

From: [K Silva](#)
To: [Whippy, Isaac](#); [Peters, Lindy](#); [Albin-Smith, Tess](#); [Rafanan, Marcia](#); [Hockett, Scott](#); [Paoli, Diana](#); DGodeke@fortbragg.com
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT: 9 February 2026 City Council Meeting - Item 7A "...revising the City's Fee Schedule..." attachment 11
Date: Thursday, February 5, 2026 6:02:04 PM

Dear Mayor Godecke, City Council members Peters, Albin-Smith, Rafanan and Hockett, and City Manager Whippy~

My husband is in his 80's. Swimming in the lap pool and walking in the Lazy River at the CV Starr Center keep him mobile. The fact that the pool has been closed quite a bit the last couple of years has been disappointing but he keeps his recurring membership active during those closures as he must do so to keep his membership. I saw the fee schedule item in your agenda for the 9 February 2026 meeting and checked to see if his rate is going to change. At some point it will be too expensive for him to continue and the proposed fee schedule does not look promising.

After looking over the CV Starr Current and Proposed Fee Schedules several times, I see no inclusion of a Senior rate for CV Starr memberships in either the current rate or proposed rate charts. The word senior can only be found on the last page of attachment 11, under Category Criteria. Will someone let the public know what is happening with the Recurring Membership Senior rate and all of the other Senior rates? Is this disappearance an oversight or is it being discontinued as a category and the proposed recurring Adult rates at a greater than 50% increase will apply?

The current recurring Senior rate that we pay for my husband is the same as the Youth and the Adult Disabled recurring rates. The proposed youth recurring rate is a 13% increase and the proposed Adult Disabled rate was raised by an obscene 48%. Wow. If that's so, I hope to hear discussion by the board about how you justify assigning such a large fee increase to those most vulnerable, the disabled (and seniors if that's the plan). They are the least able to acquire additional income, with the least ability to get exercise in another manner safely and most in need of use of the pool.

Until you let us know if the senior rate is changing and, if so, by how much, or if it is being discontinued, it's not possible to make an informed comment on this item. I hope to receive a reply soon.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely~
Kathy Silva
City of Fort Bragg resident

Fwd: Public Comment on tonight's City Council Agenda Item 7a attachment 11

From K Silva <hiksilva@mcn.org>
Date Mon 2/9/2026 10:13 AM
To City Clerk <cityclerk@fortbraggca.gov>

Begin forwarded message:

From: K Silva <hiksilva@mcn.org>
Date: February 9, 2026 at 9:50:38 AM PST
To: Jgodeke@fortbragg.com, Lindy Peters <LPeters2@fortbragg.com>, Tess Albin-Smith <Talbinsmith@fortbragg.com>, Mrafanan@fortbragg.com, SHockett@fortbragg.com, DPaoli@fortbragg.com
Subject: Public Comment on tonight's City Council Agenda Item 7a attachment 11

Dear Mayor Godeke and City Council members Peters, Albin-Smith, Rafanan and Hockett~

I see that the Senior recurring membership rate has now been added to the report for the proposed new CV Starr Center rates and fees. I ask that you reconsider the huge increase for the Senior/Disabled Adult rate and keep it in line with the Youth rate as it is currently. Those three categories are the most vulnerable in society. Seniors and Disabled Adults are the people least able to create income and afford the higher rates. There is good reason that the following is a version of a well-known, mis-quoted "quote" - "The true measure of any society can be found in how it treats its most vulnerable."

It's puzzling and disappointing that the proposed monthly recurring rate for Seniors and Disabled Adults is being raised by 48% to \$59 per month. Most municipal recreational facilities have discounted Youth and Senior rates and many have Disabled rates. In California the rates must be equitable and non-discriminatory but this proposal seems topsy-turvy. Seniors who are using exercise to keep from becoming disabled are generally on fixed incomes. The proposed rates for Seniors who don't have health insurance that offers Silver Sneakers or Renew Active are shocking. I can't find the data or information used to determine why the Senior and Adult Disabled rates have risen by such an astounding amount. I have some questions I would hope you also wonder about and that they might be answered at tonight's City Council meeting:

How many Disabled Adult and Senior recurring memberships do you have? What's the revenue from them?

Are the proposed high Senior and Disabled Adult rates meant to subsidize other categories?

I have spoken with people who have Silver Sneakers and are afraid that you are canceling those contracts and that's why there is no mention of them in the agenda. Why is there zero information about the 1464 Silver Sneaker and Renew Active memberships in the report? They comprise 44.5% of the total membership and always be included as a category. What is the reimbursement rate for those memberships? Why is that not broken out in the CV Starr budget report? When was the last time those rates were renegotiated? When is the next renegotiation scheduled to occur?

There are 1826 monthly/recurring memberships. They are 55.5% of the total membership. What's the revenue from each category?

The reports would be much more accurate if the Silver Sneakers/Renew Active memberships were broken out just like all of the other categories. Each membership category should the show number of members and revenue from that category. The information is readily available to staff and should be shared with the public. It would certainly make your job easier to make a judgement about proposed rate hikes.

The report states " the C.V. Starr Center is currently undergoing a Financial Sustainability Study, which has informed the reevaluation of existing fees and membership structures." Where is the study? Or, if not completed, where is the data gleaned from the study?

In my search for data about CV Starr rates, I noticed some information in your records about CV Starr Center membership numbers that are incorrect:

On page 324 of the FY 2025/2026 Fiscal Budget adopted on 6/18/2025 the first words under FY 2024/25 Top Accomplishments is "Grew memberships by 29%..." That is not correct. It's 15%.

The next page shows that total membership grew from 2779 in FY 2023/24 to 3290 in FY 2025/26. That is a 15% increase, not a 29% increase.

Only the Monthly/recurring memberships grew by 29%. The Silver Sneakers/Renew Active memberships grew by .07%. In order to be truthful, the "29%" growth needs correction to "15%" growth or clarification that it's 29% of only certain membership categories. Will that be corrected?

The approved minutes for the 11 August 2025 City Council meeting include "City manager, Isaac Whippy reported CV Starr Center increased membership by 4,000..." That's impossible. Total membership remained at under 4,000. What he said was admittance in June and July increased by over 4,000. I don't know if minutes can be corrected after they've been approved but if they can, this is something that should be amended or noted. Will that be corrected?

Thank you for your consideration. I hope that you will decide to rein in the proposed runaway CV Starr Senior/Disabled Adult membership rates.

Sincerely~
Kathy Silva



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416 North Franklin Street
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

February 9, 2026

Re: Item 7a, Attachment 2: Economic Development Fee Waivers

Position: Support

Honorable Councilmembers:

On behalf of West Center, I am writing to express support for the proposal brought forward to waive business license fees and minor use permit fees for the first year for new businesses.

We work with hundreds of small businesses every year at West Center, and we know firsthand that startup costs can encumber entrepreneurs or even discourage them from beginning their journey. In addition to reducing the costs of getting started, this proposal sends a message that Fort Bragg wants to see small businesses prosper here.

This proposal reflects big picture thinking, with small incentives that matter. Empty storefronts and buildings impact the entire economy; incentives to help new businesses open could benefit the business community overall.

We hope the Council will adopt this fee waiver and help support the long-term success of our small business owners here in Fort Bragg.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sarah Bodnar

Sarah Bodnar
CEO
West Business Development Center

Hello Council -

I came to night to suggest that the fees increases for seniors at CV Starr are way too high. Please don't make the community treasure unaffordable for our Seniors.

There was real shock when I mentioned this to a small sample BVT it is too high!

Thank you

George Reinhardt

george@mch.org