



Santa Cruz County Seniors Commission

701 Ocean Street, Room 510, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
P: (831) 454-2772 F: (831) 454-2411 TTY/TDD 711

commissions@santacruzcountyca.gov

www.sccseniors.org

Notice of Public Meeting and Agenda

DATE Tuesday, December 17, 2024
TIME: 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM
LOCATION: United Way of Santa Cruz County
4450 Capitola Road, Ste 106, Capitola, CA 95010

As a courtesy to those who are affected, kindly attend the meeting **scents-free** and **smoke-free**.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review
2. Approval of *October 15, 2024 Meeting Minutes*
3. Public Comment
Any member of the public may address the Commission for a period not to exceed 3 minutes on any issue within the jurisdiction of the Commission not on the agenda.
4. New and Continuing Business/Action Items:
 - 4.1. Presentation: *Health Information Exchange, a Primer for Seniors* – Daniel Chavez
(Executive Director, SCHIO)
 - 4.2. Consider Advocacy Opportunities for CSL Legislative Priorities
 - 4.3. Consider Participation Opportunities in Future Senior Resource Fairs
 - 4.4. Commission Strategic Action Planning for 2025
5. District Reports
 - 5.1. District 1
 - 5.2. District 2
 - 5.3. District 3
 - 5.4. District 4
 - 5.5. District 5
6. Senior Legislature Report
7. Staff Report
8. Correspondence
9. Emerging Matters and Commissioner Announcements
10. Adjournment

Next Regular Meeting: February 18, 2025 at 12:30 PM United Way, Capitola CA 95010

The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs, or activities. If you are a person with a disability and require assistance to participate in the meeting, please contact (831) 454-2772 TTY/TDD:711 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to make arrangements.



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Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, August 20, 2024

TIME: 12:30 PM

LOCATION: United Way, 4450 Capitola Road, Ste 106, Capitola CA 95010

PRESENT: Suzanne Doty (*Chair - 1st District*), Antonio Rivas (*2nd District*), Mark Johannessen (*2nd District*), Patricia Fohrman (*4th District*), Katie Limas (*Vice Chair - 4th District*), Carol Childers (*5th District*)

EXCUSED: Dena Taylor (*1st District*), Lois Sones (*3rd District*), Alicia Rodriguez (*3rd District*),

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Manager*)

GUESTS: No members of the public were present.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 12:32 PM.

2. **Motion to Approve August 20, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

Minutes revised to correct an error.

Motion to approve minutes as amended.

Motion/Second: Rivas/Childers

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment: None

4. New Business/Action Items:

4.1. Consider Participation Opportunities in Future Caregiver Resource Fairs

Commission discussed options for helping to facilitate an event that provides senior resources. Ideally, an ad hoc subcommittee would be established during the December meeting with a view to approaching senior centers to determine if they would be interested in organizing and hosting a Senior Resource Fair in May 2025 to celebrate *Older Americans Month*. Topic will be placed on the December agenda.

5. District Reports

5.1. District 1: No Report

5.2. District 2

Johannessen reminded Commissioners that the Solutions Summit will be held on Wednesday, October 16. Rivas shared highlights from the second annual Senior Prom which included awards for Older Adult Services Volunteer of the Year (Renee Waide), and Older Adult Services Organization of the Year (Senior Legal Services), and Older Adult Services Lifetime Achievement (Irma Quintero).

5.3. District 3: No Report

5.4. District 4

Fohrman shared her concerns regarding the proposed draft of the 2050 Watsonville City Plan which include affordable housing developments at both the airport, agricultural land, and some privately-owned land. Additionally, it seems that although traffic impact reports are included, they appear not be included in infrastructure considerations, though sewer and water infrastructure were considered in the planning.

5.5. District 5

Childers shared concerns about weather-related issues with the winter coming.

6. Senior Legislature Report

Rivas will go to Sacramento to advocate for legislation protecting senior centers throughout the state. On October 25th the CSL will select the top ten policies to prioritize in their advocacy efforts. The Commission will consider support for these ten priorities at the December meeting.

7. Staff Report:

Staff confirmed that Eva Holt-Rusmore will be invited to a future meeting to share information about compiling a “Senior Wellness Index” on the DataShareSCC health information website and is communicating with Alicia Morales on APS out-of-County SNF placement policy.

