



**Meeting Minutes**  
**COMMITTEE ON AGING**

**Wednesday, April 17, 2019, 3:00 P.M.**

Council Chambers, City Hall

10890 San Pablo Avenue

El Cerrito, CA 94530

**This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible**

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Katherine Cesa, Shirley Cressey, Kenneth Epley, Jennifer Haller, Carol Kehoe, Dr. Pansy Kwong, Steve Lipson, Kim Marlia, Joanna Kim Selby and Nola Veganes Chavez

Members Absent: Karen Christian, Matean "Te" Everson, Janet James

Councilmember Present: Janet Abelson

Staff Member Present: Bridget Cooney

Guests: Buddy Akacic

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the February 20, 2019 meeting were approved. Katherine Cesa made a motion to approve the minutes and Steve Lipson seconded the motion.

**2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC: None**

**3. COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISON ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS:**

Bridget Cooney reported that bike racks will be installed at the Midtown Activity Center soon. The Recreation Department Volunteer Dinner is April 26, 2019 from 4:30-6:30pm. There are several upcoming presentations or performances planned at the Midtown Activity Center including Elder Financial Abuse Prevention on April 19, 2019, Food Safety: How to Prevent Food Poisoning on May 17, 2019 and The Perennials: Ageless Improve on June 21, 2019. The fourth annual Pickleball Relish Tournament is on June 22, 2019 at Castro Tennis Courts. A new partnership with the El Cerrito Fire Department to provide blood pressure checks at the Midtown Activity Center will begin the first Thursday in June from 11am-12pm.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

Yvetteh Ortiz, Public Works Director presented a power point presentation on pedestrian safety in the City of El Cerrito. The presentation included the Active Transportation Plan that was adopted by City Council in 2016. The Committee expressed safety concerns for the proposed Safeway-Del Norte site and Dr. Pansy Kwong recommended that interested Committee on Aging members take a site visit of the Safeway-Del Norte site with Yvetteh Ortiz, Public Works Director to better understand the planned project. Yvette Ortiz, Public Works Director agreed to coordinate with Bridget Cooney, Recreation Supervisor to schedule a site tour in late May/early June 2019.

**5. REPORTS**

*(Reports by Members of the Committee. The Committee may discuss individual report topics and refer or schedule issues for future action. Each report is limited to a maximum of 5 minutes.)*



- A. Housing Subcommittee: No report.
- B. Transportation Subcommittee: Shirley Cressey reported that Caltrans is set to replace the expansion joints of the Richmond San Rafael Bridge due to falling concrete towards the end of June-early July 2019. Kenneth Epley reported that he attended a community meeting about San Pablo Avenue Improvements on February 26, 2019. He reported that planners working on the San Pablo Avenue Corridor Project are requesting community input about possible improvements on San Pablo Avenue. Feedback can be submitted by attending a workshop on April 24 in Emeryville or by completing an online survey at [http://bit.ly/sanpabloave-survey through April 30](http://bit.ly/sanpabloave-survey-through-April-30).
- C. Legislation Subcommittee: Dr. Pansy Kwong reported the Supreme Court is expanding their April 23, 2019 arguments to include whether asking about citizenship would violate the Constitution. Currently the census is a once-a-decade count of all people, not just citizens. A final answer about including a citizenship questions is needed soon to allow for printing of the census questionnaire.
- D. Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council: Joanna Kim Selby reported that Senior Rally Day at the State Capitol is on Tuesday, May 7, 2019. Steve Lipson reported that Contra Costa County Area on Aging Advisory Council passed a bi-law change that allows for up to 4 alternates per agency as the council is finding it difficult to get a quorum. Alternates would be considered members at large.
- E. West County Senior Coalition: Carol Kehoe reported that there is a new ballot measure in 2020 that would change the state's tax cutting Proposition 13 by charging companies in the state billions of dollars more in property taxes. Backers say the bulk of the funds raised by the change would go to schools and local government. Carol Kehoe reported that there will be a presentation at the San Pablo Library on Friday, April 26, 2019 from 9am-12pm on Senior Scams. Local legislators will be at the presentation.
- F. Health Care Subcommittee: No report.
- G. Membership Subcommittee: We are currently down two members.
- H. Communication Subcommittee: Jennifer Haller reminded committee members to submit "Snippets" for the 50+ newsletter to either Nola Veganes Chavez or Jennifer Haller.
- I. Technology Subcommittee: Steve Lipson reported that the current session of the Eldertech program with El Cerrito High School students ends in May. He stated that he is hoping to have a summer intern for this program. Steve Lipson reported that the El Cerrito Library Eldertech program is taking off and they have now changed to a reservation system for 30-minute timeslots rather than a drop-in program.
- J. Disabilities Subcommittee: Carol Kehoe stated that it is challenging to find reliable and affordable transportation for seniors or the disabled who have had to give up driving for health-related reasons. Reliability and wait times with Paratransit are concerning, Lyft/Uber can be costly and difficult without a smart phone.



## **6. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

Follow up regarding date of visit to the Safeway-Del Norte site with Yvetteh Ortiz, Public Works Director in June 2019.

Discuss ways to find reliable and affordable transportation for seniors and disabled persons who can no longer drive.

## **7. ADJOURN REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING**

Carol Kehoe moved to adjourn the meeting and Jennifer Haller seconded.

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### **COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION**

*To request a meeting agenda in large print, Braille, or on cassette, or to request a sign language interpreter for the meeting, call Bridget Cooney, Staff Liaison at (510) 559-7678 at least FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS NOTICE PRIOR TO THE MEETING to ensure availability: 10940 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530 E-mail: [bcooney@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:bcooney@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us)*