



**SENIOR CITIZENS COMMISSION
HEALTH & SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEE**

DRAFT MINUTES

**Wednesday, October 23, 2013
1:30 pm - 3:30 pm**

**City of San José – T643
200 E. Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113**

(a) CALL TO ORDER

(1) The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chair Vaidya.

Present: Chaitanya Vaidya, Vince Tarpey, Nancy Williamson, Rita Mora.
Martha O'Connell (Ex-Oficio), Joyce Rabourn (Ex-Oficio)

Absent: Milton Cadena

Staff: Julie Nguyen, Tracey Gott

(b) INTRODUCTIONS

Introduction of Guest Speakers: Greta Helm, Chief External Affairs Officer, VTA and Jolene Bradford.

ACTION: Unanimous Consent

(c) ADOPTION OF ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day may change for the accommodation of the Guest Speakers, Greta Helm and Jolene Bradford, on the hygiene condition at the Light Rail Stations.

Old Business Item: g. (3) to be moved to accommodate the Guest Speakers.

ACTION: The orders of the day were adopted. (M/S/C: Mora / Tarpey)

(d) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: Minutes of May 22, 2013 Meeting approved as written. (M/S/C: Mora / Vaidya)

(e) OPEN FORUM

Commissioner O'Connell announced that Milton Cadena has resigned in his role as a Senior Commissioner for the City of San Jose. She gave encouraging remarks to the H&S Sub-Committee to continue working together and staying unified as a team.

Commissioner Williamson suggested having a new Guest Speaker attend the next meeting to bring new ideas, issues, and concerns to the table.

(f) CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Vaidya announced the resignation of Commissioner Cadena. He suggested Ex-Oficio Commissioner O'Connell to attend both Health & Safety Sub-Committee and Housing & Human Services Sub-Committee meetings due to her hard work, leadership, and continued service to the Senior Commission.

(g) OLD BUSINESS

- (1) Encourage the possibility of incorporating a seniors' park course within the City of San Jose parks. Follow the status of the Rotary Club "Legacy Project" at Guadalupe Children's Park.

ACTION: Commissioner Williamson to follow up and take the lead on this issue.

- (2) Playground for Older Adults

NO ACTION

- (3) Discussion and possible action on issues of hygiene condition and bathroom facilities at the Light Rail Stations.

ACTION: Commissioner Williamson to write a letter to VTA on inquiring about Security Officers' schedules, logistics on rotations, and overall security measures at Light Rail Stations.

h) NEW BUSINESS

1. CalPERS Lawsuit Report

Commissioner O'Connell reported on a class action lawsuit that has been filed in LA County against the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) over the issue of their intention to raise long term health care premiums 85% effective January 2015. CalPERS is the second largest long term health care provider in the United States and this huge increase will affect over 125,000 California Seniors. The lawsuit claims that CalPERS misled Seniors, promising that coverage for stays in nursing homes and long-term care facilities would have rates that would "be fixed." Now many,

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many Seniors are having to drop the insurance they have paid for years because they cannot afford the increases. One 88 year old woman will see her premium go from \$179 to \$793.75 per month. The lawsuit asks for several remedies, including return of all monies paid for overage, with interest, or continuation of the policies with current rates. Given the fact many of the people involved are quite elderly, their attorneys are asking for a quick jury trial to settle this issue.

ACTION: None. Informational item only.

(i) STATUS RPORT ON OBJECTIVES

Staff will omit item i. (g) due to duplicate item listed.

(j) REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

- (1) **ACTION: Unanimous Consent on introduction of Guest Speakers**
- (2) **ACTION: The orders of the day were adopted. (M/S/C: Mora / Tarpey)**
- (3) **ACTION: Minutes of May 22, 2013 Meeting approved as written. (M/S/C: Mora / Vaidya)**
- (4) **ACTION: Commissioner Williamson to follow up and take the lead on issue of possibility of incorporating a “senior” park course within City of San Jose parks.**
- (5) **ACTION: Commissioner Williamson will write a letter to VTA on inquiring about Security Officers’ schedules, rotations, and logistics of Light Rail Stations**

(k) ANNOUNCEMNETS

Commissioner O’Connell announced that there will be a Meeting on November 12, 2013 from 9:00am – 12:00pm at City Council Chambers to discuss Urban Villages and the displacement of seniors and the homeless.

(l) NEXT MEETING

Health & Safety Sub-Committee Meeting
Wednesday, January 22, 2014
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm at City Hall T-643

(m) ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

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Submitted by Julie Nguyen