



CITY OF GILROY
YOUTH COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA



MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026 | 6:00 PM
GILROY SENIOR CENTER
7371 HANNA STREET, GILROY, CA 95020

Chair: Anna Nguyen

Vice Chair: Benedict Pham

Treasurer: Biruh Abaneh

Commissioners: Alazander Cruz Bermudez, Ashleen Bhandal, Diana Diakova, Logan Gill, Sophia Gutierrez, Jacob Ortega, Maya Sanchez, Thanmay Sarath

Staff Liaison: LeeAnn McPhillips, Assistant City Administrator & Adam Henig, Recreation Manager



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PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES:

During the **PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA** portion of the meeting, each person wishing to speak should prepare a presentation of not more than three (3) minutes. Persons wishing to address the Commission are requested, but not required, to complete a Speaker's Card located at the entrances. Completion of this speaker's card is voluntary. All persons may attend this meeting and speak, regardless if a card is completed or not. Speaker's slips should be submitted to the Secretary **BEFORE** this portion of the

meeting begins. Anyone wishing to address the Commission on any other item on this **AGENDA** is requested, but not required, to fill out a speaker's slip as well and submit it to the Secretary **BEFORE** the Commission takes action on the item.

Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the City of Gilroy Youth Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection with the agenda packet in the Recreation Division at Senior Center, 7371 Hanna Street, during normal business hours. These materials are also available with the agenda packet on the City website at www.cityofgilroy.org.

The agenda for this regular meeting is as follows:

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **FLAG SALUTE**
3. **ROLL CALL**
4. **SECRETARY'S REPORT**
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - 5.1. Approval of the Minutes from the February 9, 2026 Regular Meeting of the Youth Commission
6. **INTRODUCTIONS**
7. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**
8. **NEW BUSINESS**
9. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - 9.1. Discussion of FY26 Youth Commission Work Plan
10. **STAFF/COMMISSION COMMENTS**
 - 10.1. Feedback and reflection of March 7, 2026, Youth Advisory Council (YAC) Attack Conference in Los Altos.
11. **ADJOURNMENT**

**City of Gilroy
Youth Commission
Minutes
Monday, February 9, 2026 | 6:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chair Nguyen at 6:01 p.m.

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. ROLL CALL

Present	Biruh Abaneh, Commissioner Alazander Cruz Bermudez, Commissioner Ashleen Bhandal, Commissioner Diana Diakova, Commissioner (late 6:05pm) Sophia Guterrez, Commissioner Anna Nguyen, Commissioner Jacob Ortega , Commissioner Benedict Pham, Commissioner Maya Sanchez, Commissioner Thanmay Sarath, Commissioner
Absent	Logan Gill, Commissioner

4. SECRETARY'S REPORT

The meeting packet was posted on February 6, 2026.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of the Minutes from the January 12, 2026 Regular Meeting of the Youth Commission

Commissioner Ortega requested that a correction be made to an unnecessary underscore that appears on top of page 2 in the minutes (between the words "program" and "that." Staff advisor Henig will amend the current minutes. Motion with the amendment to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Sarath. Commissioner Pham seconded. Motion passed 10-0-0

6. INTRODUCTIONS

None.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

None.

9. OLD BUSINESS

1. Discussion of FY26 Youth Commission Work Plan

Henig provided an update on the Commission's work plan and turned it over to Chair Nguyen to discuss the legislative issue and OpportuniTEEN Fair. Nguyen asked each member of the legislative committee--Sanchez, Ortega, Bhandal, and Nguyen--to provide a report on the area they were assigned. Sanchez cited the example of protective bike barriers installed recently at Cupertino's Lawson Middle School. Ortega discussed various scientific studies; Bhandal discussed costs; and Nguyen spoke about the proposed pilot program.

For the OpportuniTEEN Fair, the Vendor Committee reviewed the various vendors who had committed to participating in the event. To date, there are 26 vendors with several "Maybes." McPhillips recommended the Committee also reach out to the Downtown Gilroy Business Association group and Garlic Festival Association as possible vendors who may want to table.

The next step is for the marketing committee to meet with Staff liaison Henig and eventually, the logistics committee as well.

10. STAFF/COMMISSION COMMENTS

1. 10.1 – Youth Advisory Council (YAC) Attack Conference, Saturday March 7 2026 in Los Altos.

Henig reminded the Commission to register for the YAC Attack. Sanchez added herself. Also, the Commission will present on how to develop an intergenerational dance at the conference. Speakers will be Bermudez, Nguyen, and Bhandal.

2. Thank you LeeAnn McPhillips

On behalf of the Commission, Henig thanked McPhillips for her years of service supporting the Youth Commission.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Nguyen adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m.