8. Correspondence: None

9. Emerging Matters and Commissioner Announcements:

Fohrman will forward additional information about County data collection to staff for further research. Childers encouraged Commissioners to attend a meeting at the Silver Spur to announce redevelopment plans for the property. Rivas alerted Commissioners to the presence of a measure on the ballot that, if passed, will allow for the Live Oak Senior Center property to be redeveloped.

10. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 1:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*



**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE**

1020 N Street, Room 527, Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone (916) 552-8056

www.4csl.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 25, 2024**

The California Senior Legislature Announces Top Legislative Priorities for 2025

(Sacramento, CA) The California Senior Legislature (CSL) adjourned its 44th Annual Legislative Session and announced the Top State Legislative Proposals this week. Members will advocate diligently during the 2025 legislative session to have state lawmakers support these priorities.

The following were listed as the top ten State Legislative proposals:

SP-5: Medi-Cal Personal Needs

(Senior Senator Helen Lopez, El Centro, CA) MPA Goal # 2

This measure would increase the personal needs allowance from \$35 to \$50 per month and require that the amount be increased annually up to the amount of any cost-of-living adjustment implemented by the United States Social Security Administration.

SP-4: Ralph M Brown Act: Teleconferencing

(Senior Senator Stefan Lipson, El Cerrito, CA) MPA Goal # 3

This measure would authorize teleconferencing with respect to county based Advisory Councils, Committees, Commissions, and their attendant Work Groups, Committees, and Subcommittees established for aging and disabilities issues in the same manner as it was during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

SP-1: Documents: Execution by Patient in Skilled Nursing Facility

(Senior Senator Joyce Gandelman, Modesto, CA) MPA Goal # 3

This measure would require a document executed by a patient in a skilled nursing facility that limits or takes away a right of the patient, transfers real property owned by the patient, or transfers financial assets of the patient also be witnessed by an Ombudsperson.

AP-1: Out-of-State Physicians and Surgeons: Telehealth: License Exemption

(Senior Assembly Member Robin Clough, Santa Clarita, CA) MPA Goal # 4

This measure would authorize out-of-state telehealth for an eligible patient who, at a minimum, requires oncology services, without the requirement that the patient participate in a clinical.

AP-10: Hospitals: Patient Discharge Summary

(Senior Assembly Member Lavada Theus, Los Angeles, CA) MPA Goal # 2

This measure requires a hospital to standardize the Patient Discharge Summary, including specified information, in order to improve communication and provide continuity of medical care during the patient's transition to the home or another facility.

AP-2: Caregiving Grandparents: Support

(Senior Assembly Member Mark Cox, El Centro, CA) MPA Goal # 5

This measure requests that the California Department of Aging, Department of Justice, and State Department of Social Services conduct a study to examine the problems that grandparents who are primary caregivers for their grandchildren experience.

AP-6: Health Facilities: Transfer of Patients: Requirements

(Senior Assembly Member Deborah Nattress, Lorma Linda, CA) MPA Goal # 2

This measure requires a general acute care hospital to provide documentation, before physically transferring a patient, to a receiving health facility regarding a detailed care plan and needed medication list for the patient.

AP-9: Confidential Marriage

(Senior Assembly Member David Tetzlaff, Mission Viejo, CA) MPA Goal # 3

This measure repeals Confidential Marriage Statutes, but with a Grandfather Clause that maintains the confidentiality of Confidential Marriages that were performed before the effective date of the Legislation. Additionally, the measure would provide that these Confidential Marriages do not become public records, unless the parties involved voluntarily choose to make the marriages public records.

AP-8: Senior Friendly Homes

(Senior Assembly Member Ted Smith, South Pasadena, CA) MPA Goal # 1

This measure would recognize the role aging has on quality of life by defining "Senior Friendly Homes" and establishing criteria for use by seniors, family members, the Government, Social Agencies, and developers to evaluate and build an optimal place to live.

AP-11: Older Adults: Fall Prevention: Lighting

(Senior Assembly Member Richard White, Vacaville, CA) MPA Goal # 2

This measure (1) requires the adoption, development, and implementation of a comprehensive program to support and fund the installation of improved lighting in the homes of older adults, (2) requires the inclusion of specific lighting products as a type of injury prevention equipment that is covered under the program for injury prevention in the home environment, and (3) increases the maximum allowance for injury prevention equipment and other services under the program to \$1,000 per household.

