

Human Relations Commission Agenda

The Human Relations Commission is a citizen commission appointed by the Fremont City Council. Human Relations Commission business is conducted in a public forum and operates within the provisions of the Brown Act. Information on the Brown Act may be obtained from the City Clerk's office at 3300 Capitol Avenue (phone 284-4060).

General Order of Business

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Secretary Check for Quorum | 6. Written Communications | 11. Commission Referrals |
| 2. Call to order – 7:15 p.m. | 7. Announcements | 12. Commission Reports |
| 3. Roll call | 8. Consent Items | 13. Staff Reports |
| 4. Approval of Minutes | 9. Old Business | 14. Referral to Staff |
| 5. Oral Communications | 10. New Business | 15. Adjournment |

Order of Discussion

Generally, the order of discussion after introduction of an item by the Chair will include comments and information by staff followed by Human Relations Commissions questions, inquiries or discussion. The applicant, authorized representative, or interested citizens may then speak on the item. At the close of public discussion, the item will be considered by the Commission and action taken.

Oral Communications

Any person desiring to speak on a matter which is not scheduled on this agenda may do so under Oral Communications. The Human Relations Commission will take no action on an item which does not appear on the agenda. The item will be agendaized for the next regular meeting or at a special meeting called in accordance with the terms of the Brown Act. The Human Relations Commission may establish time limits of presentations.

Information

Regular scheduled meetings of the Human Relations Commission are conducted at 3300 Capitol Avenue in City Council Chambers. Meetings are held at 7:15 on the third Monday of the month. Meetings may be tape recorded at the discretion of the Chair.

Copies of the Agenda are available at the Human Services Department at 3300 Capitol Avenue three days preceding the regularly scheduled meeting.

Assistance will be provided to those requiring accommodations for disabilities in compliance with the American Disabilities Act of 1990. Interested persons must request the accommodation at least 2 working days in advance of the meeting by contacting Human Services Department at (510) 574-2050.



Information about the City or items scheduled on the Agenda may be referred to:

Suzanne Shenfil, Director
Human Services Department
3300 Capitol Ave
Fremont, CA 94538
(510) 574-2051

Arquimides Caldera, Deputy Director
Human Services Department
3300 Capitol Ave.
Fremont, CA 94538
(510) 574-2056

Your interest in the conduct of your City's business is appreciated.

Human Relations Commission

Dharminder Dewan – Vice Chair
Tejinder Dhami
Paddy Iyer
Dr. Sonia Khan
Lance Kwan
Patricia Montejano
Julie Moore
John Nguyen-Cleary - Chair
John Smith

City Staff

Suzanne Shenfil, Human Services Director
Arquimides Caldera, Deputy Human Services
Director
MaryLou Johnson, Recording Secretary

Mission Statement

The City of Fremont's Human Relations Commission promotes and helps create a community environment in which all men, women and children, regardless of race, religion, national origin, gender, disability or sexual orientation, may live, learn, work and play in harmony.

AGENDA
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2017
TRAINING ROOM
3300 CAPITOL AVE., BUILDING B
FREMONT, CALIFORNIA
7:15 P.M.

1. **SECRETARY CALL FOR QUORUM**
2. **CALL TO ORDER**
3. **ROLL CALL**
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of October 17, 2016, November 21, 2016 and December 19, 2016
5. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**
6. **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

Enclosure: 6.1.1 - Article - City Council Water Rate Hike Review

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

7.1 Senior Center Crab Feed

8. **CONSENT ITEMS**

9. **OLD BUSINESS**

9.1 2017 HRC Chairperson and Vice-Chair

BACKGROUND: Chair Nguyen Cleary and Vice-Chair Dewan have completed their second full terms (January 2016 – December 2016) in their current positions. Commission rules state that no Chairperson shall be eligible for election for more than two consecutive full terms; therefore the Commission must select a new Chair and Vice-Chair for Calendar Year 2017.

On November 21, 2016, per Commission rules, the Commission appointed Chair Nguyen-Cleary, Commissioner Khan and Commissioner Iyer, to a Nominating Committee for new officers. The Committee has nominated and obtained consent from eligible candidates for both vacant offices:

| Office | Nominee |
|---------------|----------------|
| Chair | John Smith |
| Vice Chair | Julie Moore |

Enclosure: None

RECOMMENDATION: Vote for the 2017 Chair and Vice-Chair.

9.2 Compassionate Fremont – Finding Common Ground Speakers Series

BACKGROUND: On May 16, 2016, the HRC voted to endorse and co-sponsor the Finding Common Ground speaker series which has been planned and hosted by Compassionate Fremont and the Fremont Library. Commissioner Smith has been working on the series.

January's program is "Homeless-Causes and Solutions". The discussion will be led by Louis Chicoine, Executive Director of Abode Services, along with staff and a client. Event details:

Date: Monday, January 30, 2017
Time: 7:00PM
Place: Fukaya Room, Fremont Main Library
2400 Stevenson Blvd.
Fremont, CA

Enclosure: 9.2.1 – Finding Common Ground – 1-30-17.

