



DATE: October 5, 2015

AGENDA ITEM # 2

**TO:** Senior Commission

**FROM:** Manuel A. Hernandez, Recreation & Community Services Director

**SUBJECT:** Use of space for senior programs in the new Hillview Community Center

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Discuss and recommend space prioritization and utilization for senior programs in the new Hillview Community Center

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**BACKGROUND**

At its September 9, 2015 Special Meeting, the Senior Commission approved a recommendation to City Council pertaining to the design and use of Hillview Community Center facilities for senior program use (Attachment A). The recommendation covered consideration of dedicated space for seniors as well as Senior Commission involvement in the design process including working with the City Council and the architect.

At its September 15, 2015 Special Meeting, the City Council requested that the Senior Commission further define and refine its recommendation including prioritizing senior programming and related uses of the new facilities prior to the Council review of this matter at the October 13, 2015 City Council meeting.

**DISCUSSION**

On an annual basis, the City of Los Altos provides approximately 130 different programs and services for those 50 years and older. To facilitate the Commission discussion regarding facility uses for senior-oriented programs and services, the following list highlights the key categories of the City's current offerings:

Active Living

Pickle ball  
Bocce Ball  
Shuffleboard  
Table tennis  
Line dancing  
Gardening  
Yoga  
Tai Chi  
Wii Fit and free play  
Stretch and Flex class  
Stretch with Eleanor  
Chair Workout with Nora  
Strength and Balance class

Special Interest

Art classes and open studio  
Piano lessons  
Guided book club  
AARP smart driver course  
English as a Second Language (ESL)  
Card games instruction  
Monkey Toy Makers  
Movie screenings with refreshments  
Lunches (weekly, monthly)  
Men's groups  
Women's groups  
Speaker series (bi-monthly)  
Intergenerational programming

### Drop-in programs

Card games  
Puzzles  
Coffee/cookie bar  
Socializing

### Services and resources

Notary service  
Property tax relief counseling  
VITA tax preparation services  
Housing information and counseling  
DMV practice tests and booklets  
Technology resource tutoring  
Community bulletin board  
Program scholarship  
Senior Assistance for Seniors that are Homebound  
Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy Program

### Trips and Tours

Chorus Casual Dining  
Day trips to local attractions  
Multi-day excursions

### Health and Safety

In-home repair program  
Equipment loan closet  
Medicine disposal program  
Smoke detector check program  
Household battery recycling  
AARP Mature Driving courses  
Vial of L.I.F.E.  
(Life Saving Information for Emergencies)

Potential future programs and services include:

Expanded fitness programs (indoor/outdoor)  
Lap swim  
Water fitness  
Expanded table tennis play  
Community Services Association case management  
Expanded HICAP sessions  
Senior Adult Legal Assistance

Programs recommended by previous Senior Commission:

Technology and communication center  
Adaptive physical education center  
Pop-up clinic  
Green banquet and dining center

Terms and concepts regarding types of uses that the Commission refers to in its previous recommendation or have been brought up in past discussions need to be reviewed. The following definitions are offered for consideration:

- Dedicated Use (Senior use only)
- Exclusive Use (Senior use during specified time periods)
- Flexible Use (Senior use as scheduled)

Considering the types of programming that will take place in the facility will assist in understanding what the levels of usage will be, what times the seniors will utilize the facilities, and ultimately, what amenities and features will be included in the rooms.

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The new Community Center will contain several different types of rooms with certain amenities as described below:

- Assembly room - Large occupancy (up to approximately 250), high ceilings, table and chair storage, wood floor for dancing, A.V.-equipped, adjacent to outside seating or patio area is preferred
- Kitchen – Commercial kitchen appliances, sinks, food preparation countertops, adjacent to assembly room preferred
- Meeting rooms – Medium occupancy (up to approximately 75), carpet, A.V.-equipped
- Meeting rooms – Small occupancy (up to approximately 25), carpet, A.V.-equipped
- Counseling room – Room for one-on-one consultations, small group meetings (up to 6-8)
- Specialty use rooms – fitness, art, technology and dance are all the sort of activities that may benefit from having specific amenities and/or room layouts that may, but not necessarily, preclude other uses

### Summary

Given the current and planned City senior programs, the Commission is asked to discuss the priority of the various program offerings in the context of the type of uses (dedicated, exclusive, flexible) and the types of rooms noted above.

If there are any other items related to the use of the new Community Center facilities for senior programs that the Council should consider, the Commission is encouraged to discuss them at this time.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Discuss and recommend prioritization and utilization of space for senior programs in the new Hillview Community Center

### Attachments:

- A. Senior recommendation to City Council entitled *Senior Commission Recommendations to the Los Altos City Council*, dated September 9, 2015.