

Minutes of Los Altos Hills Environmental Design and Protection Committee

Date: Tues, August 4, 2026, at 4:30 p.m.

Location: City Council Chambers Duxbury Conference Room
26379 Fremont Road, Los Altos Hills, California 94022

Committee Members: Grace Tsang (chair), Anne Hsiao (secretary), Elizabeth Loinaz (Vice-Chair), Carol Gottlieb, Vijay Chawla, Ivy Mei, Anna Chien

Associate Members: Kjell Karlsson, Hajime Murakami, Peter Brown

City Council Liaison: Mayor Kavita Tankha
absent

1. Call to Order and Roll Call 4:33pm

2. Presentations from the Floor

- a. Jay Bradford - defensible space maintenance for open space areas and similar areas (see APPENDIX below)
- b. Zihe presented possible revised development area accounting of surface materials

3. Future Committee Dates of Interest & Assignments

- a. EDPC Meeting: 9/8/2026 2nd Tuesdays at 5pm
- b. City Council Meeting: (9/17/26) 3rd Thursdays, 6:00 pm
- c. Planning Commission Meeting: (9/3/26) 1st Thursday, 6:00 pm; also Aug 6 (inc. La Barranta, <https://losaltoshillsca.portal.civicclerk.com/event/4532/files/agenda/9038>)
- d. Field Trips: Friday mornings (and occasional afternoons to accommodate Ivy) coordinated by Carol
- e. Fast Track/Site Development Meetings: Tuesday mornings, 10:00 am, Ivy/Elizabeth to alert site reviewers

4. Review of Field Trip Reports

7/17 CG AC PB

14467 De Bell Road - Landscape Screening

27200 Deer Springs Way – new residence, pool & pickle ball court

27285 Elena Road – Landscape Screening

7/24 CG EL GT

> 13871 Robleda Road

> 14520 De Bell Road

> 26790 Taaffe Road

7/31 - CG AC

Black Mountain Rd volleyball court

5. Review of Site Development and Fast Tracks

7/21 - canceled

7/28 - 13920 Mir Mirou Drive File #SD26-0007

8/4 -

6. Planning Commission Meeting Reports

none

7. City Council Meeting Reports n/a

none

8. Old Business

- a. Heritage House Renovation - opening August 19 3pm
- b. Native Plant Garden - weed & restore barriers for north hedge; Michael S & town staff pruned orchard; \$25k approved; irrigation restarted (high water table noted); opportunity for grant funding for the NPG renovation project being considered by Public Works staff; weeding and updating/tidying of plant cages w/ Sue Welch Apr 30; re-establish irrigation
- c. Updates to the View Ordinance - not in staff work plan (needs additional hires)
- d. Discussion and vote on updates to the fence ordinance for the Objective Design Standards in the Housing Element (CG PB) - updated and at staff (needs additional hires)

9. New Business

- a. EDPC officer election :: Elizabeth as chair, Anne as vice-chair, Anna as secretary
- b. EDPC statements for the revised town GreenSheets ::
http://www.couperus.org/Scrapbooks/Grab_Bag/Greensheets/
- c. Draft guidelines on planting under oaks for planning staff (especially for Bageshri, as she works with the permit applicants for 13867 Robleda Rd). We discussed in April's meeting allowing planting in possibly the outer 1/3 of the canopy for oaks with a canopy beyond a certain size.

10. Subgroup projects - prioritize these re staff bandwidth

- a. *Wildlife Corridors/Fence Ordinance (CG/PB) - at staff (intern reviewed): update to preclude wood from zone 0*
- c. *Standing Committees Resolution, Committee Charter (PB) – update charter with clearer wording*
- e. *Definition of Ridgelines and Hilltops (EL/CG/GT +JimWachura) - mapping& photos; invite EDPC to review work when writeup revised and illustrative photos added*
- f. *Artificial turf, full area to be in MDA (VC) - at staff (drainage important)*
- g. *EDPC & EPRC joint committee to work on firescaping ordinance(s) (CG/EL/PB/GT) - updated Landscape Guide re wildfire prep*

11. Adjournment 7:06pm