RECOMMENDATION: Receive commissioner update and commit to attending event if possible.

9.3 Emerging Leaders - Racial Equity Leadership Development Retreat

BACKGROUND: The Commission and staff are planning a facilitated dialogue session between the previously formed Racial Equity Emerging Leaders Group and Police Department representatives. Staff has confirmed that the previous participants are interested in continuing to be part of the group. Staff has also secured \$8,500 in funding from the East Bay Community Foundation and the City Manager's Office to support the dialogue session. Lastly, staff has retained CircleUp Education as facilitators. Staff is currently confirming Police Department participants and will begin scheduling the dialogue sessions soon.

Enclosure: None

RECOMMENDATION: Receive staff updates.

9.4 Local Public Response to 2016 Presidential Election

BACKGROUND: On November 21, 2016, the Commission passed a series of actions to acknowledge the divisiveness of the November National election, and that members of our community are concerned about instances of discriminatory language and violence that have occurred during the campaign and now post-election. These actions included:

| Action | Result |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Passed | |
| Recommend the City Council officially respond to the election, via proclamation or open letter, with the highest possible priority. | Open Letter published 11/28/16 |
| Within the week, post a Hate Crime brochure on the City's websites, police department website, and HRC Website. | Completed 12/9/16 |
| In December or January, Hold a Human Rights rally at Lake Elizabeth, against hate, violence, inequality and injustice. | 12/10/16 event cancelled due to storm |
| Within two weeks, post an ad or article in local media informing residents how to report hate, emphasizing that the HRC was established to hear resident complaints | HS Newsletter posted 12/15/16 |
| Recommend the Police Chief make statement, in writing and publicly. | Language included in open letter |
| Commit to working with School Program Coordinators to visit schools, starting in January by formulating topics. | |
| Tabled | |
| Recommend the City Council explore the feasibility and impacts of continuing or adopting policies or procedures that provide a safe and welcoming environment for all residents. | Language included in open letter |
| Support a Fremont contingent to a planned Women's March on Washington. | Tabled to January HRC Meeting |

Enclosure: 9.4.1 – CoF Open Letter to Fremont Community 11-29-16
9.4.2 – CoF Hate Crime Brochure – 12-9-16 Final

RECOMMENDATIONS: Receive staff and Commission updates. Further discuss recommendations for action items tabled on November 21, 2016.

10. **NEW BUSINESS** (Items on which the Commission has not yet had an agenda item discussion or taken action)

10.1 World Interfaith Harmony Week Event

BACKGROUND: In 2010, the United Nations established “World Interfaith Harmony Week as a way to promote harmony between all peoples regardless of their faith.”

In the spirit of the week, Moina Shaiq, former Human Relations Commissioner, has helped organize a meetup on Saturday, February 4, 2017, where residents can talk about and share their faith traditions in the spirit of openness. All are welcome to bring bread and a topping from their culture to share.

Ms. Shaiq is requesting the Commission agree to co-sponsor and attend the event.

Enclosure: 10.1.1 – World Interfaith Harmony Event 2-4-17

RECOMMENDATION: Decide whether or not to co-sponsor and attend World Interfaith Harmony Week Event on February 4, 2017.

10.2 Make a Difference Day 2017

BACKGROUND: The next National Make a Difference day is scheduled for October 28, 2017. MADD brings together hundreds of Fremont residents on the fourth Saturday of October to volunteer on projects throughout the City. While the event itself is still 9 months away, staff is seeking confirmation of the Commission’s interest in participating, so that it can submit applications for funding from various sponsors.

In 2016, Christine Beitsch, MADD Project Manager, coordinated over 100 projects and 1,562 volunteers. These volunteers provided over 7,500 hours of service. Commissioners and staff obtained sponsorships totaling \$12,750 from Kaiser Permanente GSAA, Fremont Bank Foundation, Cargill, Dale Hardware, Elks 2121 and NAMI - Alameda County South.

Enclosure: None

RECOMMENDATION: Decide whether or not to sponsor Make a Difference Day 2017.

11. **COMMISSION REFERRALS** (Referrals from the City Council to the Commission)

12. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

12.1 **Financial Resources Committee**

COMMITTEE BACKGROUND: Commissioners Smith, and Moore, Vice Chair Dewan, and Chair Nguyen Cleary work to create and implement a sustainable fundraising strategy.

RECOMMENDATION: Receive committee report on any non-action items.

12.2 **AdHoc Committee Reports**

13. **STAFF REPORTS**

13.1 **Attendance Summary (Attachment 13.1)**

13.2 **Calendar (Attachment 13.2) of HRC regular/special meetings and events.**

Future Items: Concerns brought forth in public comments at the October and November meetings, by Mr. John Weed, regarding Design Guideline Amendments for Town Center – Pedestrian (TC-P), and requested to be agendized by Chair Nguyen-Cleary, will be placed on the February 27, 2017 agenda, so that City Attorney staff may be available for discussion.

13.3 **Social Service Grant Visit Reminders**

Staff will be contacting Commissioners this week for visits through the month of February.

