



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, February 18, 2025
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 *scent-free* and *smoke-free*.****

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review
2. Approval of *December 17, 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. Ad Hoc Senior Resource Fair Outreach & Planning Subcommittee Report
 - 4.2. Ad Hoc Legislative Subcommittee Report
 - 4.3. 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: April 15, 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, December 17, 2024
TIME: 12:30 PM
LOCATION: United Way, 4450 Capitola Road, Ste 106, Capitola CA 95010
PRESENT: Suzanne Doty (*Chair - 1st District*), Dena Taylor (*1st District*), Antonio Rivas (*2nd District*), Mark Johannessen (*2nd District*), Lois Sones (*3rd District*), Alicia Rodriguez (*3rd District*), Carol Childers (*5th District*)
EXCUSED: Patricia Fohrman (*4th District*), Katie Limas (*Vice Chair - 4th District*)
ABSENT: None
STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Manager*)
GUESTS: Daniel Chavez (*Executive Director, SCHIO*) and no members of the public were present.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 12:31 PM.

2. Motion to Approve October 15, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve minutes.

Motion/Second: Taylor/Sones

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment: None

4. New Business/Action Items:

4.1. Presentation: *Health Information Exchange, a Primer for Seniors*

Chavez provided an overview of the purpose and services of the Serving Communities Health Information Organization (SCHIO), an electronic health information exchange that allows health care providers and patients to appropriately access and securely share a patient's vital health information electronically. The system prioritizes accuracy, patient focus, and coordinated healthcare. Commissioners discussed access, security, data collection and sharing consent.

Rivas arrived.

4.2. Consider Advocacy Opportunities for CSL Legislative Priorities

Commission considered the top CSL legislative priorities and discussed advocacy opportunities.

Motion to establish an ad hoc Legislative Subcommittee authorized to review, prioritize, and recommend support for the top 3-5 proposed bills.

Motion/Second: Mark/Sones

Motion passed unanimously

Doty appointed Johannessen, Rodriguez, Sones, Doty and Taylor to the Ad Hoc Legislative Subcommittee

- 4.3. Consider Participation Opportunities in Future Senior Resource Fairs
Commission discussed opportunities to facilitate, support and participate in senior resource fairs throughout the County. Ideally, the senior centers would lead the efforts, and the Commission would support their efforts by liaising with the planning committees, promoting attendance and participating in their events.

Motion to form an Ad Hoc Senior Resource Fair Outreach and Planning Subcommittee authorized to contact senior centers to gauge interest, implement planning and report back to the Commission in February.

Motion/Second: Taylor/Rivas

Motion passed unanimously.

Doty appointed Taylor, Rivas, Childers, Doty, and Sones

- 4.4. Commission Strategic Action Planning for 2025
Commission discussed potential priorities for Commission in action in 2025. The Solutions Summit identified the following priorities and established the following work groups: *Reimagining Health Care, Affording Aging, Housing for all Stages and Ages, Inclusion and Equity, Not Isolation, and Caregiving that Works*. Topic will be revisited in February 2025.

4. District Reports

5.1. District 1:

Doty shared information on a balance workshop with residents in her community. Commission discussed the siloed resource sources. Taylor did a reading of an anthology featuring writings of women over 80 at the mid-county senior center.

5.2. District 2

Rivas reported on the Watsonville Senior Center Senior Action Committee's progress as they develop an Age Well Action Plan for Watsonville City. Johannessen is serving on the AAA's review committee tasked with developing the next four-year RFP. Publication is scheduled for early 2025 and Johannessen will update the Commission. Commission discussed the Live Oak Senior Center's status in the absence of funding from a bond that did not pass.

5.3. District 3:

Sones reported on CORE funding for Elderday, though Meals on Wheels got carve-out funding. The concern is that safety nets for seniors are not being reliably considered in the current CORE funding process. Rodriguez confirmed her attendance at Solutions summit meetings.

5.4. District 4: No Report

5.5. District 5: No Report

6. Senior Legislature Report: No Report

7. Staff Report:

Staff reported that the County is updating Commission web pages to a standardized template in 2025.

8. Correspondence: None

9. Emerging Matters and Commissioner Announcements: None

10. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 2:22 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-

Chapter 2.78 SENIORS COMMISSION

Sections:

2.78.010 Established—Statutory authority.

2.78.020 Membership.

2.78.030 Term of office.

2.78.040 Organization and procedures.

2.78.050 Powers and duties.

2.78.010 Established—Statutory authority.

The Seniors Commission is hereby established under the authority of Government Code Section [31000.1](#), in compliance with SCCC [2.38.060](#). [Ord. 3464 § 1, 1983; Ord. 2119, 1975; prior code § 3.25.010].

2.78.020 Membership.

The Commission shall consist of 10 voting members, residents of the County, appointed by the Board of Supervisors. Each Supervisor shall nominate two persons, one of whom shall be over 60 years of age, who may reside within the Supervisor's district to serve on the Commission. In addition, the local representatives to the California Senior Legislature shall from time to time select one of the local representatives of that body to be a nonvoting member of the Commission. [Ord. 5278 § 21, 2018; Ord. 4303 § 1, 1994; Ord. 3464 § 1, 1983; Ord. 2119, 1975; prior code § 3.25.030].

2.78.030 Term of office.

Each voting member shall serve for a term of four years, commencing on April 1st of the year in which the member's nominating Supervisor begins a full term. [Ord. 4303 § 2, 1994; Ord. 3464 § 1, 1983; Ord. 2119, 1975; prior code § 3.25.040].

2.78.040 Organization and procedures.

(A) General Organization. The Commission shall comply in all respects with SCCC [2.38.110](#) through [2.38.250](#) unless otherwise provided herein.

(B) Staff Support. The County's Commissions Coordinator shall serve as administrative staff to the Commission and shall provide to the Board of Supervisors copies of all minutes, reports and recommendations created by the Commission. [Ord. 5278 § 21, 2018; Ord. 4325 § 3, 1994; Ord. 4303 § 3, 1994; Ord. 3464 § 1, 1983; Ord. 2119, 1975; prior code § 3.25.050].

2.78.050 Powers and duties.

The Commission shall be responsible for performing the following duties:

(A) Advise the Board of Supervisors on all matters affecting senior citizens and make

recommendations to the County Administrative Officer and the Board of Supervisors on any senior citizens program proposal to be considered by the Board of Supervisors;

(B) Review the needs of senior citizens in the County, and develop a set of comprehensive goals and objectives for effectively meeting those needs;

(C) Monitor the various services made available to senior citizens by public and private agencies in this County to ensure efficient delivery of those services; and

(D) Communicate with Federal and State agencies and commissions serving senior citizens, and assist in the preparation, implementation and review of any regional plan or program designed to serve senior citizens. [Ord. 3464 § 1, 1983; Ord. 2119, 1975; prior code § 3.25.020].

Home

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The Santa Cruz County Code is current through Ordinance 5431, passed January 31, 2023.

The Santa Cruz County Codes are provided here as a public service. This online version of the County Code should not be relied upon for legal determination. Official Santa Cruz County Codes are on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Board. The County of Santa Cruz is not liable for any omissions or inaccuracies and is not liable for any reliance on these codes by the reader. It is recommended that you consult official Santa Cruz County Codes in the Office of the Clerk of the Board.

County Website: <https://www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/>

County Telephone: (831) 454-2323

[Code Publishing Company](#)

**Santa Cruz County Seniors Commission
2025 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
2025 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.