

Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion 2021 Work Plan

Town Operations

1. Require all Town Departments to use a lens of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion in the:
 - a. Development of the Town budget, Capital Improvement Program, General Plan (see more information below), and other guiding documents;
 - b. Delivery of Town services; and
 - c. Creation of all new programs, projects, and policies.
2. Examine all proposed policies and ordinances in the context of promoting, facilitating, and improving justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion in Los Gatos. This work will be done by the Council Policy Committee, appropriate Town Boards, Committees, and Commissions, and the Town Council.
3. Complete gender neutralization of the Town Code to eliminate older language that contains increasingly obsolete gender-specific terms such as “she,” “he,” “chairman,” “policeman,” and other gender-specific terminology that is not inclusive.

Community Engagement

4. Expand the Town’s community engagement to include more black, indigenous, and people of color.
5. Continue its community conversations in 2021, including a review and discussion of the Police Department’s Use of Force Policy and other topics.

Town Boards, Committees, and Commissions

6. Recruit Town Board, Committee, and Commission members to reflect diverse communities of color, identity, and backgrounds.
7. Incorporate diversity, equity, and inclusion into the work of all Town Boards, Committees and Commissions and to discuss these efforts with the Town Council and the public.

Transparency in Government

8. Expand access to Town records and information to further demonstrate the Town’s commitment to transparency in governmental operations.

Police Reforms

9. Review at a Town Council meeting, the quarterly progress made on Police Reforms, including independent investigations, mental health/homeless support, traffic stop data, and options for non-emergency calls.
10. Establish the Independent Police Auditor function and promote it to the community in hopes that people will feel comfortable coming forward with concerns and complaints.
11. Continue to strengthen the Police Department relationship with the County Behavioral Health services staff and Mobile Crisis Response Team.
12. Finalize collateral duties for the Police Department Vulnerable Population Coordinator.
13. Analyze and present more detailed traffic stop data to understand trends and determine appropriate actions.
14. Work toward the Police Chief’s goal for all Department personnel to exceed the minimum number of hours of training in de-escalation and crisis intervention.
15. Continuously review and update Department policies and procedures to ensure that it is employing the best practices for hiring, training, eliminating bias, and ensuring the public’s safety.

Town Personnel

16. Foster a more diverse workforce by updating job descriptions and minimum qualifications to encourage a broader set of candidates, promoting job opportunities using conventional and unconventional techniques to reach deeper into the talent pool, and encouraging professional development to expand skills and abilities.
17. Strengthen procedures to protect employees from bullying, racism, and other uncivil behavior.
18. Encourage justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion training for Town staff members and Departments.

Land Use

19. Complete the General Plan update, including a new Racial, Social, and Environmental Justice Element with its associated goals, policies, and implementation actions.
20. Prepare the Housing Element to plan for the housing needs of all segments of the population.

Communications

21. Communicate actively on social media and in other forums to reinforce messages of inclusion, belonging, and welcoming.