13.4 **Update on Winter Relief Warming Center Program**

Staff will present Warming Center client and usage statistics for operations through January 9, 2017.

Enclosure: 13.4.1 – Fremont Warming Center Statistics 1-8-17

14. **REFERRALS TO STAFF** (a request to have items placed on a future Commission agenda as an item of new business. A vote against means it will be dropped without consideration).

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

MINUTES
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2016
TRAINING ROOM
3300 CAPITOL AVE., BUILDING B
FREMONT, CALIFORNIA
7:15 P.M.

1. **SECRETARY CALL FOR QUORUM**

2. **CALL TO ORDER**

3. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Vice Chair Dewan, Commissioners Dhami, Iyer, Khan, Kwan, Montejano, and Moore.

Absent: Chair Nguyen-Cleary and Commissioner Smith

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of October 17, 2016

5. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. John Weed presented a federal law regarding religious uses and zoning, as a follow-up to his previously stated concern about a recently passed zoning amendment.

6. **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

None

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

8. **CONSENT ITEMS**

9. **OLD BUSINESS**

9.1 **Make a Difference Day 2016**

Arquimides Caldera provided a summary of the recently concluded Make A Difference Day 2016.

Make A Difference Day Revenues and Expenses - 2016

| <u>Item</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| Revenue | |
| Kaiser Permanente | 5,000 |
| Fremont Bank Foundation | 2,500 |
| Cargill | 2,500 |
| Fremont Elks 2121 | 500 |
| NAMI- Alameda County South | 250 |

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Dale Hardware (Store Credit) | 2,000 |
| Total Revenue: | 12,750 |

Expenses

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Project Coordination | 4,031 |
| 1,000 T-Shirts for Volunteers | 5,504 |
| Supplies (Materials and hardware) | 2,000 |
| Volunteer Recognition | 483 |
| Sponsor Recognition | 158 |
| Total Expenses: | 12,312 |

Revenue minus Expenses: \$438

9.2 Compassionate Fremont – Finding Common Ground Speakers Series

Item Tabled to January meeting.

9.3 CAHRO Conference Report-out

Commissioners Khan and Montejano reported out on the CAHRO Conference.

9.4 Emerging Leaders - Racial Equity Leadership Development Retreat

Staff provided an update:

- a. The Police Department has made a commitment to participate in the dialogue.
- b. East Bay Community Foundation and the City have agreed to provide funding.

10. **NEW BUSINESS** (Items on which the Commission has not yet had an agendaized discussion or taken action)

10.1 Local Public Response to 2016 Presidential Election

Commissioner Dewan relayed incident about elder Indian jumped by two white youth who forced him to say he “liked Trump.” Also relayed story about resident fearing for their safety.

Commissioner Khan – spoke about Mission Peak incident involving a woman who was perceived as muslim and was left a hate message.

A motion was made by Commissioner Khan and seconded by Commissioner Montejano to do the following:

- a) *Posting an ad or article in local media informing residents how to report hate, emphasizing that the HRC was established to hear resident complaints
Passed – with a timeline of two weeks*

- b) *Support a Fremont contingent to a planned Women’s March on Washington. Tabled to January HRC Meeting*
 - c) *Recommend the City Council officially respond to the election, via proclamation or open letter. Passed - with a high priority to go to City Council in December 2016.*
 - d) *Hold a Human Rights rally at Lake Elizabeth, against hate, violence, inequality and injustice. Passed – with the goal of December or January*
- An Ad Hoc Committee was created to include:*
- o *Dewan*
 - o *Khan*
 - o *Dhami*
 - o *Iyer*
- e) *Recommend the City Council explore the feasibility and impacts of continuing or adopting policies or procedures that provide a safe and welcoming environment for all residents. Tabled to January HRC Meeting*
 - f) *Recommend the Police Chief make statement, in writing and publicly. Passed*
 - g) *Post Hate Crime brochure on the City’s websites, police department website, and HRC Website – with a timeline of next week Passed*
 - h) *Commit to working with School program coordinators to visit schools, preceded in January by formulating a plan for topics. Passed*

This motion was unanimously approved and so ordered.

| Yes | No | Absent |
|--------------------|----|--------------------------|
| Vice Chair Dewan | | Chair John Nguyen Cleary |
| Tejinder Dhami | | John Smith |
| Paddy Iyer | | |
| Dr. Sonia Khan | | |
| Lance Kwan | | |
| Patricia Montejano | | |
| Julie Moore | | |

10.2 FY 2016-2017 Social Services Grant Mid-Year Evaluation Process

Commissioners signed up to visit Grantees and approved the mid-year evaluation documents.

10.3 Appointment of Nominating Committee for 2017 HRC Chairperson and Vice-Chair

Sonia Khan, Paddy Iyer agreed to be part of the nominating committee. Staff informed the Commission that John Nguyen Cleary had also expressed interested in being on the Committee. The nominating Committee will obtain consent of nominees, and then notify staff of its recommendations prior to the following meeting, at which the entire Commission will vote on the nominations.

