

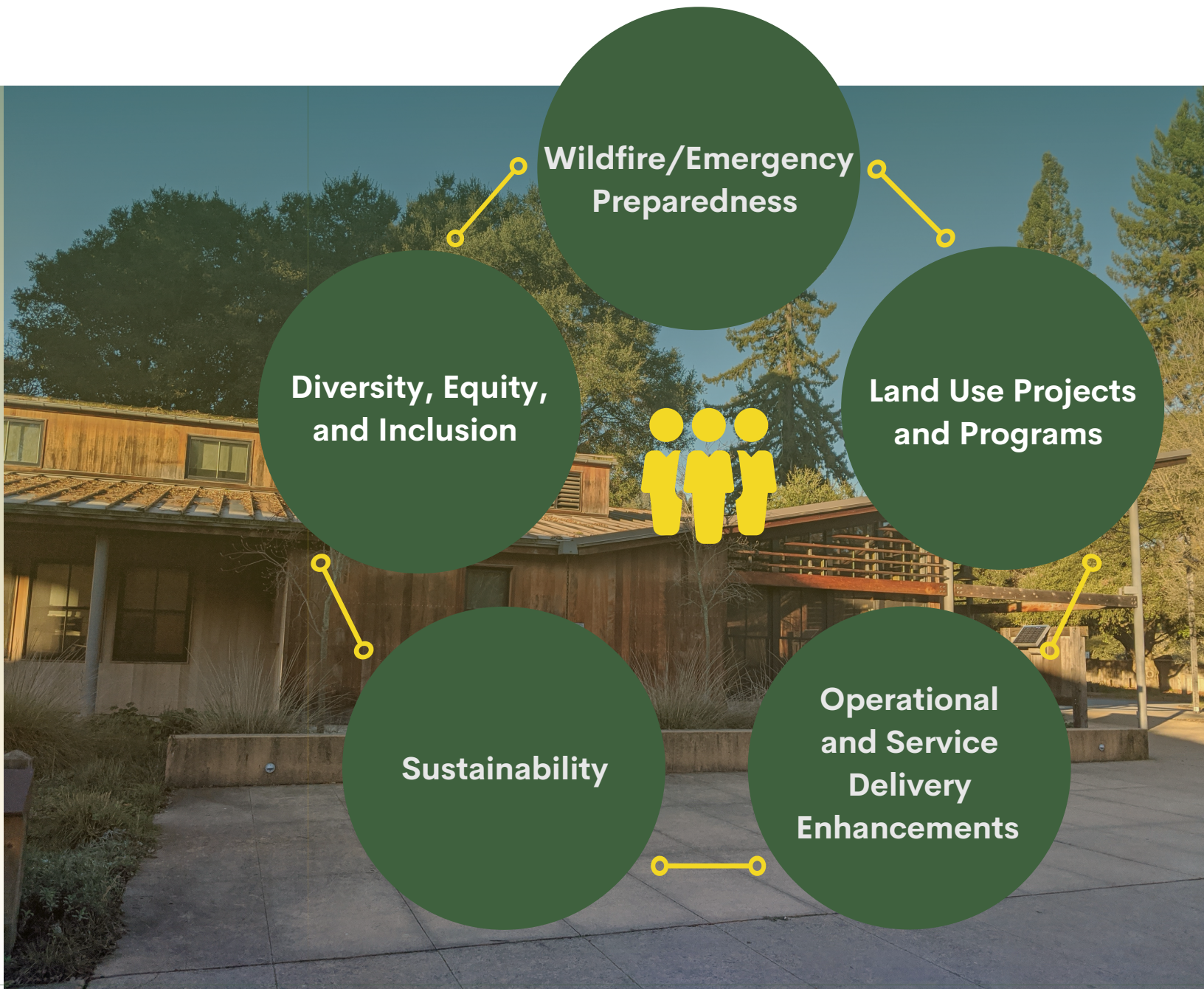
Town of Portola Valley

Council Priorities

FY 2022-2023



The Town of Portola Valley's Council Priorities were created through careful deliberation of the Town Council with input from the Community, Town Committees, and staff. The five strategic priorities help establish the top projects and guide the Town based on a shared vision for the Fiscal Year 2022-23.



