

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA

**Thursday, December 12, 2013
7:00 P.M.**

City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

CALL TO ORDER

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

MINUTES

1. Approve regular meeting minutes of October 10, 2013

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

2. Introductions/Awards/Recognitions
3. Public Comment from the audience regarding items not listed on the agenda. *Speakers are encouraged to limit comments to 3 minutes.*

MATTERS BEFORE THE COMMISSION

If necessary to assure completion of the following items, the Chairperson may establish time limits for the presentations by individual speakers.

4. Continued Review of the Elements and Design for the Oak Woodland Area Adjoining and Associated with the Bernal Community Park, Phase II
5. Review of Commission Meeting Schedule for 2014
6. Selection of Commission Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Assignments

COMMUNICATIONS

7. Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee: October 18, 2013 Minutes

COMMISSION REPORTS

8. Committee Meetings
 - A. Bernal Community Park, Phase II
 - B. Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee
 - C. Community of Character

- D. City/East Bay Regional Park District Liaison Committee
- E. East Pleasanton Specific Plan Task Force
- F. Heritage Tree Review Board
- G. Kottinger Place/Kottinger Village Park
- H. Lions-Wayside/Delucchi Parks
- I. Parks and Recreation Master Plan Steering Committee
- J. Cultural Plan Update Steering Committee
- K. Public Art Selection Sub-committee
- L. Sports Council
- M. Pioneer Cemetery Master Plan Oversight Committee

9. Other brief reports on any meetings, conferences, and/or seminars attended by the Commission members.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

STAFF COMMENTS

10. Schedule of Upcoming Meetings and Events of Interest

ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING: **January 9, 2014**

FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

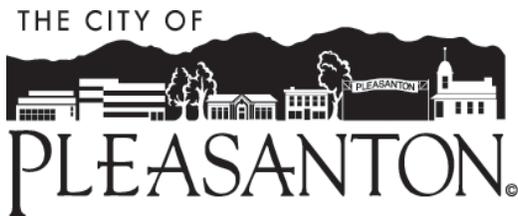
- A.
- B.
- C.

Notice

Under Government Code §54957.5, any writings/documents regarding an open session item on this agenda provided to a majority of the Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the Community Services Department, 200 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton.

Accessible Public Meetings

The City of Pleasanton will provide special assistance for citizens with disabilities to participate in public meetings upon advance notice. If you need an auxiliary hearing aid or sign language assistance at least two working days advanced notice is necessary. Please contact the Community Services Department, PO Box 520, Pleasanton, CA 94566 or (925) 931-5340.



Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

**City Council Chambers – 200 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton, CA
October 10, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Streng called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited.

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Sophie Brown, Brad Hottle, Teddy Kinzer, David Lambert, Deborah Wahl, and Chairperson Joe Streng. (Jack Balch arrived at 7:05 p.m.)

Commissioners Absent: None.

Staff Present: Susan Andrade-Wax, Director of Community Services; Steve Bocian, Assistant City Manager; Craig Higgins, Assistant Director of Operation Services; Kathleen Yurchak, Assistant Director of Operation Services; Michael Fulford, Landscape Architect; Stan Gibson, Parks Maintenance Supervisor; Brian Fiorio, Parks Maintenance Supervisor; Terry Snyder, Administrative Assistant; and Edith Caponigro, Recording Secretary.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

Ms. Andrade-Wax advised that a presentation on irrigation provided by staff was being added under Item 3.

MINUTES

1. Approve regular meeting minutes of September 12, 2013

Correction: Page 1 - Motion made by Chairperson Streng, seconded by ~~Chairperson~~ Commissioner Lambert...

A motion was made by Commissioner Kinzer, seconded by Commissioner Hottle, to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2013 meeting as amended. **The motion was approved unanimously.**

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

2. Introductions/Awards/Recognitions

There were none.

3. Public Comment from the audience regarding items not listed on the agenda

John J. Lange – advised that he was opposed to the proposed Summer Hill Apartments project. Mr. Lange expressed his concerns regarding: 1) making changes in the area; 2) noise concerns; 3) 4-story buildings; 4) including a swimming pool next to the Arroyo; 5) allowing apartment dwellers access to the Arroyo, which Parkside residents do not have; 6) landscape concerns; and 7) the loss of birds and prey to the area from this project. He asked that consideration be given to not putting this project in the proposed location.