11. COMMISSION REFERRALS (Referrals from the City Council to the Commission)

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

12.1 Financial Resources Committee

No update.

12.2 AdHoc Committee Reports

13. STAFF REPORTS

13.1 Attendance Summary (Attachment 13.1)

13.2 Calendar (Attachment 13.2) of HRC regular/special meetings and events.

13.3 Transgender Day of Remembrance Report-back

Commissioner Khan reported back on her acceptance of a proclamation on November 20th, on behalf of the HRC

13.4 Update on Winter Relief Program

Staff update d the Commission on the opening of the Warming Center.

13.5 December HRC Dinner on December 19, 2016

Staff reminded the Commission that their December Meeting would be a social event and provided logistical details.

14. **REFERRALS TO STAFF** (a request to have items placed on a future Commission agenda as an item of new business. A vote against means it will be dropped without consideration).

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Montejano and seconded by Commissioner Khan to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously passed and so ordered.

| Yes | No | Absent |
|--------------------|----|--------------------------|
| Vice Chair Dewan | | Chair John Nguyen Cleary |
| Tejinder Dhani | | John Smith |
| Paddy Iyer | | |
| Dr. Sonia Khan | | |
| Lance Kwan | | |
| Patricia Montejano | | |
| Julie Moore | | |

MINUTES
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2016
TRAINING ROOM
3300 CAPITOL AVE., BUILDING B
FREMONT, CALIFORNIA
7:15 P.M.

1. SECRETARY CALL FOR QUORUM

2. CALL TO ORDER

3. ROLL CALL

All Commissioners were present and accounted for.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of September 19, 2016

A motion was made by Commissioner Iyer and seconded by Commissioner Moore to approve the minutes from September 19, 2016. The motion was unanimously approved and so ordered.

| Yes | No |
|--------------------|----|
| Dharminder Dewan | |
| Tejinder Dhami | |
| Dr. Sonia Khan | |
| Lance Kwan | |
| Patricia Montejano | |
| Julie Moore | |
| John Nguyen-Cleary | |
| John Smith | |

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

John Weed voiced his concerns with the Citywide Design Guidelines Amendments for the Town Center – Pedestrian (TC-P), regarding the plan amendment that passed on a 3 to 2 vote by the City Council in September 2016.

6. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

8. CONSENT ITEMS

9. OLD BUSINESS

9.1 Make a Difference Day 2016

Christine Beitsch updated the commission on Make A Difference Day. Staff reminded the Commission to please attend the November 1, 2016 Volunteer Recognition Event.

9.2 Compassionate Fremont – Finding Common Ground Speakers Series

Commissioner Smith has created a survey to both evaluate the speaker series and measure participants’ interest in future discussion topics. He also reminded the Commission that on October 24, 2016, at 7:00PM, the Library would be hosting a Finding Common Ground event which will present the Welcome Home Project – Stories and photographs of 20 formerly incarcerated men and women who were able to turn their lives around.

9.3 CAHRO Conference Reminder

Reminder given to Commissioners Kahn, Montejano and Dewan

9.4 Emerging Leaders - Racial Equity Leadership Development Retreat

Arquimides Caldera updated the Commissioners. Staff is working on scheduling a second dialogue session with the group which will include the Police Chief. Staff is looking at the ongoing sustainability of the program.

A motion was made by Commissioner Khan and seconded by Commissioner Montejano to request the City of Fremont commit no more than \$10,000 to the Emerging Leader Program to be potentially offset by any future grants. The motion was unanimously approved and so ordered.

| Yes | No |
|--------------------|----|
| Dharminder Dewan | |
| Tejinder Dhami | |
| Dr. Sonia Khan | |
| Lance Kwan | |
| Patricia Montejano | |
| Julie Moore | |
| John Nguyen-Cleary | |
| John Smith | |

10. **NEW BUSINESS** (Items on which the Commission has not yet had an agendaized discussion or taken action)

10.1 Compassion Games

Update given on Compassion Games.
 3,284 number of volunteers
 13,142.25 number of hours
 23,851 number of people assisted
 \$250,525.23 value donated

Commissioners requested this information be put on the city website.

10.2 Transgender Day of Remembrance

A motion was made by Commissioner Iyer and seconded by Commissioner Montejano to 1) recommend the City pass a resolution proclaiming November 20th as Transgender Day of Remembrance; 2) conduct an examination of city policies including police policies, as they relate to the Transgender community; 3) that we add the Transgender topic to the Finding Common Ground speaker series. The motion was unanimously approved and so ordered.

| Yes | No |
|--------------------|----|
| Dharminder Dewan | |
| Tejinder Dhami | |
| Dr. Sonia Khan | |
| Lance Kwan | |
| Patricia Montejano | |
| Julie Moore | |
| John Nguyen-Cleary | |
| John Smith | |

The Commissioners request this topic be included in the Finding Common Ground Survey.

