Objective:

### **OBJECTIVE 1: IDENTIFY POTENTIAL REAL PROPERTY ACQUISITIONS FOR THE PURPOSES OF FUTURE PARKLAND OR OPEN SPACE DESIGNATION.**

Over the last year, the City Council has directed staff to consider several properties that could be zoned as parkland or open space. The Open Space Committee convened in April to prioritize potential properties and direct staff on the acquisition of parcels. Staff will continue efforts to acquire property once further direction is received from the City Council.

### **OBJECTIVE 2: DEVELOP A WATER RESILIENCE PLAN OUTLINING STRATEGIES TO INCREASE THE CITY'S DROUGHT PREPAREDNESS, LOCAL WATER SELF-RELIANCE, AND PLANTING OF NATIVE VEGETATION (INCLUDING MILKWEED FOR MONARCH BUTTERFLY HABITATS).**

Water Reduction – Under the 2022 emergency drought conditions, the City met or exceeded all State and LVMWD imposed water restrictions. Effective June 2023, all water restrictions have been eliminated due to above average water reservoir and snow pack levels. In an effort to continue the City's efforts to be water-wise, the City has maintained reductions for all City parks, medians, and parkways.

#### Landscape Transition to Drought Tolerant Plants –

- Phase 1 of the Mulholland Highway Gap Closure and Shoulder Improvements projects included the removal of turf, conversion of irrigation systems, and installation of drought tolerant plants.
- Thousand Oaks Blvd. was partially transitioned through the installation of drought tolerant trees and modification/shutoff of irrigation. Thousand Oaks Blvd. will continue its transition after the allocation of additional funds in fiscal year 2023/24.
- The south section of the Lost Hills median adjacent to De Anza Park has been transitioned to drought tolerant plants and stone.
- The Calabasas Tennis and Swim entry transition to drought tolerant plants is 50% complete. Project work will continue after the allocation of additional funds in fiscal year 2023/24.
- The Calabasas Civic Center transition to drought tolerant plants is 20% complete. Project work will continue after the allocation of additional funds in fiscal year 2023/24.

**OBJECTIVE 3: CREATE AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN TO ATTRACT BUSINESSES, FILL VACANT PROPERTIES, AND PROMOTE ADVANTAGES OF CONDUCTING BUSINESS IN CALABASAS.**

The City has designated the Community Development Director as the primary point of contact for Chamber of Commerce and Valley Economic Alliance, who successfully spotlighted the benefits of conducting business in Calabasas at last year's Valley Economic Alliance Forum. The City also provided complimentary use of the Civic Center to host events for the Calabasas Film Festival, Chamber Spooky Fiesta, and Chamber Silent Auction events.

Staff and the Chamber of Commerce have started negotiations for a new agreement in which the Chamber would conduct an annual business satisfaction survey and manage a dedicated webpage on *How to Start a Business in Calabasas*. Both items will be incorporated into the new agreement that staff anticipates is finalized by the September 2023.

**OBJECTIVE 4: CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY REGARDING THE STATIONING OF CELL TOWERS ON PUBLICLY OWNED SITES TO EXPAND COVERAGE AREAS.**

Staff will be reviewing proposals for the stationing of cell towers on public with the Wireless Committee on June 26. After receiving direction, staff will present the Committee recommendation to the Communications and Technology Commission, followed by the City Council for final approval.

**OBJECTIVE 5: DEVELOP A CITY READINESS & EDUCATION INITIATIVE FOR EARTHQUAKE AND FIRE EMERGENCIES. SUPPORT HOME HARDENING PROGRAMS, FIRE SAFE COUNCILS, AND EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT PROCUREMENT.**

Emergency Communication

The City coordinated with LA County Office of Emergency Management to successfully launch Zonehaven for LVMCOG cities on October 24, 2022. Following this launch, the City continues to promote the "Know Your Zone" campaign to residents and continues to create new City policies that align with the Zonehaven emergency response notification system. City staff continues regular meetings with EPIC, to coordinate on emergency preparedness matters related to emergency communication and home hardening.

Infrastructure

- The City's AM radio repeater has been modified to allow internet and remote access, as well as solar power battery backup.

