



**Agenda Item C.1**  
**DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM**  
**Meeting Date: March 11, 2026**

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**TO:** Chair and Members of the Public Engagement Commission

**FROM:** Kelly Hoover, Community Relations Manager/PIO

**SUBJECT:** 25-Year Anniversary of the City of Goleta and 100-Year Anniversary of the Goleta Community Center

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Receive feedback from the Public Engagement Commissioners on engaging the community in celebrating two milestone events in 2027 – the 25-year anniversary of the City and the 100-year anniversary of the Goleta Community Center.

**BACKGROUND:**

The City of Goleta has two significant historical milestones coming up in 2027: the City turns 25 on February 2 and the Goleta Community Center (GCC) turns 100 on February 26.

The City of Goleta was incorporated in 2002 after numerous attempts going back to the 1980's. It is one of the youngest cities in California. Celebrations were planned for both the 10-year and 20-year anniversaries. 25-years marks a quarter-century of Cityhood and is known as the "Silver Anniversary."

For the most recent 20-year anniversary in 2022, the Community Relations Division was responsible for putting together a community-wide event. A birthday celebration was held on March 5, 2022, at Rancho La Patera and Stow House and included the debut of a 20-Year Reflections video, live music, entertainment, information tables with City Staff and other community partners, and more.

Another big milestone in 2027 is the 100-year anniversary of the Goleta Community Center (GCC). Originally built in 1927, the GCC is located at 5679 Hollister Avenue in the heart of the City in Old Town and is an important gathering place for our community.

The building previously served as the Goleta Union Elementary School, but the school was closed in 1976 because it did not meet minimum seismic requirements for a school. For the next several decades it was run by a non-profit entity known as the Goleta Valley Community Center organization. The City acquired the GCC from the Goleta Union School District in 2013. The City of Goleta took over management of the GCC on January 1, 2023.

The City immediately started infrastructure work on the building once it took over management. On April 4, 2024, the GCC reopened after being closed for seismic retrofit construction. Following completion of the seismic retrofit project, multiple capital improvement projects have been initiated to improve the functionality and accessibility of and to the building.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Community Relations Division would like to hear ideas from the Public Engagement Commission on ways to celebrate these two historic milestones for our City. The Division is open to all ideas within limited budget and staffing capacity. Keep in mind that the GCC will be undergoing capital improvement projects in 2027, so it may not be possible to hold an event at that location.

**FISCAL IMPACTS:**

Fiscal impacts will vary depending on the activities selected.

**Reviewed By:**



Jaime A. Valdez  
Assistant City Manager