11. COMMISSION REFERRALS (Referrals from the City Council to the Commission)

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

12.1 Financial Resources Committee

No update

12.2 AdHoc Committee Reports

HRC to send a representative to the FRC CAEB meetings. Commissioner Dhami said he would attend.

13. STAFF REPORTS

13.1 Attendance Summary (Attachment 13.1)

13.2 Calendar (Attachment 13.2) of HRC regular/special meetings and events.

13.3 Human Services Mid-year Budget Update

14. **REFERRALS TO STAFF** (a request to have items placed on a future Commission agenda as an item of new business. A vote against means it will be dropped without consideration).

Commissioners directed Staff to help organize a dinner with current and former Commissioner to be scheduled on December 19, 2016.

Commissioners requested that the plan amendment concerns expressed by John Weed be agendized for the November 21, 2016 HRC Meeting.

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Kwan and seconded by Commissioner Montejano to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was unanimously approved and so ordered.

| Yes | No |
|--------------------|----|
| Dharminder Dewan | |
| Tejinder Dhami | |
| Dr. Sonia Khan | |
| Lance Kwan | |
| Patricia Montejano | |
| Julie Moore | |
| John Nguyen-Cleary | |
| John Smith | |

BREAKING NEWS | East Bay exodus: Raiders file for relocation to Las Vegas

Community News

Fremont residents blast 25 percent water rate hike proposal



By **JOSEPH GEHA** | jgeha@bayareanewsgroup.com |
PUBLISHED: January 18, 2017 at 3:55 pm | UPDATED: January 18, 2017 at 5:39 pm

Although it doesn't have the authority to do anything about it, the Fremont City Council on Tuesday allowed residents to tee off on hefty water rate and service charge increases proposed by the Alameda County Water District.

Staff added the proposed rates to the council's agenda after several residents expressed an interest in discussing them. Affected by the increases would be residents and businesses in Fremont, Newark and Union City.

The city of Fremont itself has been one of the district's biggest consumers of water. Over the last four years, it spent on average a little more than \$1 million a year on water.

The water district is [proposing a two-year rate hike](#). In the first year, starting March 1, 2017, the fixed bimonthly service charge for most residential customers as well as the price per unit of water would both go up 25 percent.

The following year, again starting on March 1, both rates would climb an additional 5 percent each. One unit of water is about 748 gallons.

The district's five-member board is set to discuss the proposed hikes at its Feb. 9 public meeting.

About 50 people sent an email to the Fremont city clerk's office requesting the rate increase be discussed, with many of them writing to say they opposed the increases. About 25 people attended the meeting and four of them spoke against the rate increase during the public comment period.

Robert Shaver, the district's general manager, cited various reasons during the meeting why the increase is warranted.

He said the district faces a \$60 million revenue shortfall, largely because customers reduced water usage by roughly 30 percent during the drought.

The district's revenues are heavily tied to users purchasing water, but its labor and infrastructure costs are mostly fixed whether customers conserve or not, he added.

Councilman Raj Salwan said that as a consumer, he finds it hard to justify such a large rate increase in a short time frame.

Some members of the public, in person and in written statements, criticized the district for not cutting the salaries of employees, many of whom earn more than \$100,000, while raising rates.

But council members Vinnie Bacon and Rick Jones noted they recognize the need for paying competitive salaries to the district's workers.

Bacon emphasized that in Silicon Valley quality pay is necessary, and he rejected the argument that workers should simply take a pay cut to help the district fund its operations.

According to the district, the proposed service rate for the average residential customer would rise bimonthly from \$41.54 to \$51.92 after March 1, 2017. In the second year, that figure would increase to \$54.51. Every unit of water would increase from \$3.373 to \$4.216 in the first year, then to \$4.426 in the second year.

At the meeting Shaver said he understands the frustration in the community about raising the service charges.

“Because people feel like when the service charge is raised, they’re not getting anything for that. But what the service charge partially funds are the costs to get water, from sometimes hundreds of miles away, to your home, at pressure, anytime you want to use it. And frankly, that’s the vast majority of our operating costs, just to be able to do that,” he said.

The water district will host a [community meeting](#) in Fremont on Jan. 23, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Fremont Main Library in the Fukaya Meeting Room B, 2400 Stevenson Blvd., Fremont.

The Alameda County Water District board will consider the rate hike, as well as a potential program for assisting low-income ratepayers with their water bills, at a public meeting beginning 6 p.m. on Feb. 9, at 43885 S. Grimmer Blvd., in Fremont.

Tags: [Water Rates](#)

Joseph Geha Joseph Geha is a multimedia journalist covering Fremont, Newark, and Union City for the Bay Area News Group, and is based at The Argus. His prior work has been seen in multiple Bay Area news outlets, including SF Weekly, as well as on KQED and KLIV radio. He is a graduate of California State University, East Bay (Hayward), and is a Fremont native. He is a lifelong Oakland Athletics fan.

[Follow Joseph Geha @josephgeha16](#)

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By 

The Rise of the Woman = The Rise of the Nation.

