

## **SENIOR COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LOS ALTOS CITY COUNCIL**

The Community Center redevelopment is a positive, and when completed, an overdue benefit for the Los Altos general community and especially for the Los Altans over fifty-five years young! The Senior Commission commends the Los Altos City Council taking on the project.

As the City Council engages the Los Altos community, which is the largest percentage over fifty-five years old in Santa Clara County, attention by the Senior Commission to the concept plan has been studied. Feedback from seniors and professional gerontologist has led to numerous recommendations, some of which are outlined below.

1. The new facility should have a dedicated "Senior Wing" with a minimum of 10,000 net sq. ft. on the first floor. Outdoor activity centers should be adjacent for ease of access.

2. After a successful bond outcome, the City Council or one Council person, works with the Senior Commission for outcomes and design recommendations that best meet the community's Senior requirements and desires. This could be accomplished using a "straw man" set of design goals created thru numerous senior town hall meetings. Once approved by the Senior Commission, the City Council has the final approval.

3. The Senior Commission meets with consultants and awarded architects to design best practice senior facilities. It is desired that a Councilperson be assigned to work with the Senior Commission as a liaison. All final decisions belong to the City Council.

These limited but not inclusive recommendations are based on the Los Altos City Commission Handbook responsibilities of the Senior Commission Areas of Responsibility, which states, "The Senior Commission advises the Los Altos and Los Altos Hills Councils in all matters pertaining to seniors". This Senior Commission embraces this duty and asks for consideration of the aforementioned recommendations to benefit the high percentage of Los Altos Seniors.

Respectfully submitted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015