



**CITY OF GILROY  
YOUTH COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**



**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 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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Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the City of Gilroy Youth Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available with the agenda packet on the City website at [www.cityofgilroy.org](http://www.cityofgilroy.org) subject to the Staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting.

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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](http://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 January 12, 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. 10.1 – Youth Advisory Council (YAC) Attack Conference, Saturday March 7 2026 in Los Altos.
  - 10.2. Thank you LeeAnn McPhillips
11. **ADJOURNMENT**

**City of Gilroy  
Youth Commission  
Minutes  
Monday, January 12, 2026 | 6:00 PM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by Chair Nguyen at 6:02 p.m.

**2. FLAG SALUTE**

**3. ROLL CALL**

<b>Present</b>	Biruh Abaneh, Commissioner Alazander Cruz Bermudez, Commissioner Ashleen Bhandal, Commissioner Diana Diakova, Commissioner (late 6:05pm) Logan Gill, Commissioner Sophia Guitierrez, Commissioner Anna Nguyen, Commissioner Jacob Ortega , Commissioner Benedict Pham, Commissioner Maya Sanchez, Commissioner Thanmay Sarath, Commissioner
<b>Absent</b>	None.

**4. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The meeting packet was posted on January 9, 2026.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**1. Approval of the Minutes from December 8, 2025 Regular Meeting of the Youth Commission**

Commissioner Abaneh requested that a correction be made to the misspelling of his last name. Staff advisor Henig will amend the current minutes. Motion with the amendment to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Ortega. Commissioner Gill seconded. Motion passed 11-0-0

**6. INTRODUCTIONS**

None.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

## 9. OLD BUSINESS

### 1. Discussion of FY26 Youth Commission Work Plan

The following was discussed during this item:

- Chair Nguyen discussed the digital assistance program that occurred during the week of December 15. Ortega noted that it seemed slower this year than last year, but he was able to provide more personal attention.
- Legislative Committee members provided an update about what each member would be focused on.
  - **Sanchez** - Research what has worked in other cities
  - **Gill** – Research different options for protective bicycle barriers. Which one(s) would work best in Gilroy? He'll also research the various directional traffic options (middle lane, opposite ends of the road, etc.).
  - **Bhandal** - Discuss the challenges with instituting protective bicycle barriers such as less street parking and funding.
  - **Ortega** - Research recent studies that have been done on this topic and what were their findings.
  - **Nguyen** – Implementation using a pilot project. What does it entail? How much would it cost? How do you determine if it's effective? What impact did it have on the neighborhood?

The committee will meet again next week to share its findings.

- The OpportuniTEEN Fair Vendor Committee provided an update on their status. Thus far, five vendors have confirmed their attendance. Committee members need to do more outreach to prospective vendors to meet the goal of 25. The committee will meet in two weeks.

## 10. STAFF/COMMISSION COMMENTS

Henig mentioned that he set up a registration link for parents of commissioners to register them for the upcoming Youth Advisory Council Conference on Saturday, March 7 in Los Altos. The deadline to register is February 1. Also, Henig mentioned that if anyone was interested in leading a session, they should let him know. Commissioner Bermudez would like to lead a session about how to organize an intergenerational dance.

## 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:** February 9, 2026  
**From:** LeeAnn McPhillips, Assistant City Administrator  
 Adam Henig, Recreation Manager  
**Department:** Youth Commission  
**Submitted by:** Adam Henig, Recreation Manager  
**Prepared by:** Adam Henig, Recreation Manager

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### 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

Below is an update on the Commission's work plan:

- **Digital Assistance:** To date, the Commission has served 43 seniors.
- **Breakfast with Santa:** Completed on December 6, 2025.
- **Intergenerational Dance:** Completed on November 21, 2025.

- **Legislative:** On Wednesday, January 21, the legislative committee—Sanchez, Nguyen, Bhandal, Gil and Ortega—met and shared updates on their research.
  - **Sanchez** researched how other California cities—Cupertino, Sacramento, Irvine, Pomona, East Bay cities, and Santa Monica— have implemented protective bicycle barriers in their communities. Cupertino, for example, had implemented protective barriers surrounding a middle school.
  - **Gill** researched the different types of protective barriers and how they can be implemented. Based on the location of the proposed barrier, that would determine the type of barrier to be used and in which direction it would be utilized.
  - **Bhandal** identified the following challenges with adding protective bicycle barriers near a school:
    - *Possibly less street parking*
    - *Lack of funding* – barriers can cost anywhere from \$130,000 to \$540,000 per mile)
    - *Ongoing maintenance*
    - *Public support* — *When Gilroy’s City Council voted to accept a plan to improve pedestrian and bike safety through the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program, some council members expressed concern that the plan could lead to lane changes and “increased congestion.”*
  - **Ortega** has found several studies that provide evidential support that protective barriers make roads safer for everyone (including drivers) and encourages infrequent bicycle riders to bike more often.
  - **Nguyen** plans to utilize her committee’s research to develop a proposed pilot program to gauge the effectiveness of protective bicycle barriers. What are the challenges? When it was implemented, were there more students using bicycles to and from school? What did the Commission learn after the pilot program was implemented?

On Wednesday, February 4, the committee scheduled a field trip to identify potential streets by Gilroy High School that would be most effective for a temporary protective bicycle barrier. Committee members will share a status update at the meeting.

- **OpportuniTEEN Fair:** The **Vendor** Committee—Bhandal, Nguyen, Pham, Abaneh, Sarath—met on Wednesday, January 28 to provide updates since the January 12 commission meeting. Thus far, the Committee has obtained 25 firm commitments with 2 "likely yes." The Committee will provide an update of the organizations that have confirmed their presence.
- The other committees are **Marketing**—Diakova, Pham, Guterrez, and Sanchez--and **Logistics** with Ortega, Bermudez and Gill. Marketing will focus on advertising the event to the local high schools through flyer distribution, multimedia, and social media.

YOUTH AND TEEN RECREATION SERVICES PRESENT

MAR 7, 2026

# YAC ATTACK

FEATURING



## DEVELOPING YOUNG LEADERS

Los Altos Community Center  
75 Hillview Ave. Los Altos, CA 94022

9:00 AM - 2:30 PM

Purchase Tickets Online



For more information, email: [YTRSDistrict4Chair@gmail.com](mailto:YTRSDistrict4Chair@gmail.com)