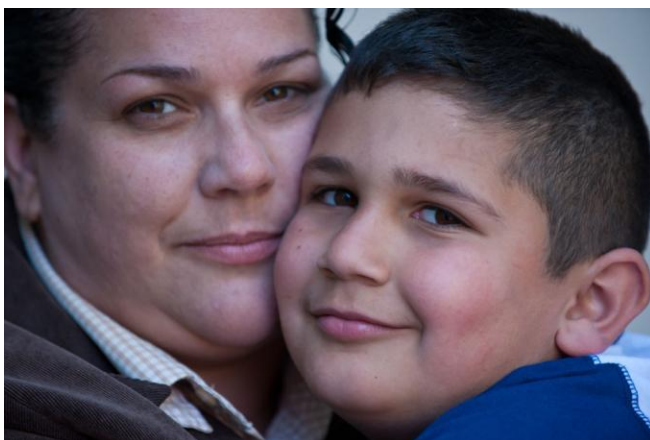
FINDING COMMON GROUND

“Homelessness – Causes and Solutions”

This event is part of "Finding Common Ground" - an educational series sponsored by the Fremont Library, Fremont Human Relations Commission, and Compassionate Fremont, which fosters community engagement and celebrates Fremont's rich diversity and cooperative spirit.



The panel will be led by Abode Services Executive Director Louis Chicoine. Joining him will be LeVell Brevard, Abode's Lead Service Coordinator at Laguna Commons, and an Abode Services participant.



Monday January 30th, 7pm
Fukaya Room
Fremont Main Library
2400 Stevenson Blvd.
Fremont, CA

The library is wheelchair accessible.
An ASL interpreter will be provided for this program
if requested at least 7 days in advance.
Voice 510-745-1401 or TDD 888-663-0660

all library programs are FREE
www.aclibrary.org

 Alameda County
LIBRARY
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Office of the City Manager

3300 Capitol Avenue, P.O. Box 5006, Fremont, CA 94537-5006

510 284-4000 ph | 510 284-4001 fax | www.fremont.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Fremont Releases Open Letter to Fremont Community
Letter Reaffirms City's Values of Being a Compassionate City

Fremont, Calif. – November 29, 2016 – The City of Fremont today released the following letter addressing the importance of diversity and maintaining safety and civility within the Fremont community:

November 28, 2016

An Open Letter to the Fremont Community:

The City of Fremont is one of the most diverse cities in the United States, and has been recognized as a national model of how people from different cultural, ethnic, and religious backgrounds can live and work together in peace and harmony. This is our City's greatest strength.

In recent conversations with many community members, we've heard several disturbing stories about hateful and terrifying exchanges as well as actions on our streets, in local businesses, and at schools and parks. Many community members have recounted in great detail how these interactions have left them feeling scared and fearful in their daily lives. Civility must continue to be our utmost priority, and there is no excuse to act disrespectfully toward certain members of our community because of the color of their skin, their religious beliefs, or their sexual orientation. We cannot and will not stand for this behavior in our community.

As a matter of official public policy, the City of Fremont has zero tolerance of prejudice, racism, bigotry, hatred, and violence. We strongly encourage anyone who has experienced an act of hate to report the incident immediately to the Fremont Police Department at 510-790-6800 option 3, or 9-1-1 if in immediate danger. We offer our assurance that all incidents will be thoroughly investigated and addressed. Additionally, we want to assure you that the City will be vigilant and vocal as it relates to any changes in federal policy that can impact this city we all call home.

Now more than ever, we must commit ourselves to the universal "golden rule," to treat others as you would like to be treated. As a Compassionate City that has adopted and signed a Compassionate City Charter on January 12, 2016, join us in making kindness and compassion a clear, luminous, and dynamic force in our polarized world.

We call on our Fremont community to continue the long tradition of tolerance and respect for people of all religious and cultural backgrounds, so that all Fremont residents feel accepted and safe in our community.

Bill Harrison
Mayor

Rick Jones
Vice Mayor

Suzanne Lee Chan
Councilmember

Vinnie Bacon
Councilmember

Lily Mei
Councilmember

Fremont Police Department

The Fremont Police Department recognizes that hate crimes require a speedy investigation and special sensitivity to the emotional trauma experienced by victims of these crimes.

If you believe you are a victim of a hate crime and have not reported it, please do so now by calling the Fremont Police Department at

(510) 790-6800 and select option 3

Fremont Human Relations Commission (HRC)

The HRC promotes and helps create an environment in which all men, women and children of the city may live, learn, work and play in peace and harmony, and in which each person may realize their highest potential unhampered by any discrimination based upon race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, marital status, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, civic interest, or any other factors .

If you have ideas or recommendations to foster mutual understanding and respect among Fremont residents in an effort to eliminate prejudice and discrimination, please contact the HRC at (510) 574-2040.

