

Public Safety

Public safety is the most important service the city provides. Our Police and Fire Departments are extremely hard-working and care deeply about our community. I will support them so they can continue providing excellent service.

Our Departments need to be fully staffed and equipped with the tools they need. The city is planning the construction of a new public safety building because our current offices are old and lack earthquake protections. I believe the city should continue prioritizing this project. In order to prevent property theft, which is the most common crime in Mountain View, I support the expanded use of automated license plate readers (ALPRs) to track and apprehend suspects. ALPR use must protect residents' civil rights and personal privacy.

The Fire Department provides life-saving fire protection, EMS, and code compliance services. I stand ready to aid the Department through increased funding for personnel training, Information Technology upgrades, and personal protective equipment.

Safe streets are a top priority for me. The Vision Zero Action Plan, which aims to end fatal traffic accidents, needs to be a citywide effort that educates residents and implements solutions quickly and effectively. We need to incorporate and expand on Safe Routes to School in our Vision Zero Plan. High-danger roads and intersections, like those along El Camino, must be prioritized, and we should use every tool at our disposal to prevent reckless driving. I support the expansion of Class IV Protected Bike Lanes, no right turn on red, road diets, and high-visibility crosswalks.

Public safety should be inclusive and responsive to the diverse backgrounds of our community. The Public Safety Advisory Board (PSAB) is a key venue for residents to share their concerns and learn about city protocols and policies. I will promote transparency and good governance by empowering PSAB to reach out to neighborhood associations, local businesses, and community groups to improve our public safety services. In order to make our Police and Fire Departments accessible for all, we also need to strengthen the Multicultural Engagement Program and seek new partnerships with cross-cultural leaders.

I propose modernizing our Police Department by ending the use of canine force. K-9 units used to bite people or for crowd control are a vestige of slave patrols and the Jim Crow Era. Using dogs to track suspects or sniff for bombs or drugs can be a powerful tool, but biting people and crowd control uses are inhumane. This policy aligns with California Assembly Bill 742. This policy would apply to all suspects unless the person is being pursued for a felony that threatened or resulted in the death of or serious bodily injury to another person and the person poses an imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury to the officer or to another person.