Steve Morsilli, Seahawks Head Coach – provided information about the Seahawks Swim Group advising that it has grown from 70 children participating to over 350 with 12 coaches, and was recognized last year as one of the top swim clubs in the USA and is now at the Gold level. Mr. Morsilli thanked the City of Pleasanton for the use of the Dolores Bengtson Aquatic Center that has helped the Seahawks club achieve such recognition.

City of Pleasanton Irrigation Presentation, Stan Gibson, Parks Maintenance Supervisor

Mr. Gibson reviewed with the Commission information pertaining to City of Pleasanton consumable materials, particularly relating to parks water use. He indicated that the City spends approximately \$1M each year on water use and approximately \$300,000 on other materials. A graph showing water trends over the past several years was reviewed and the Commission was advised that during the last year over 450,000,000 gallons of water was used.

Mr. Gibson's presentation included:

- Graphs showing usage trends for the past several years
- Specific trends of the six crews
- How weather and people drive water usage
- Evaporation causes
- Establishment of a Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance.
- A park-by-park water usage graph
- Equipment and technology used with median controllers.
- Programs uses, i.e. weather calendar, water pressures, efficiency, etc.
- Irrigation Maintenance
- Water Conservation

Commissioner Hottle discussed with Mr. Gibson the software being used by the City and its capability to utilize weather forecasting.

Brian Fiorio, Parks Maintenance Supervisor – provided Commissioners with information regarding parks maintenance that includes city street trees. His presentation included the following information:

- The City of Pleasanton has approximately 11,201 park trees, and 22,562 trees overall within the city
- Park and street signage information
- Discussed public safety issues
- 105 city owned trees were removed in 2012
- Woodchips produced from city trees are being reused in a number of locations throughout the city
- Benefits to the community from city owned trees

Commissioner Lambert questioned Mr. Fiorio on whether the trees between the sidewalks and the streets were all city owned. He was advised that they were not.

Commissioner Wahl commented on diseased trees in the city, particularly in Val Vista, and wondered how the city dealt with this problem. Mr. Fiorio advised that the city tries to prune areas of a tree that is already diseased, especially in pear trees. He noted that aphids are another problem and can cause a sticky mess around trees. Commissioner Wahl was advised that the City only removes a tree if it is dead and then will try to replace it with something less susceptible to disease.

Commissioner Lambert noted he had recently been informed by an arborist that Chinese Pistach trees are good for this area.

Commissioner Balch was informed by Mr. Fiorio that the city tries to work with residents when making a tree replacement recommendation and will suggest something that is good for the area and not problematic.

Commissioner Balch discussed the planting of redwoods and the problems being encountered by them with the use of recycled water. Mr. Fiorio advised that the City was definitely looking at this because water recycling will eventually occur in many areas. Commissioner Balch strongly recommended that the city cease planting redwood trees in light of reclaimed water issues. He also discussed the air quality and allergy problems associated with planting male/female species of trees. Mr. Farrio commented on the difficulty in determining the species of trees.

Mr. Fulford noted that pollen travels for miles and some pollens are benign and do not cause problems. He also advised that many trees have both genders and are self-pollinating, and discussed the fact that pollen in Pleasanton can be traveling from other cities. Commissioner Balch thanked staff for their comments, but suggested the City of Pleasanton try not to

contribute to the problem of air quality and allergy concerns and be cognizant of the trees being planted in the City of Pleasanton.

Commissioner Hottle commended staff on doing such a great job with its parks and street maintenance and taking such good care of the trees and landscaping in the City of Pleasanton.

4. Review of Elements and Design of the Oak Woodland Area Adjoining and Associated with the Bernal Community Park, Phase II

Ms. Andrade-Wax introduced Assistant City Manager, Steve Bocian, to the Commission advising he is the project manager for Bernal Community Park, Phase II.