To Report a Hate Crime, Please Call:

The Fremont Police Department

510-790-6800, Option 3

or

The Alameda County District Attorney's Office Hate Crimes Hotline

510-208-4824

Other Resources

Federal Law Enforcement Investigative Agency:

Federal Bureau of Investigations 415-553-7400

Additional Resource and Programs

Alameda County Hate Crimes Hotline 510-208-4824

Alameda County Bar Association 510-302-2222

American Civil Liberties Union 415-621-2488

Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith 415-981-3500

Asian Law Caucus 415-896-1701

Asian-Pacific Islander Family Pride 510-818-0887

Bay Area Legal Aid - Fremont Legal Safety Net 510-663-4755

Bay Area Women Against Rape: BAWAR 510-845-7273

Calif. Dept. of Fair Employment & Housing 800-884-1684

Calif. Dept. of Justice - Civil Rights Enforcement 877-433-9069

City of Fremont Youth & Family Counseling 510-574-2100

Community United Against Violence 415-333-HELP

Federation of Indo-American Associations 408-596-4223

NAACP—Hayward South Alameda County 510-581-4111

PFLAG 510-562-7692

Victims of Crime Resource Center 800-VICTIMS

On-line Resources:

informedimmigrant.com

[U.S. Department of Education - Office of Civil Rights](http://www.ed.gov/civilrights)

**SAY NO
TO HATE
CRIME**



Human Relations Commission
Fremont.gov/hrc
510-574-2040

The City of Fremont Has Zero Tolerance for Hate Crimes

The City of Fremont is one of the most diverse cities in the U.S. and has been recognized as a national model of how people from different cultural, ethnic, and religious backgrounds can live and work together in peace and harmony. This is our City's greatest strength.

The City of Fremont has zero tolerance of prejudice, racism, bigotry, hatred, and violence, and is committed to maintaining peace and harmony in the community and ensuring all residents, regardless of their disability, nationality, race, ethnicity, religion, gender, or sexual orientation, enjoy the rights guaranteed by California law and the U.S. Constitution.

- Fremont places a high priority on investigating and resolving crimes involving racism and prejudice.
- Fremont works with institutions within the City, County, and Bay Area to foster greater education and understanding of the value of human diversity.

What is a Hate Crime?

A **hate crime** is a criminal act or attempted criminal act committed against a victim or their property because the victim is perceived to be a member of a protected class, including: disability, gender, nationality, race, ethnicity, religion, gender, or sexual orientation. Hate crimes can include:

- Physical assault
- Threatening phone calls
- Vandalizing personal property

The freedom of speech, as protected by the US Constitution, allows one to express opinions and ideas as long as it does not interfere with the civil rights of others. If this behavior escalates to threats being made or criminal acts being carried out, it could become classified as a hate crime.



What Should You Do If You Experience an Act of Hate?

The Fremont Police Department is committed to investigate all reported acts of hate and offers assurance that all incidents will be thoroughly investigated and addressed.

If you are in immediate danger and need to report an emergency, dial 9-1-1.

To report a non-urgent matter or incident to the Fremont Police Department call: (510) 790-6800 and select option 3.

- Be prepared to speak with a dispatcher and/or police officer about what happened.
- Document the exact words spoken to you by the offender as soon as possible.
- Seek medical attention if you are injured.

Anonymous Reporting

The Fremont Police Department offers several options to anonymously report a crime:

- Silent witness hotline: 510-494-4856
- Text a tip by typing 'Tip FremontPD' followed by your message to 888777
- Alameda County District Attorney's Hate Crimes Hotline: 510-208-4824
- Additional tip reporting options can be found online at [fremontpolice.org/tip](https://www.fremontpolice.org/tip)



WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY DAY

WHEN Saturday Feb 4, 2017
WHERE Niles Discovery Church
36600 Niles Blvd, Fremont, CA 94536
TIME 1:00 – 3:30 pm

In 2010 the United Nations established “World Interfaith Harmony Week as a way to promote harmony between all peoples regardless of their faith”. In that spirit we have organized a meetup where we can all talk about and share our faith traditions in the spirit of openness. You are welcome to bring bread and a topping from your culture to share.

Co-sponsored by: Tri-City Interfaith Council, Alameda County, Compassionate Fremont.

Participants From
Over 10 Faith
Groups

Booths With
Information on
Each Faith

Small Circle
Conversations

Breads of Many
Cultures,
Refreshments

Tri-City Interfaith
Council

TCICOUNCIL.WEBLY.COM

For more information
contact Moina Shaiq at
510-938-0536 or
moinashaiq@gmail.com

**Fremont Warming Center
Statistics Through Jan 8**

Total Nights Open: 33 nights
(November 25-Jan. 8)

Total Bednights: 892
Average number of persons per night = 27
Range: 15-40 persons sleeping per night

Meals Provided:
Dinners: 1151
Ave. # Persons eating per night= 37
Breakfasts: 892
Total Meals: 2,043

