

City of Arcata CITY COUNCIL GOALS



Facilities and Infrastructure

Enhance Appearance, Public Safety and Livability of the City

Improve infrastructure and facilities.
Improve transportation and circulation systems.
Provide services for residents' safety and comfort.
Encourage community beautification and public art.



Environmental Leadership

Provide Leadership in Environmental Stewardship and Climate Change Preparedness

Increase local energy independence.
Strive to achieve zero waste.
Develop non-motorized transportation routes.
Support open space and ecosystem functions.
Improve water resource management.



Sustainable Development

Improve Local Economy through Business Support

Improve community services for business development.
Improve linkage between energy needs and resources.
Support a living wage and encourage investment in workforce satisfaction.

Public Service

Improve the Quality of Service to the Public

Respond to the needs of our residents.
Increase opportunities for community engagement.
Improve technological capabilities of the City.

Resident and Community Health

Support Community Creative and Cultural Life

Support healthy eating and active living programs.
Provide recreation opportunities for all residents.
Support diverse housing opportunities.
Support essential human services, as applicable.



Prepare for Future Needs

Provide Educational Opportunities for Residents and Staff

Provide leadership developing strategies for climate change.
Use best available science for future planning.

City Council Policy Objectives

1. Develop policies and support community organizations that provide services that improve the quality of life in Arcata and events that promote Arcata as a “livable community.”
2. Maintain benefits, labor standards, and improve workplace safety and conditions for City Employees.
3. Promote an energy efficient and pedestrian friendly transportation web between neighborhoods emphasizing pedestrian, bicycle, and alternative modes of transportation.
4. Promote efficient use of energy and use of renewable energy in buildings, facilities and infrastructure in Arcata.
5. Implement the Capital Improvements Program to City infrastructure.
6. Strengthen partnerships with Humboldt State University, College of the Redwoods, local schools, civic and professional organizations.
7. Address expanding land management needs including updating Forest Management Plan and Non-Industrial Timber Management Plan.
8. Develop strategies in response to the changing needs of youth, teens, students, families and seniors.
9. Maximize opportunities for public participation and civic engagement.
10. Collaborate with other jurisdictions and non-profits to maximize regional effectiveness and increase funding opportunities.
11. Maintain contacts and open communication with representatives at various State and Federal levels.
12. Incorporate smart growth technology, design, principles and practices in the advancement of a sustainable city.

Arcata City Council Priority Projects for 2022/2023 Fiscal Year

1. Develop a 2-3 year Homelessness Reduction Strategy framework identifying initial priority benchmarks to provide for or continue to shelter those who are or may become homeless.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Identify an ongoing funding stream (i.e. sales tax, property tax), and prepare a ballot initiative for voters to consider in 2024.b. Support/Collaborate on strategies to create safe spaces for those without shelter, including a safe parking program, cold weather shelter, emergency warming stations and safe camping opportunities.c. Continue support for Arcata House Partnership and the Home-Key II projects.d. Long term: Develop a cooperative housing model that includes onsite services and peer to peer mentoring support, creating holistic support for individuals.
2. Valley West Improvements
<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Develop beautification priorities for Valley West collaborating with the Chamber, Main Street and Arcata House Partnership such as trash pick-up/cans, murals, planters, flower baskets and better lighting.b. Continue the planning for a Valley West community center to offer recreational and learning opportunities, resource services and a general gathering space. Support the HSU student project to complete initial visioning.c. Prioritize Improvements to Carlson Park; picnic tables, bathrooms, play space and river access.d. Focus public safety on neighborhood meeting priorities of trespassing/loitering, narcotic activity, vacant properties and encampments and coordinate enforcement of nuisance properties.
3. Mental Health and Social Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Continue to support and expand the Mobile Intervention Services Team (MIST) and access to support services. Seek out long term funding strategies and 24-hour emergency crisis response team for adults and youth. Standardize a quarterly update to the City Council.b. Look for opportunities to collaborate with Humboldt County and local jurisdictions/non-profits to increase mental health and social services.
4. Infrastructure
<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Support Plaza Improvement Task Force recommendations: Complete design and community engagement to expand one way travel and diagonal parking along 8th and 9th Streets between I and K Streets.b. Support the annual projects of the City's Capital Improvement Program.c. H Street: Beautify and replant the planter(s)d. Support the Community Ambassador Program starting with a pilot program on the Plaza and downtown.
5. Economic Recovery Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Beautification and maintenance: HSU footbridge, Plaza and Valley West.b. Work with the Economic Development Committee to update the Economic Development Strategic Plan.c. Maintain the Economic Recovery Collaborative with Main Street, the Chamber of Commerce, and Cal Poly Humboldt Expand discussions to efforts city-wide.d. Promote business and tourism: Advertise Arcata as a safe place to shop; support visitarcata.com and regional marketing around student alumni successes locally.

