



Varsha Jonnalagadda, Chair, Tanya Grewal, Vice Chair
Members: Divij Bhatia, Ananya Bollapinni, Eva Brooks,
Vihaan Choudhary, Keerthi Eranivan, Ishaan Garg,
Arshia Ghatak, Nishka Gouri, Suhani Goyal,
Rishab Guntuku, Sandra Joseph, Naina Rana,
Adhyayan Veer Singh, Neil Thella, Kaashvi Patil
Alternate Members: Siddharth Verose, Mya Chan

Teen Council Agenda

**San Ramon Community Center
Terrace Room
12501 Alcosta Boulevard**

**April 21, 2026
6:30 PM
Regular Meeting**

Agenda Questions: Contact Parks & Community Services at (925) 973-3272

1. Call To Order/Roll Call

2. Public Comment

At this time, members of the public are encouraged to address the Teen Council on any item not already included in tonight's agenda. Comments should not exceed three (3) minutes. During public comment, members of the public are permitted to address the Teen Council on items that are not on the agenda and are within the Teen Council's jurisdiction.

Comments from the public may also be submitted by email to jreaber@sanramon.ca.gov. No Teen Council action can be taken at this meeting on issues raised during Public Comment. Written Public Comment emails must be submitted to the email above prior to the commencement of the meeting. Comments received by email will not be read aloud; however, they will be forwarded to the Teen Council for their consideration. If you wish to make your comments heard, you must participate in the meeting.

3. Committee Business

3.1 Approval of March 17, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes

3.2 Recycling and Sustainability Initiatives Update —Jon Bell, Public Services Division Manager

3.3 2025-2026 Teen Council Annual Report Review and Approval – Varsha Jonnalagadda, Teen Council Chair

3.4 Committee Reports and Announcements

4. Adjourn to Workshop

4.1 Committee Purpose and Member Engagement - Discussion of the committee's purpose and scope, along with an exploration of member roles, expectations, and motivations for participation

5. Adjournment

This agenda is posted in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2(a). To make a request for disability-related accommodation to participate in the meeting, please contact the City Clerk's Office 48 hours in advance of the meeting at 925-973-2539, or cityclerk@sanramon.ca.gov.

Attendee Conduct

There will be zero tolerance for any person addressing the Teen Council making profane, offensive and disruptive remarks, or engaging in loud, boisterous, or other disorderly conduct, that disrupts the orderly conduct of the public meeting. Specifically, it is important for all speakers to adhere to the following guidelines for participation in this meeting:

- a. No profanity or obscenity
- b. Refrain from personal threats or attacks.
- c. Refrain from hateful epithets and demeaning language based on any person's race, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, or disability.
- d. Respect all people that are present.

At the discretion of the Teen Council Chair, a speaker may forfeit speaking time for any of the following reasons:

- a. Exceeding the allotted time to speak;
- b. Yelling, screaming, or other behavior that renders this Teen Council unable to continue the meeting;
- c. Excessive profanity or slander; Specific threats or "fighting words" that incite violence; or
- d. Speech that is outside the subject matter jurisdiction of the Teen Council or the specific agenda item in which you are speaking.

While the City of San Ramon upholds the First Amendment rights of all participants, we do not accept or endorse offensive or hateful comments made during our meetings. We celebrate the diversity of our community and strive to maintain a welcoming and inclusive environment for all.

City of San Ramon
Teen Council Meeting
March 17, 2026
Regular Meeting
DRAFT

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Jonnalagadda called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM.

Present:

Chair Varsha Jonnalagadda, Vice Chair Tanya Kaur Grewal, Teen Councilmembers Divij Bhatia, Ananya Bollapini, Eva Brooks, Vihaan Choudhary, Ishaan Garg, Arshia Ghatak, Nishka Gouri, Suhani Goyal, Rishab Guntuku, Sandra Joseph, Adhyayan Veer Singh, Neil Thella, Kaashvi Patil, and Teen Council Alternate Siddharth Verose and Mya Chan

Absent:

Teen Councilmembers Keerthi Eraniyan and Naina Rana

Other Attendees: Parks & Community Services Recreation Supervisor Jessica Reaber, Office Specialist Stacy Munsell, City Councilmember Richard Adler, Parks and Community Services Commissioner Partha Mitra, and Senior Advisory Committee Liaison Colette Clark.

