

Town of Los Altos Hills Emergency Preparedness and Response Committee

Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, May 5th, 2026 @ 6:00 pm. PST

[Public Documents Folder \(minutes & agenda\)](#)

1. Call to order (start recording) [6:00 pm]

The meeting was called to order by Chair Harter at 6:00 pm

2. Roll call of EPRC members [6:00 pm]

Voting Member	Status	Comment
(S) Amita Sachdeva	Present	
Ben Gikis	Present	
(VC) Dave Stewart	Present	
(C) Phil Harter	Present	
Rob Singh	Absent	
Sam Wood	Present	
Terry Kearney	Absent	

With 5 of 7 voting members attending, a quorum was present.

Associate Member	Status	Comment
Bill Lattin	Present	
Bill Ralston	Absent	
Neil Mielke	Present	

Associate Member	Status	Comment
Neil Katin	Present	
Victoria Bebee	Absent	
Katy Serventi	Present	

Other attendees

Name	Comment
Jay Bradford	LAH Community Development Director
Denise Gluhan	LAHCFD Liaison
Rajiv Bhateja	Mayor of LAH
Cody Einfalt	Acting City Manager
J Logan	LAHCFD General Manager

3. Public comment on subjects not on the agenda

None.

4. EPRC Chair Remarks (Harter)

- Reappointment of expired terms for EPRC members
- Election of Executive Committee Voting next month

5. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

5.1 April 2026 Meeting Minutes

Member	Moved	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Amita Sachdeva			x				
Ben Gikis	x		x				
Dave Stewart		x	x				
Phil Harter			x				
Rabindra Singh							x
Sam Wood			x				
Terry Kearney							x

Motion passes 5 out of 7

6. General and Invited Reports and Q&A (60 minutes)

6.1 Update on AB 2517 (Calderon) (Bradford - 10 minutes)

- [AB 2517 Fire Safety Bill Text.pdf](#)
- It's on the draft agenda for the upcoming City Council meeting on the 15th

7. Town and Fire District Reports

7.1 District Liaison Report (Gluhan)

- Two new temp positions - IHFR Ops Specialist (Ed Orre) & Project Specialist II (David Pope)
- Ops Planning Meeting for upcoming Pathways Run/Walk
- 3rd annual community wildfire preparedness day - Dr. Swain, Joel Laucher, Cindy Schmidt
- Phil Harter: Next meeting - discuss updates on fire monitoring programs (N5s, cameras, etc)
- Phil Harter: LAHCFD has been very involved in the World Cup. EPRC would like a brief update on the impact World Cup will have on Los Altos Hills including resource availability locally if resources are locked up with the event
 - Will we lose Sheriff coverage during the World Cup
 - Denise: there is a speciality AlertSCC text (FIFA text)
 - Phil Harter: Will there be impact and if there will be, will we be informed?

7.2 City Manager's Report (Einfalt)

- Emergency Manager Recruitment Update
 - PDF DRAFT Asst to City Manager Position.pdf
 - PDF DRAFT Shared Services Emergency Manager Position.pdf
- \$100 Million Budget Allocation
- Town's approach on Emergency Management - Fire District & Town are working on a joint

model for Emergency Management

- Cody has met the individual who is very qualified
 - Getting Town up to compliance with everything including a table top drill
 - Will work on Town's EOP
 - We will meet all the requirements of the jurisdiction at the State level
 - Looking at landscaping regulations/sound survey and other specialty projects
 - Victoria has transitioned out of the temporary EM role, however, her work has been transitioned over to the town
- Looking for Assistant to City Manager
- City Council is exploring an opportunity that the Fire District has proposed, and see if they can run this pilot for awhile
- Town has decided not to hire a full-time Emergency Manager, but will try the joint services agreement with the LAHCFD and SCCFD for plans and required documents, with Asst. City Manager to have day-to-day emergency management as part of their role.
 - Progress and effectiveness will be monitored
- Fiber connection to the ARK or Town Hall (Cody meets with Community Fiber weekly)
- ETA on Heritage House

7.3 Town Council Liaison Report (Bhateja)

- City Manager Recruitment
 - Announce City Manager by the end of this week
- LAH Public Safety Presence (Law Enforcement & VIP program)
 - Danville rated as safest city (Rajiv met with Mayor)
 - Danville VIP (volunteers in policing) has their own police cars & station - they supplement their police services with 40 civilian safety officers that are not armed (volunteer based)
- Technology Committee - Drones for Public Safety
 - Dave attended Tech Committee presentation on Law Enforcement style drones (within County not specifically to Town)
- Prevent retail/commercial in town
- Rule to allow remote participation has been voted on and approved
 - Members may now attend meetings remotely and vote (limited number of times a year)
 - If you are in LAH and participating remotely, you're still considered in the jurisdiction and there are no limitations; only if you're participating outside of LAH
- Proposal on Mayoral rotation
 - Can't be Vice Mayor in your first year
- Increase Council Members stipends from \$300 to \$950 (will not affect current city council members)
- Council Members are all eligible for Health Benefits at no cost
- Renegotiating the Sheriff's contract - \$3.3M proposed

7.4 Town Emergency Manager's Liaison Report (Bebbee)

- No updates
- Cody recommends to remove for future

8. EPRC Subcommittee Reports

8.1 Community Outreach (Sachdeva)

- Discussion on EPRC contributions/accomplishments
 - Dave: mission statement: Representing the residents to the Town in emergency preparedness
 - Community Fiber & Technology Committee have poster boards & banners & we should do something similar
 - Have a couple of poster boards to promote AlertSCC, Nixle, and any other information related to EPRC
- Have a sign-up sheet for those who are interested in learning about Ham Radio & Ham Club
- Amita work with Town on finalizing the banner
- Table for Pathways & Town Picnic in June
- For future events: Come talk to us about what we do
- Fliers for programs available to the Town residents

8.2 Medical and Environmental Health (Harter)

- No updates

8.3 Mass Notification (Lattin/Singh)

- No updates

8.4 Town Emergency Plans (Stewart)

- Propose to dissolve subcommittee until new EM has joined

8.5 Emergency Communications (Wood/Lattin/Katin)

- Status of Heritage House: Melissa stated sometime in June it will be finished

8.6 Ad Hoc Wildfire Ordinance (Stewart - 5 minutes)

- Email into Jay Bradford regarding ordinances
- The task force discussed how to implement within the Town and looking at the model within Woodside
 - Focused on Woodside ordinance as a place to start editing
 - Despite being the most recently approved document, there's still a lot of improvement that's needed
- There are multiple ways to get involved in the weed abatement program
- Some of our ordinances are so out of date, that they are no longer relevant

- In the new zone 0 drafts, fire authority is referenced saying we don't need to meet the exact rules, as long as we're doing the equivalent of meeting the safety rules
- Intent is to come up with resident written codes to present to staff/lawyers to turn into real code

9. Review action items from the meeting

- Contact Victoria to see if she would like to continue as an associate
- Work on getting Outreach posters

Discuss/Propose Future Agenda Items

- World Cup updates/issues that would impact the Town (Cody & Fire District)
- What is the Open Space District doing with the lands bordering Los Altos Hills?
- Elections next month

Adjournment [19:20]

Chair adjourned the meeting without objection.