City of Gilroy

Youth Commission

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item Title: Discussion of FY26 Youth Commission Work Plan
Meeting Date: March 9, 2026
From: Adam Henig, Recreation Manager
 LeeAnn McPhillips, Interim Human Resources Director/Risk Manager
Department: Youth Commission
Submitted by: Adam Henig, Recreation Manager
Prepared by: Adam Henig, Recreation Manager

RECOMMENDATION

Receive and comment on the FY26 Commission Work Plan.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the work plan is to serve as a guide for the Commission's goals. During the budget adoption for FY26 and FY27, the Youth Commission approved the following work plan:

1. Identify a legislative issue that impacts youth and teens of Gilroy or community at large.
2. Participate in a Community Clean-up day
3. Organize and host an Intergenerational Dance at the Senior Center
4. Support Breakfast with Santa
5. Assist seniors with their technological devices
6. Organize and host OpportuniTEEN Fair

ANALYSIS

- Legislative: The legislative committee—Sanchez, Nguyen, Bhandal, Gil and Ortega—met prior to the February break. They are currently compiling their research and will organize it before they begin writing their white paper. Their

goal is to have a draft ready for the Commission to review at the April meeting.

- OpportuniTEEN Fair

- **Vendor Committee** – There are 30 confirmed vendors with 3 pending. A confirmation letter has been sent to the confirmed vendors and a follow-up will be sent a few days prior to the March 21 event.
- **Marketing Committee** (Diakova, Pham, Guitierrez, Sanchez) – met twice since the February meeting to develop and review the marketing campaign. They have created a flyer, which is available to distribute. They have also created a marketing plan:
 - Career Center – connect
 - Morning announcements — GHS, CHS
 - White Board/MPR (GECA)
 - Contact ASB – CHS, GECA, GHS
 - Post it on your social media network
 - City and Recreation – social media
 - Schools – ParentSquare and social media accounts
- **Logistics Committee** (Bermudez, Nguyen, and Gill) -The logistics committee will meet and go over everything that needs to be taken care of in the final weeks leading up to the event. This includes thank you gifts, background music, schedule, commissioner duties, raffle prizes, where vendors will be seated, etc.
- All commissioners should be prepared to be available for setup on Friday, March 20 from 5pm-6:30pm and on the day of the event, March 21, from 9:00am to 1:30pm.

ALTERNATIVES

FISCAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE

Attachments:

1. OpportuniTEEN Fair 2026 - 2026-1

Name of Business/Organization	Commissioner	Yes/No/Maybe	Status Update
AAUW Young Women Leaders	Diana	Yes	Confirmed
Cal Soap Tutoring	Anna	YES	Confirmed
Catholic Charities	Adam	Yes	Will donate for raffle, a 24" bike, helmet and bike lock Confirmed; Angelica will attend and sit at REC Table
City of Gilroy Human Resources	Adam	Yes	
City of Gilroy Police Department (Explorers)	Adam / Diana	Yes	Confirmed
City of Gilroy Recreation	Adam	Yes	Confirmed
Community Creative Connect	Anna	Yes	Kayla and Raul confirmed
Community Solutions	Anna	Yes	Sent email (Adam too)
Digital Nest	Ben	Yes	Confirmed
Downtown Gilroy Business Association	Anna	Yes	Contacted, waiting on response.
Gilroy Foundation	Ashleen	Yes	Confirmed
Gilroy Gardens	Anna	Yes	Confirmed
Gilroy Library	Biruh	Yes	Contact is Jenna
Gilroy Museum	Ashleen	Yes	Confirmed
Gilroy Prep/STEM program	Ashleen	Yes	Confirmed/Vanessa Miller
Gilroy Rodeo	Ashleen	Yes	Contact is Kim, GR Volunteers volunteers@gilroyrodeo.
Giltroy Youth Commission	All	Yes	
Interact Club	Anna	YES	Messaged, waiting for a reponse
Levis'	Anna	YES	DISTRICT MANAGER SAID YES
LJB Farms	Ben	Likely yes	Awaiting for response
Naval STEM	Anna	YES	Confirmed
Old Navy	Anna	YES	Confirmed.
Operation Freedom Paws	Ben	Yes	Confirmed
Pizza My Heart	Thanmay	Likely Yes	Awaiting for response
Pop's	Biruh	Likely Yes	Seemed interested; Biruh will follow up
Red Cross	Anna	YES	School chain, blood drive recruitment.
SBARI	Thanmay	Yes	Possibly
Second Harvest of Silicon Valley	Anna	Yes	Form submitted; waiting for confirmation
STEM/MESA Program	Anna	YES	
South County Youth Task Force	Adam	Yes	Confirmed
Swimming Swan	Adam	Yes	Confirmed

Name of Business/Organization	Commissioner	Yes/No/Maybe	Status Update
TownCats	Jacob	Yes	Confirmed
Voiceopedia	Anna	YES	Confirmed with Jaimee.
YMCA Youth Board of Mount Madonna	Anna	YES	Confirmed