2. Public Comment or Written Communication

No public comment was received.

3. Committee Business

3.1 Approval of February 17, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes

Member Bhatia's motion to approve the February 17, 2026, regular meeting minutes were seconded by Member Joseph. The motion passed 17-0-0-0.

3.2 Leaders in Training and Teen Service and Leadership Programs Review

Presentation given by Andrew Mendes, Recreation Coordinator.

3.3 Approve the Proposed Workplan for the 2026-2027 Teen Wellness Ad Hoc Committee.

Report given by Suhani Goyal, Teen Wellness Ad Hoc Chair. Member Ghatak's motion to approve the recommendations of the report and were seconded by Member Joseph. The motion passed 17-0-0-0.

3.4 Committee Reports and Announcements

4. Adjournment

Chair Jonnalagadda adjourned the meeting at 7:40 PM.



Teen Council Staff Report Item No. 3.2

Date: April 21, 2026

To: San Ramon Teen Council

From: Brian Bornstein, Public Works Director
Jon Bell, Public Services Division Manager

Subject: Recycling and Sustainability Initiatives Update

Recommendation:

The San Ramon Teen Council should receive this report outlining current recycling programs and sustainability initiatives.

Background:

The City of San Ramon prioritizes environmental sustainability through programs that reduce waste, conserve resources, and lower greenhouse gas emissions. Key efforts include curbside recycling and organics collection, composting, public education, water conservation through drought-tolerant landscaping and smart irrigation technology such as Calsense irrigation controllers, reduced single-use plastics, and energy-efficient City operations, all aligned with regional and state sustainability goals.

Alameda County Industries (ACI), the City's exclusive franchise hauler, provides garbage, recycling, and organics collection services, along with tools such as the "Don't know where to throw it?" guide to support proper sorting. Additional programs include door-to-door Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection through Clean Harbors and annual Neighborhood Clean-Up Days for the disposal of bulky items. Businesses are supported through cost-effective recycling and organics services that incentivize waste diversion.

The City has also implemented Ordinance 525 (Polystyrene Foam Food Packaging and Foodware Ban), adopted May 9, 2024, which bans polystyrene foam foodware due to its environmental impacts and lack of recyclability. Food vendors were required to transition to approved recyclable or compostable alternatives by December 31, 2024.

In addition, the City is advancing compliance with SB 1383 (California's Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Strategy) by promoting organics diversion and edible food recovery to reduce methane emissions. Outreach efforts, including informational materials and guidance, help residents and businesses understand and meet these requirements.

Fiscal Impact:

Many recycling and sustainability programs are funded through existing franchise agreements with waste haulers, grant funding, and allocated operating budgets. While some initiatives require upfront investment, they often result in long-term cost savings through reduced landfill use, improved efficiency, and resource conservation.

Next Steps:

Staff will continue to enhance recycling and sustainability programs, seek grant funding opportunities, and expand outreach efforts. Teen Council members are encouraged to participate in and promote local environmental programs, provide feedback on youth engagement strategies, and help raise awareness within the community.

Attachment(s):

None



**Teen Council Staff Report
Item No. 3.3**

Date: April 21, 2026

To: San Ramon Teen Council

From: Henry Perezalonso, Director
Jessica Reaber, Recreation Supervisor
Varsha Jonnalagadda, Teen Council Chair

Subject: 2025-2026 Teen Council Annual Report Review and Approval

Recommendation:

The Teen Council should review and approve the 2025-2026 Teen Council Annual Report.

Background:

The City Council adopted a procedure for all City committees whereby each committee would provide an annual report to the City Council on their operations, accomplishments, and work plans. The report also serves as a tool for the incoming Teen Council to carry forward the work from the preceding year.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact.

Next Steps:

Upon approval, Teen Council Chair is scheduled to present the 2025-2026 Teen Council Annual Report to the Parks and Community Services Commission on Wednesday, May 13, 2026, and to the City Council on Tuesday, May 26, 2026.

