



## **CITY OF SALINAS COUNCIL STAFF REPORT**

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**DATE:** JANUARY 13, 2026

**DEPARTMENT:** ADMINISTRATION

**FROM:** RENÉ MENDEZ, CITY MANAGER  
SOPHIA ROME, COMMUNITY RELATIONS MANAGER  
SALINAS YOUTH COUNCIL

**TITLE:** SALINAS YOUTH COUNCIL UPDATES AND COMMENTS

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**

No action required. The City of Salinas Youth Council will provide an administrative update to the City Council.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Council approved the establishment of a Youth Council Pilot Program through July 31, 2027. As Youth Councilmembers, they work on community projects and serve as liaisons between the school district, schools, and the City. This Administrative Report is to provide updates on Youth Council activities and provide the Council with comments on agenda items.

**BACKGROUND:**

On October 22, 2024, the Council approved the establishment of a Youth Council Pilot Program through July 31, 2025. The Pilot Program was extended through July 31, 2027, by Council Resolution on June 17, 2025.

The Youth Council participates in activities like:

- Youth Council representation and participation at City Council meetings
- Regular administrative updates to the SUHSD Board
- Serve as liaisons between the each SUHSD high schools' Associated Student Body (ASB) youth leadership and principals to increase civic engagement and outreach
- Leadership and skill development
- Community service projects

The purpose of the Youth Council is to increase youth representation in civic engagement, provide professional and leadership development opportunities for Salinas youth, and to serve as community connectors representing youth, their school sites, and school district.

CEQA CONSIDERATION:

**Not a Project.** The City of Salinas has determined that the proposed action is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378). In addition, CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 includes the general rule that CEQA applies only to activities which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. Because the proposed action and this matter have no potential to cause any effect on the environment, or because it falls within a category of activities excluded as projects pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378, this matter is not a project. Because the matter does not cause a direct or foreseeable indirect physical change on or in the environment, this matter is not a project. Any subsequent discretionary projects resulting from this action will be assessed for CEQA applicability.

CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE §84308 APPLIES:

No.

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE:

Youth and Seniors

- Improve, expand and develop youth and senior facilities and programs

Public Safety

- Increase collaboration with partner agencies to address public safety public health issues

City Services

- Promote equitable access to City services and foster inclusive development
- Engage residents and improve communication with the community

DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION:

The Youth Council is supported through the City Manager's Office.

FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>General Ledger Number (Operating/CIP)</u>	<u>General Ledger Account Name</u>	<u>Remaining Budget Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

None.