6. Prioritize Future Planning
<p>a. Continue engagement surrounding the Strategic Infill Plan, Gateway Draft Plan, and general Plan updates. Provide the public with opportunities to engage with these plans to create land use codes that reflect the wants and needs of the community while meeting regional housing and transit goals focusing on walkability, bike/pedestrian safety, varied and affordable housing options, and mixed-use communities.</p>
7. Implement the Arcata Arts Strategic Plan by working with existing arts efforts established in the community.
<p>a. Focus this year on the mural honoring David Josiah Lawson and beautification to the pedestrian overpass bridge in collaboration with Cal Poly Humboldt.</p>
8. Climate Change and Climate Adaptation
<p>a. Determine a preferred implementation plan for SB 1383 - Short-lived Climate Pollutants (SLCP): Organic Waste Reductions.</p> <p>b. Adopt an All Electric Ordinance to phase out natural gas in new construction.</p> <p>c. Finalize, adopt and begin implementation of the Climate Action Plan.</p> <p>d. Finalize and monitor American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds set aside for Climate Change and local Emission Reduction measures.</p> <p>e. Update the City Green Fleet Policy and create goals for conversion to an emission free fleet.</p> <p>f. Continue sea level rise adaptation planning and implementation strategies including research, analysis, project implementation and strategic property acquisition to support long term climate change.</p> <p>g. Consider a ban on the sale of disposable vaporizers.</p>
9. Parks Improvements
<p>a. Complete Improvements to Shay Park.</p> <p>b. Complete conceptual plan, preliminary design and seek funding for implementation of Redwood Park improvements and finalize the bike pump track plans.</p> <p>c. Finalize Environmental and Design plans to construct the Annie Mary Trail (A&M).</p>
10. Transit and Alternative Transportation Systems
<p>a. Work with the Transportation Safety Committee (TSC) and Humboldt County Office of Governments (HCAOG) to review and develop specific strategies that the City can take to support the Regional Transportation Plan</p> <p>b. Work with the Transportation Safety Committee (TSC) to finalize the Local Road Safety plan and prioritize projects that can be initiated in both the short and long term</p>
11. Proactively maintain a strong partnership with Cal Poly Humboldt focused this year on:
<p>a. Continue to support equity arcata.</p> <p>b. Maintain regular communication with Cal Poly Humboldt through quarterly liaison meetings (reporting back to the whole Council) to create a sense of community surrounding local public art, clean ups, events and better understanding of the needs of the student population in regard to housing and transportation. Specific goals this year include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lighting, banners, street/sidewalk and other art - Build out of the Green and Gold Corridor (G and H Streets) - Improvements to the connecting footbridge - Consider a town hall style meeting or summit to hear from students and the community on town/gown intersections.

12. Explore options to expand City Council office meeting space.

13. Develop a policy on public meeting recording retention.

14. Work to Improve Government Relationships with local Tribal Governments. Continue to support finalizing language with the Wiyot Tribe on local land acknowledgement(s).