- The mobile Emergency Operations Center has been ordered but is backordered until Sep 2023.
- On May 31 the City Council adopted the Woolsey Fire Spending Plan, which included the purchase of 50 battery backup devices for medical baseline and critical care residents

**OBJECTIVE 6: REVIEW LOS ANGELES SHERIFF DEPARTMENTS SERVICES AND CONSIDER OPPORTUNITIES TO REALIGN FUNDING AND SERVICES, WITH SPECIFIC FOCUS ON OPEN SPACE BREAK-INS, HOA/NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COORDINATION, AND REMEDIATION OF STREET RACING.**

Staff has met regularly with the Lost Hills Captain to discuss public safety priorities, including those related to on school safety, residential burglaries, and street racing.

In April, staff, the Lost Hills Captain, and Los Angeles County Sheriff Contract Division met to discuss the City's current Sheriff's contract. Staff requested a detailed overview of contract expenses and services, as well as the review of the allotment of Sheriff deputy hours for patrol, motor and J-Team assignments. Staff will present the new Sheriff's Department contract, including proposed service levels, at the June 28 City Council meeting.

Staff are coordinating with the Lost Hills Captain to discuss the Realtime Crime and Disaster Center and its pilot Virtual Patrol Deputy program that would leverage private sector technology to address current public safety concerns. Staff will also be utilizing the services of a public safety consulting firm to review the City's current public safety landscape and to collaborate on innovative solutions.

**OBJECTIVE 7: REOPEN THE AGOURA HILLS CALABASAS COMMUNITY CENTER.**

Roof repair work started in May 2023, with general repair and maintenance work also ongoing. Due to funding delays related to federal wage compliance requirements, staff anticipates a facility reopening date at the beginning of 2024. In the interim, staffing and programming are being coordinated.

**OBJECTIVE 8: CONDUCT FEASIBILITY STUDY OF ADDING BASKETBALL COURTS, SOCCER FIELDS, OR SKATE PARKS TO IMPROVE RECREATION PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEENAGERS.**

A contract with Pros Consulting was executed in April 2023 with an expected completion date of August 2023. Staff will present results to the Parks,

Recreation, and Education Commission and City Council before end of the 2023 calendar year.

**OBJECTIVE 9: UPGRADE PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT, TRAILS, AND PATHWAYS AT CITY PARKS.**

Gates Canyon Park replacement is ongoing. Staff is working with Little Tykes to finalize the design phase and expects Brandon's Village demolition to occur by late Fall 2023.

The RPOSD grant for the refurbishment the De Anza Park court will be submitted to the City Council in August 2023.

The preliminary design of the Freedom Park redesign will be presented to the Parks, Education, and Recreation Commission in October 2023.

**OBJECTIVE 10: COMPLETE A FULL AND PERMANENT BUILD OUT OF WILD WALNUT PARK TO INCLUDE A DOG AND CHILDREN'S PARK.**

In Aug 2022, City Council approved moving approximately \$700K in CIP funding from fiscal years 2023 and 2024 into 2022 for a total of \$800K for the Wild Walnut Park improvements. Infrastructure improvements made to the Park include included the parking lot, retaining walls, sidewalk, and storm drains.

Staff are preparing the project bid packet and will issue in July 2023, with staff expecting construction start in Fall 2023.

**OBJECTIVE 11: COMPLETE ANNEXATION OF CRAFTSMAN'S CORNER. DEVELOP A PLAN TO ANNEX OTHER PROPERTIES WITHIN THE CITY'S SPHERE OF INFLUENCE.**

Staff met with the CEO's Office to develop draft terms for the property transfer, including a review of the tax sharing agreement. Staff has completed review, provided comments back to CEO's office, and is waiting for additional comments from Hidden Hills and the County.

**OBJECTIVE 12: PROVIDE OPTIONS THAT ALLOW FOR THE RELIEF OF TRAFFIC CONGESTION WITHIN THE CITY.**

In April staff received \$169,300 in grants to fund intersection improvements recommend by the LRSP. Staff will present budget amendment, contract award, and projects overview before the end of calendar year 2023.

**FISCAL IMPACT/SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

There is no fiscal impact, as this item is being presented to the City Council for informational purposes only.

**REQUESTED ACTION:**

Staff recommends that the City Council receive and file this progress update on the FY 22/23 Strategic Priorities.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Fiscal Year 2022/23 Strategic Priorities Workplan