Attachment(s):

Attachment A: 2025-2026 Teen Council Annual Report

2025-2026 Annual Report to the City Council
San Ramon Teen Council
Scheduled to Present to the Parks Commission – May 13, 2026
Scheduled to Present to the City Council – May 26, 2026

I. Charge of the Teen Council

1. Advise and inform the Parks and Community Services Commission and staff on the various issues relating to teens, outlining the needs of the population.
2. Provide recommendations to the staff and Parks and Community Services Commission on teen programs and policies relating to teen recreation services.
3. Appoint appropriate subcommittees as necessary to further the work of the teen program mission and the efforts of the department and the Teen Council.
4. Receive input from the teen population in San Ramon as well as other organizations and individuals on issues relevant to the teen population.
5. Act as a liaison for teen issues to governmental and private organizations.
6. Advocate for teen issues within the entire community.
7. Identify problems of teen services and recommend appropriate solutions.
8. Be a channel of communication between the staff and the teen population.
9. Provide feedback to the staff on the assessment of current and future needs of the teen population for the purpose of program planning.

II. History of the Committee

The Teen Council was established by the City Council on August 23, 1994, pursuant to a recommendation by the Parks and Community Services Commission. Currently, the Teen Council consists of 17 members and 2 alternates, in grades 9-12 from California High School, Dougherty Valley High School, and The Quarry Lane School. There were five appointed Ad Hoc Committees this year including the Wellness Ad Hoc Committee, Outstanding Teen Citizenship Award Ad Hoc Committee, Senior Technology Day Ad Hoc Committee, and the Ambassador Program Ad Hoc Committee.

III. Review of 25/26 Committee Accomplishments and Projects

1. Teen Wellness Ad Hoc Committee

The Wellness Ad Hoc Committee focused on identifying critical barriers to student engagement with mental health resources, specifically addressing the underutilization

of campus wellness centers and the need for more relatable outreach. After a comprehensive review of existing support systems, the committee developed an approved 2026-2027 work plan designed to personalize teen wellness initiatives. Key strategies include a peer-led transition program for middle school students entering high school, integrating student speakers into psychologist-led mental health presentations, and a collaborative story-to-art program to provide creative outlets for students' experiences. By establishing these frameworks and drafting specialized student-focused surveys, the committee has developed a clear, strategic vision for making San Ramon's wellness resources more accessible, relatable, and responsive to the teen population.

2. Outstanding Teen Citizenship Award (OTCA) Ad Hoc Committee

The Outstanding Teen Citizenship Award was established in 2011 and was first awarded in the 2012–13 term. Since then, the Teen Council has been proud to present this award to several qualified applicants in San Ramon. This year, the OTCA Ad Hoc Committee sought to find an applicant who had made a significant contribution toward enhancing the quality of life for San Ramon residents. This year, the OTCA Ad Hoc committee received five applications, each revealing unique contributions made to our community by gifted teens. After careful review from the OTCA Ad Hoc committee members, Danya Prakash was chosen as the nominee for this award. Danya raised funds for her non-profit "Humanities in Focus" and started a podcast to raise awareness. She is also an advocate against drug abuse and acts as a youth ambassador for the National Coalition Against Prescription Drug Abuse. Danya was recognized at the Chamber Annual Business & Community Awards for winning this award.

3. Senior Technology Day Ad Hoc Committee

The Senior Technology Day Ad Hoc committee worked to assist seniors in San Ramon to help make them feel more comfortable using their electronic devices. This year, the Committee organized and executed three Senior Technology Days at the Alcosta Senior & Community Center. During Senior Tech Days, volunteers worked with seniors to assist with questions they had about their devices and showed seniors new tricks to make tech use easy. These events were both informative and fun for the volunteers and seniors who participated, and they should be continued by subsequent committees.

Through Senior Tech Days, the committee sees value in incorporating more intergenerational opportunities by introducing a Senior Game Day or Night as a more informal and approachable way for seniors to engage with technology. While Tech Days have been successful, some seniors may feel hesitant or intimidated asking for help in a

structured setting. A game night environment, which would have activities like pool and card games, as well as digital games, would create a relaxed and social atmosphere where seniors can explore technology more discreetly and comfortably. This approach would encourage learning through play and reduce the social pressure of needing help. By blending technology with entertainment, tech becomes more accessible and less intimidating, ultimately increasing participation and satisfaction among seniors.