Mr. Bocian advised that in response to an August 2012 recommendation made by the Parks and Recreation Commission, City Council approved the Schematic Plan for Bernal Phase II Community Park and the adjacent Oak Woodland area at the September 18, 2012 meeting, and recommended that Harris Design continue preparation of park design and construction documents, approved a preliminary project financing plan, and authorized staff to work with the local sports groups to further develop a financial plan that could involve the formation of a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization to help coordinate a public fundraising process for park development.

In June 2013, City Council approved the City Four Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget that appropriated \$14.3M in funding for this \$16.5M project, and also approved an amendment to the Harris Design contract to include preparation of design and construction documents for the Oak Woodland Area of the Bernal property.

Mr. Bocian advised that staff has been meeting with Bill Harris to discuss overall design elements for the Oak Woodland area that are consistent with what had previously been reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Commission. He also advised that the City has entered into an agreement with a trucking firm to bring in soil to this site and advised Commissioner Hottle that funds to do this was included as a line item for the project, but the dirt was being provided at no cost.

Bill Harris, Landscape Architect, Harris Design reviewed with the Commission a PowerPoint presentation showing elements and design of the Oak Woodland Park, Phase II. Comments included:

- Review of the site and design for this project
- Review of landscape between this and Phase I
- Design Concept for the Oak Woodland
- Proposed ground transformation into a more undulating berm format that will include native trees and grasses
- Multi-use areas parking, restrooms, concessions, etc.
- The uniqueness of a central park with lots of facilities for both active and passive recreation

- Building of a natural environment that will require grading land and bringing in plantings
- Open grassland areas with forested tree areas
- Three distinct planned communities, valley woodland, riparian woodland and grasslands
- No irrigation on the 40-acres - Trees will be watered initially to help get them established
- Topography – design to be oriented towards berming and maintaining views
- Drainage – swale to be graded to retain storm water runoff. Will not be a rushing stream
- Pathway systems and possible uses that will provide a sequence of experiences
- Possible public art elements and locations and how it could be incorporated
- Parking locations
- Nature trail and interpretive aspects
- Unique aspects of the projects pathway system, i.e. informal amphitheater location, spiral walkway, stairway, boardwalk, campfire ring, etc.

The Commissioners were advised by Mr. Harris that approximately \$4M has been budgeted to build the Oak Woodland Area and would include excavation, sculpting, pathway system, re-vegetation, etc.

Chairperson Streng asked where a dog park was planned to be included in the design. Mr. Bocian advised that none was planned for Bernal Phase II and that staff would need to look at other locations. Chairperson Streng indicated his confusion at the lack of a dog park since the Commission has repeatedly indicated their desire for such to be included in Bernal Phase II. Mr. Bocian advised that none of the Bernal Phases included a dog park.

Commissioner Lambert expressed his surprise that no dog park was being included in Bernal Phase II.

Commissioner Balch indicated that he too remembers the Commission's request for a dog park in Phase II, and remembers talking about this being an excellent facility for such. He also commented on the fact that the need for a dog park is growing in Pleasanton. Commissioner Balch advised that he thought the design presented by Mr. Harris was good and that he liked the incorporation of the creek, but would encourage giving consideration to a connection from the Oak Woodland Area to the Marilyn Murphy Kane trail. He also asked that no redwood trees be added, and commented on the need for shade in the area and the fact that oak trees are slow growing. Mr. Harris discussed keeping plantings native and advised it would not be feasible to plant large trees. Mr. Fulford also provided information about the growth of different tree varieties.

Commissioner Balch thought the water segment in the design was slightly misleading and hoped that this area could follow what has been done at Kottinger Creek. He also agreed that the Commission needed to have further discussion regarding the dog park.

Commissioner Kinzer agreed that the design plan presented was good. He too voiced his support for a dog park in this Phase. He asked about development of the public art recommendation and how and when it would be done and wanted to assured that any artwork

recommended would be appropriate for the area. Mr. Bocian advised that artwork was not being included in the project at this time, but it would be appropriate to reserve space for it.

Commissioner Kinzer indicated that he supported the design plan especially the interpretive area.

Commissioner Wahl also liked the design plan, especially the boardwalk. She was concerned about the kind of artwork that might go into the area and wondered if it would be out of place. Commissioner Wahl stated that she did not think art was right for this environment, because it will be a natural setting.

