

MOTION

In 2020, during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, senior centers were required to close their doors as a safety precaution for the senior population. Since then, most senior centers have reopened but are not fully operational. The Westchester Senior Center is currently operating at an 80 percent capacity but unfortunately experiencing safety concerns that must be addressed.

In October 2022, the Department of Recreation and Parks temporarily closed the doors of the Westchester Senior Center citing safety concerns. This closure resulted in the need to temporarily move the lunch program to the recreation center and the postponement of activities in the Westchester Senior Center. Some of the safety concerns cited include the presence of several RVs that have taken most of the parking outside the senior center including parking spots dedicated to people with disabilities or mobility issues. Prior to the pandemic, the Westchester Senior Center was used by numerous seniors for meals, socializing, and enrichment programs. Many seniors in the community depend on the Westchester Senior Center for their daily activities.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council request the Department of Recreation and Parks to report on the operational status of the Westchester Senior Center including an overview of their current operational capacity and the resources needed to further activate the space for the senior community.

PRESENTED BY: Traci Park
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Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY: JPL

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