



CITY OF MILPITAS

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Commission

MEETING MINUTES
7:00 p.m.
Monday, January 5, 2026
455 E. Calaveras Blvd. Milpitas, CA 95035

- CALL TO ORDER** Chair Ehardt called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
- ROLL CALL** **PRESENT:** Commissioners Emilee Yan-Yi Chai, Ricky Davis, Joseph Ehardt, Rondi Jackson, Bhupendra Kumar, Prashanth Kumar, Nasir Lalani, Raghu Reddy, Becky Strauss, and Allen Roy Thomas
ABSENT: Commissioners Oliana Castillo, Juliette Gomez, and Catalina Silva
City Staff: Renee Lorentzen – Director of Recreation and Community Services
Justin Yount – Senior Public Services Assistant
- PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE** Chair Ehardt led the pledge of allegiance.
- ALTERNATE SEATING** Commissioner Lalani was seated in place of Commissioner Silva, and Commissioner Bhupendra Kumar was seated in place of Commissioner Castillo as voting members.
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA** **MOTION** to approve the Agenda for January 5, 2026.
M/S: Davis/Jackson
Motion carried by a vote of **AYES: All** **NOES: None**
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES** **MOTION** to approve the Minutes for November 3, 2025.
M/S: Ehardt/Strauss
Motion carried by a vote of **AYES: All** **NOES: None**
- PUBLIC FORUM** None.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS** None.
- BUSINESS ITEMS** **A. Chair and Vice Chair Elections – Commissioner Chair**
The Chair opened the floor for nominations for Commission Chair to serve for the calendar year.
Motion to nominate and elect Ricky Davis as Chair.
M/S: Strauss/Jackson
Motion carried by a vote of **AYES: 5** **NOES: 0**

Motion to nominate and elect Becky Strauss as Chair.
No second – Motion fails.

Motion to nominate and elect Joseph Ehardt as Chair.

M/S: B. Kumar/Davis
Motion carried by a vote of **AYES: 2** **NOES: 0**

Commissioner Ricky Davis elected as Chair.

Chair opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair to serve for the calendar year.

Motion to nominate and elect Joseph Ehardt as Vice Chair.

M/S: Strauss/B. Kumar
Motion carried by a vote of **AYES: 5** **NOES: 0**

Motion to nominate and elect Becky Strauss as Vice Chair

M/S: Lalani/Jackson
Motion carried by a vote of **AYES: 2** **NOES: 0**

Commissioner Joe Ehardt elected as Vice Chair.

B. Park Marker Community Art Project – City Staff

Commissioner Jackson volunteered to serve on the Subcommittee, with Commissioner Bhupendra Kumar volunteering to serve as the alternate should Commissioner Jackson be unable to fulfill the obligation.

C. Family Bike Day Call to Action Campaign Discussion – City Staff

The Commission discussed the 2026 Family Bike Day Call to Action Campaign and reached consensus on several key elements. The campaign will take place from May 3 through May 9, 2026, with the theme “Community & Local Pride.” The designated campaign action will be #MilpitasBikes, and the Commission supported offering incentives for competitions and participation, including a location passport activity. In-Kind sponsorship opportunities were discussed with participation from Commissioners Davis, Strauss, Ehardt, Prashanth Kumar, and Student Commissioner Chai. Potential day-of-event locations identified include Alviso Adobe, the Teen Center, and the Library. As a follow-up, the Commission will consider approval of the campaign calendar at its February meeting, and staff will provide additional information regarding In-Kind sponsorships.

LIAISON REPORT

A. Report from City Liaison

None.

B. Report from City Staff

City Staff shared with the Commission upcoming City events such as the Lunar New Year on February 13 and the Holi Festival on March 7 as well as the release of the Spring 2026 Activity Guide.

UPCOMING AGENDA

Family Bike Day
Outreach to other Commissions

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chair Davis adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m. until the next regularly scheduled meeting on February 2, 2026.