Commissioner Lambert agreed that he too liked the design, but wanted a dog park included. He felt it was counterproductive not to include one, especially with what was being indicated as being needed in the City by the consultants for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Commissioner Lambert agreed with the other Commissioner's comments regarding the creek restoration idea and thought it should be similar to the Kottinger Creek waterway. He noted that dog parks are a hot topic.

Commissioner Brown advised that as the youth representative, she was excited for the completion of this project.

Commissioner Hottle felt the overall design for this project was good. He discussed with Mr. Bocian whether consideration by the City had been given to charging the trucking company that will be bringing in the dirt. Mr. Bocian advised that receiving high quality soil was of bigger importance to the city.

Commissioner Hottle discussed oak tree sizes planted at the softball field with Mr. Fulford, who advised that often trees planted from smaller sizes grow better trees that are larger when planted. Mr. Fulford provided information about the trees planted along the Marilyn Murphy Kane trail.

Commissioner Hottle advised that he agreed with Commissioner Wahl and thought artwork would be inappropriate in a natural setting like this will be.

Chairperson Streng thought the design presented was beautiful, but felt that a dog park needed to be included in this great design. He noted that Bernal Phase II has been mentioned numerous times as a logical place for a dog park, and is an amenity that is much needed in the city. Commissioner Streng commended Mr. Harris on his design, but indicated he could not support it without a dog park.

Mr. Bocian noted that Ms. Andrade-Wax had brought up information about the dog park and the Commissions' comments about this being an appropriate location, but staff has had concerns and has been looking for other locations. Chairperson Streng indicated that he was unsure what staff's concerns are and would like staff to provide information on why this is not an appropriate location. Mr. Bocian advised of staff's concerns and the thought that it didn't make sense to have an open woodland area with a fenced dog park.

Commissioner Balch commented that the body appointed to oversee this was saying that there is a need for a dog park.

Chairperson Streng noted that it has been stated repeatedly by this Commission that Bernal Phase II needs a dog park, and the Commission commends the presented design, but is disappointed that it is missing a key feature that this Commission has requested and therefore will not be able to support this project.

Commissioner Kinzer agreed that a fenced dog park may not work for the Oak Woodland area, but wondered whether staff was suggesting it be included somewhere else in the Phase II portion of the project.

Mr. Fulford asked about the Commission's vision for a dog park and wondered what they thought the disconnect was.

Commissioner Hottle discussed the amount of discussion the Commission has had pertaining to dog parks and where they could be put, possibly in an existing park. He thought the need could be filled faster if a recommendation was made to put an off-leash dog area in an existing park. Commissioner Wahl agreed, but thought the new Master Plan was going to address the dog park issue. She wondered if the Commission was jumping the gun.

5. Selection of Two Commissioners to Serve on the Pioneer Cemetery Master Plan Oversight Committee

It was noted by Chairperson Streng that the Commission had already discussed having two of the Commissioners to serve on the Pioneer Cemetery Committee.

Ms. Yurchak noted that the City of Pleasanton is starting the Pioneer Cemetery Master Plan process to consider landscape improvements, opportunity for a privately funded veteran's memorial, public/private partnerships, and maintenance and operational rules and regulations. She asked the Commission to designate two members to serve on the Pioneer Cemetery Master Plan Oversight Committee.

A motion was made by Chairperson Streng, seconded by Commissioner Balch to nominate and elect Commissioners Hottle and Wahl to service on the Pioneer Cemetery Master Plan Oversight Committee.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Commissioners Balch, Hottle, Kinzer, Lambert, Wahl, and Chairperson Streng.
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