Total Participants: 145
Female: 47 32.4%
Male: 98 67.6%
Vets: 12 8.3

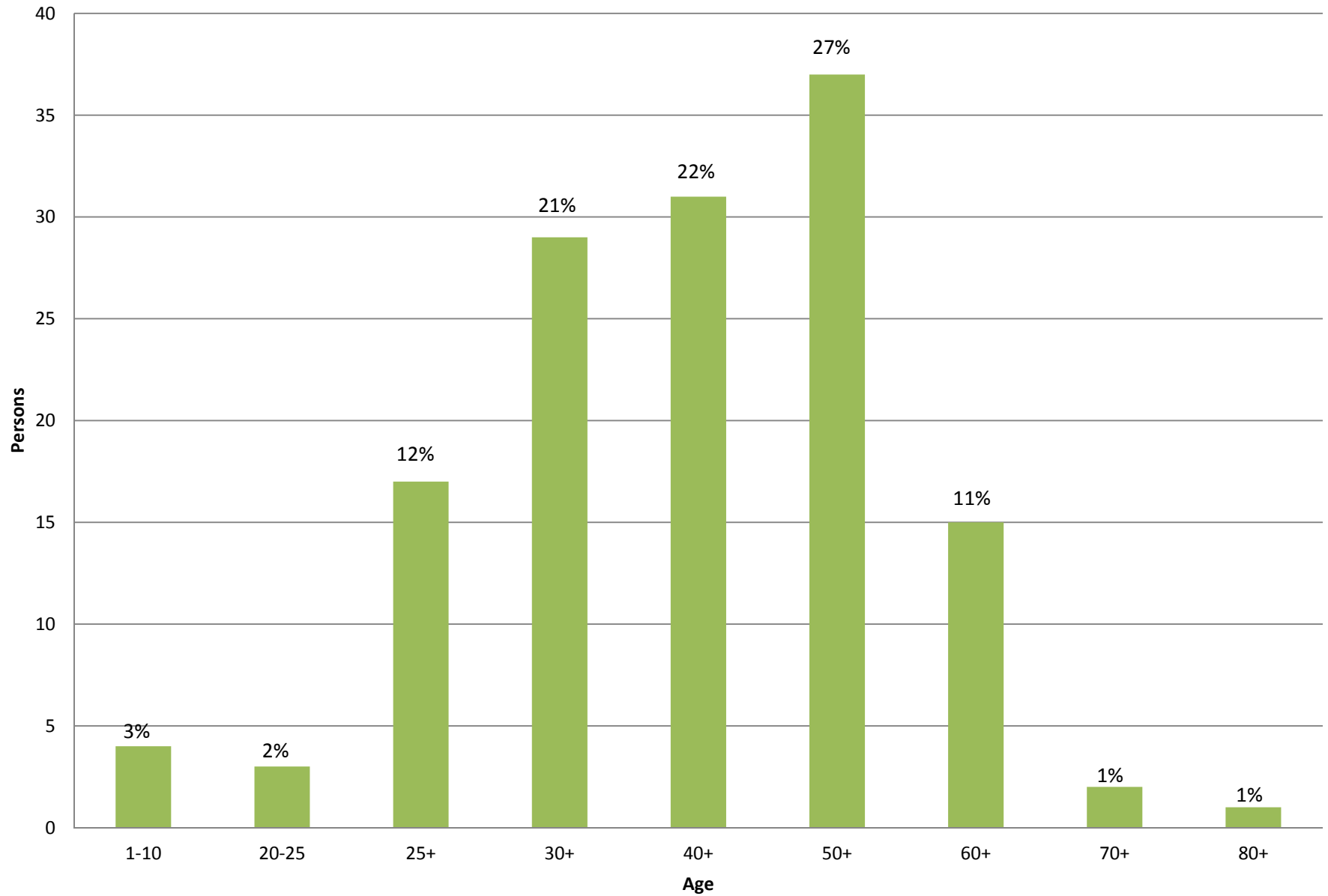
Age: Numb. %

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----|--------|
| 80+ | 1 | 0.72 % |
| 70+ | 2 | 1.4 |
| 60+ | 15 | 10.8 |
| 50+ | 37 | 26.6 |
| 40+ | 31 | 22.3 |
| 30+ | 29 | 20.9 |
| 25+ | 17 | 12.2 |
| 20-25 | 3 | 2.2 |
| Children: 1,2,8,10 | 4 | 2.9 |
| No Response | 6 | |
| N=145-6 | 139 | |

Last place of permanent residence

| City | Number | Percentage |
|---|--------|------------|
| Fremont | 62 | 52.5 % |
| Newark | 4 | 3.4 |
| Union City | 3 | 2.5 |
| Hayward | 6 | 5.1 |
| San Leandro | 3 | 2.5 |
| Unincorporated/Tri Valley | 6 | 5.1 |
| Oakland | 2 | 1.7 |
| San Francisco | 3 | 2.5 |
| Santa Clara County | 6 | 5.1 |
| San Mateo County | 1 | .8 |
| Contra Costa County | 3 | 2.5 |
| Out of Bay Area (Stockton, Sacramento, Fresno, Modesto, LA) | 9 | 7.6 |
| Out of State (Fl. NY. Texas, Ark., Oregon) | 9 | 7.6 |
| Out of Country | 1 | .8 |
| No Response | 27 | |
| N=145-27: 118 | | |

Warming Center Age Demographic



Last Place of Permanent Residence