The California Senior Legislature put forth one Federal Proposal for 2025.

AFP-1: Veterans: Cancer Biomarker Testing

(Senior Assembly Member Dorio, Santa Clarita, CA) MPA Goal # 2

This measure mandates the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to provide Veterans with Cancer Biomarker testing.

-END-

MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

For more information contact Janice Bailey, Executive Director, at (916) 767-4382 or jbailey@seniorleg.ca.gov.

**Santa Cruz County Seniors Commission
2024 Strategic Action Plan**

Focus #1:

Conduct Outreach & Advocacy to Elected Officials on behalf of the Santa Cruz County Seniors

ACTION 1A: Maintain consistent contact with District Supervisors & their staff (recommendations & advocacy, constituency meetings, in-person meetings, monthly reporting, field trips, events, etc.) to keep them apprised of Commission activities.

ACTION 1B: Communicate with District Supervisors to advocate for the interests of Santa Cruz County seniors.

ACTION 1C: Communicate with Federal and State officials, agencies and commissions on matters of interest to Santa Cruz County seniors and assist in the preparation, implementation and review of any regional plan or program designed to serve senior citizens.

Focus #2:

Promote the Interests of Santa Cruz County Seniors through Community Outreach, Advocacy and the Provision of Resources

ACTION 2A: Promote interest and public participation in Commission meetings (media outreach, television/radio presence, brochures, website, etc.)

ACTION 2B: Share resources, information and referrals with seniors and invite local speakers to present to the Commission on issues of interest to seniors (safety, consumer education, housing, transportation, legislation, etc.)

ACTION 2C: Connect with other organizations, commissions and advisory groups that impact Santa Cruz County seniors.

ACTION 2D: Host or participate in local events of interest to seniors (e.g. District forums for seniors, family, & caregivers, fundraisers, fairs, etc.).

Focus #3: (limited to four specific areas, but we can change any of the first three if we no longer want to monitor them) the fourth one meets one of our mandated duties.)

Monitor and Assess Local Services, Programs and Agencies to Advocate for Effective Service Delivery to Seniors

ACTION 3A: Monitor Safety Net Services on behalf of adults with cognitive impairment and those in advanced dementia conservatorship.

ACTION 3B: Foster Age-in-Place solutions and community structures that support residents as they age, ensure affordable housing, and provide resources for unsheltered seniors.

ACTION 3C: Monitor and promote accessible, affordable transportation for seniors

ACTION 3D: Support County efforts to achieve AARP Age-Friendly designation and Master Plan for Aging implementation

Santa Cruz County Seniors Commission

2024 Strategic Action Plan

Focus #4: (These are our "extra-curriculars" we can identify four different areas of interest if we don't want to stay focused on these - we may want to pull from the Solutions Summit projects for these)

Monitor and Assess Issues Impacting Santa Cruz County Seniors and Advocate on Their Behalf

ACTION 4A: Monitor path of travel and sidewalk safety issues.

ACTION 4B: Monitor and promote awareness of programs and services that address senior isolation and loneliness.

ACTION 4C: Monitor and promote awareness, availability of and access to emergency preparedness resources for seniors (planning, education, pandemic response, cooling centers, etc.)

ACTION 4D:



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Scheduled Meetings

Unless otherwise specified, regularly scheduled Seniors Commission meetings are generally held as follows:

DAY: Third (3rd) Tuesday
MONTH: Every other month (February, April, June, August, October, and December)
TIME: 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM
LOCATION: **United Way of Santa Cruz County***
4450 Capitola Road, Ste 106, Capitola, CA 95010

* Unless noted otherwise below

Changes to the schedule, including special meetings, changes of location, or meeting cancellations, will be listed on the website at www.sccseniors.org as soon as information becomes available.

2025 Meeting Dates		
DATE	TIME	LOCATION
February 18, 2025	12:30 – 2:30 PM	United Way
April 15, 2025	12:30 – 2:30 PM	United Way
June 17, 2025	12:30 – 2:30 PM	United Way
August 19, 2025	12:30 – 2:30 PM	United Way
October 21, 2025	12:30 – 2:30 PM	United Way
December 16, 2025	12:30 – 2:30 PM	United Way

Public Participation

- Please check the meeting agenda to learn details about how to participate in the commission meeting.
- If you need special accommodations, please call 454-2935 or TDD: 711 (California Relay Service) at least 48 hours before the meeting.