Wildfire/Emergency Preparedness

The Town's location in a wildfire-prone region, and the broadening impacts of climate change result in the potential of a devastating wildfire in Portola Valley. The Town's continued prioritization of wildfire adaptation and mitigation efforts will continue into FY 2022-23 and beyond.

- Implementation of new/expanded Wildfire Preparedness Committee recommendations, including exploration of a permanent funding source for wildfire adaptation/mitigation measures including public and private vegetation management
- Completion and implementation of the State mandated Safety Element
- Implementation of expanded home hardening and defensible space code updates, in conjunction with Woodside Fire Protection District efforts
- Review Woodside Fire Protection District's updated fire maps.
- Support of the resource grant from Community Partners Assistance for Wildfire (CPAW), including the potential for a Woodside Fire Protection District-wide Community Wildfire Protection Plan
- Additional planning efforts, including detailed wildfire behavior modeling (either at the Town or Fire District level)
- Implementation of and potential follow up work for the evacuation study
- Launching the Veoci virtual emergency operations center tool, and providing infrastructure support for WPV-Ready, as guided by the Emergency Preparedness Committee
- Expanded vegetation management for wildfire mitigation, including targeted trees and the Town's open space properties
- Adoption of Fire Code Updates
- Further exploration of undergrounding Town utilities
- Develop a draft wildfire mitigation matching program in response to the November 10, 2021 Colleagues Memo

Land Use Projects and Programs

A significant amount of the Town's resources are utilized to support day-to-day planning, building and engineering efforts. These resources support all manner of development, from small changes to a single-family property to larger multifamily proposals. Recognition of these efforts, including large land-use proposals, updates to the Town's Housing Element, and other important work, though this priority demonstrates an important focus to quality and timely service delivery.

- Stanford Wedge and other major projects
- Housing Element Update
- Design Guideline changes to support home hardening ordinance
- Provide support to Sustainability and Trails Committees to develop ADU checklists
- Preparation work to support zoning code modernization efforts for FY 2023-24

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- Following the creation of a new committee to address race and equity issues, the Town Council continues its commitment to consider diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) when developing ordinances, policies, programs and projects
- Implement PV Cares

Sustainability

The Town is a leader in sustainability efforts. Additional efforts are under consideration to continue the Town's leadership role to ensure that sustainability is always central to the Town's ethos and high-level project efforts.

- Climate action plan
- Microgrid for Town Center Campus
- Solar Panel upgrade for Town Center
- Adoption of Green Building Ordinance
- Adoption of Sustainability Committee recommendations including preparing for drought

Operational and Service Delivery Enhancements

The Town Council has committed significant resources over the last few years to expand on the high-quality public service expected by applicants. This priority focuses on a variety of improvements across the organization to build on successful communications efforts, increased project management, and focus on appropriate staffing to support these services.

- Recruiting, hiring, and onboarding staff in Planning and Building and Public Works departments
- Supporting Town Council public engagement enhancement efforts
- Refine operational processes between Town committees, staff, and the Council. Review, update and revise the Commission and Committee Policy and Procedures Handbook as needed.
- Adjusting service delivery and implementing COVID responsive operations as necessary
- Contracting with and managing necessary consultants to assist with major projects and reduce staff administrative responsibilities in order to focus on core service deliveries
- Use of virtual assistant tools (in beta test at the time of this staff report's publication) to focus limited staff resources on core responsibilities
- Examine Town project management approaches, identify and implement actions to better communicate project updates to Town council and the public
- Develop an in-lieu fund policy
- Explore and implement strategies to increase revenue to support increased resource needs
- Annual Financial Audit
- Implementing technological and software improvements to increase staff productivity and provide enhanced communications and greater transparency. This includes:
 - Implementation of the new cloud-based Energov permit tracking software.
 - Adoption of project management tools
 - Launching Veoci virtual emergency operations center tool
 - Website review and reorganization
 - Determining the appropriate service model and transitioning IT services from City of Redwood City.
 - Facility Maintenance – Develop a comprehensive multi-year facility maintenance program.