4. Ambassador Program Ad Hoc Committee

The Teen Council Ambassador Ad Hoc serves to expand the Teen Council's outreach to the school districts, especially to middle schools that are not represented on the council. The Teen Council interviewed applicants and selected prospective ambassadors who were believed to be able to gather the most peer input and be able to work as leaders within their community. The Ad Hoc chose ambassadors from a multitude of schools, such as Dougherty Valley High School, California High School, Windermere Ranch Middle School, Gale Ranch Middle School, Quarry Lane School, The Athenian School, Dorris Eaton School, and Pine Valley Middle School. There was a total of 50 applications, and 19 ambassadors were selected from the top 37 applicants.

The ambassadors were tasked with creating a presentation about what they believed was the most important problem within the San Ramon community and to brainstorm solutions from January to March 2026. Their selections included topical problems such as financial literacy among youth, addressing insecurity in public speaking skills, environmental issues, the youth mental health crisis, and difficulties deciding on a career and navigating life beyond school. The Teen Council's Ambassador Ad Hoc Committee was tasked with mentoring the ambassadors and helping them create their presentations around these issues. Ambassadors voted on what they believed was the best solution and that presentation would be shared with the Teen Council. The ideas selected to move forward were basic financial literacy presentations for the teen population and creating a career hub to help with career guidance. These topics help to inform the goals and suggestions for next year's board.

IV. Volunteer Activities

Teen Council members are required to commit to eight hours of volunteer work each month that supports the activities and goals of the Council. This requirement ensures active membership in the community and encourages their peers to volunteer. Teen Council members were able to remain active by participating in a variety of events

including Senior Technology Days, Teen Job Fair, and Tri-Valley YAC Roundtable, and Arbor Day at Forest Home Farms.

V. Representation in City Government

The Teen Council has liaisons for the Arts Advisory Committee, Library Advisory Committee, Planning Commission, Senior Advisory Committee, Transportation Advisory Committee, Parks and Community Services Commission, and City Council. Teen Council members attend meetings and report back to the Teen Council to consider various aspects of other committees' work when making suggestions.

VI. Programs of the 25/26 Term

- Community outreach and engagement through San Ramon Teen Council's Instagram page, through various prompts with themes surrounding Unity Day, gratitude posts around the holidays, and managing stress during finals week.
- Further development and purpose of the Teen Council Ambassador program
- Networking with local youth advisory committees in Danville, Livermore, Dublin, and Pleasanton
- Serving seniors in person by hosting Senior Technology Days at the Alcosta Senior and Community Center
- Reviewed applications and awarded the Outstanding Teen Citizenship Award in partnership with the San Ramon Chamber of Commerce and Realty One. Recognized the winner at a Parks and Community Services Commission Meeting.
- Participation in events such as the Teen Job Fair and Tri-Valley YAC Roundtable.

VII. Suggestions for the 2026-2027 Term

1. Review the San Ramon Teen Council Bylaws to ensure alignment with existing City goals, and the board's ability to make meaningful impact in addressing teen needs within the City of San Ramon.
2. Strengthen and expand partnerships with local organizations, businesses, advisory committees, and staff to support teen wellness, mental health, recreation, and resource sharing, while leveraging community spaces, and intergenerational opportunities such as Senior Tech Days.
3. Recognize and celebrate teen achievements by continuing and enhancing programs like the Outstanding Teen Citizenship Award and partnering with other programs or platforms that highlight youth contributions and community impact.
4. Increase engagement with the middle school population through the ambassador program and work with staff to connect with the correct agencies to advance initiatives for high school students to connect with peers and middle school students in a mentorship capacity, teaching specific technical skills.
5. Enhance Teen Council's outreach, visibility, and communication efforts by developing a coordinated strategy that includes social media expansion, community partnerships, and increased promotion of programs, events, applications, and opportunities.
6. Continue to establish necessary Ad Hoc committees to support the Teen Council's effort to appropriately represent teens in San Ramon and continue to build upon successes in addressing mental health, intergenerational opportunities, mentorship, and skill-building opportunities, and helping connect San Ramon teens to resources.