COMMISSION REPORTS

- A. Bernal Community Park Phase II – No report.
- B. Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee – No report.
- C. Community of Character – Commissioner Kinzer advised they had discussed roll out of the Juanita Haugen scholarship fund.
- D. City/East Bay Regional Park District Liaison Committee – No report.
- E. East Bay Pleasanton Specific Plan Task Force – Commissioner Hottle advised it had been a productive meeting. The Task Force had reviewed the many options and discussed housing units and mix of housing units, and had struggled to find a balance between single and multi-family dwelling, but have presented a plan to City Council for 1759 units. He provided information about the breakdown of the number units per acre and also information about retail area, school site, park areas, etc. The next step for the Task Force has to do with the EIR and they should be finished with their recommendations in about 6 months
- F. Heritage Tree Review Board – No report.
- G. Kottinger Place/Kottinger Village Park – Commissioner Balch advised that this project is getting closer and work has been taking place pertaining to design and layouts, gardens, and whether balconies should be included. Cottage floor plans were also discussed, as well as storage space. Trying to balance all needs.
- H. Lions Wayside Park – No report.
- I. Parks and Recreation Master Plan Steering Committee – Commissioner Balch advised that staff is currently working through a very large document. The Plan notes the need for Dog Parks and makes some recommendations. He discussed sustainability of City facilities and advised that he has discussed his concerns with staff because he thought it was missing in the document recommendations.
- J. Cultural Plan Update Steering Committee – No report.
- K. Public Art Selection Sub-Committee – No report.
- L. Sports Council – No report.

Chairperson Streng requested that the Pioneer Cemetery Master Plan be added to the Commission Reports list for the next meeting.

7. Other brief reports on any meetings, conferences, and/or seminars attended by the Commission members.

There were none.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Kinzer asked Mr. Bocian to comment on the Summer Hill Apartments project concerns raised by Mr. Lange.

Mr. Bocian provided information about the project and the neighborhood meetings that have taken place. He advised that this project should be moving forward to Planning within the next few weeks.

Commissioner Kinzer was advised by Mr. Bocian that there was no linkage with the project to parks and the trails.

Commissioner Kinzer cautioned the Commission not to get into too much discussion about dog parks during Commission Comments and thought it was something that should be agendaized if further discussion was required.

Commissioner Balch thought that dog parks were needed and the Commission should look at a dog park in Bernal Phase II. He cautioned about the "finding a park for it" approach.

Commissioner Hottle reiterated his desire for a "casting pond" somewhere.

Commissioner Lambert would also like for there to be a dog park. He also suggested that red oak may be incorporated somewhere in the Bernal Phase II project, because of its historical aspect to the area.

Chairperson Streng explained his frustration on the dog park situation and hopes that the Parks and Recreation Master Plan will offer some guidance.

STAFF COMMENTS

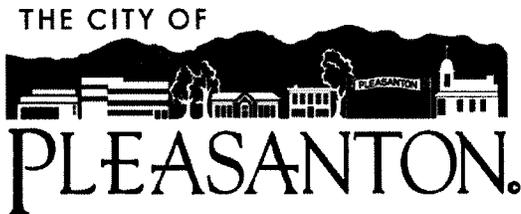
Ms. Andrade-Wax noted that:

1. The ribbon-cutting for the Stoneridge Creek Neighborhood Park has been changed to November 1, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.
2. Kottinger Place Task Force meeting has been changed to October 23, 2013 at the Senior Center.
3. Tri-Valley Commissioners dinner at the Firehouse Arts Center on October 28, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.
4. October 19, 2013 is the 5th Anniversary Celebration at Alviso Adobe.

Commissioner Hottle requested staff email Commissioners with updated information about ribbon cuttings.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Streng at 9:22 p.m.



Parks and Recreation Commission Staff Report

December 12, 2013
Item 4

SUBJECT: CONTINUED REVIEW OF ELEMENTS AND DESIGN FOR THE OAK WOODLAND AREA ADJOINING AND ASSOCIATED WITH THE BERNAL COMMUNITY PARK, PHASE II

SUMMARY

At your meeting of October 10, 2013, the Commission reviewed the Schematic Plan for the Oak Woodland area of the Bernal Property and expressed general approval of the overall plan. However, the Commission elected not to take action on the plan pending further review of the potential for including a dog park as part of this phase of the development. In addition, individual commissioners made comments regarding specific elements of the plan, including, 1) an additional trail entry point in the area adjacent to Bernal Phase I access road on Valley Avenue to create a natural "extension" to the Marilyn Trail, 2) the retention of open space to accommodate the placement of public art to be identified and installed at some future time, and 3) some recognition of the hay fields that have been farmed on the property for a number of years, all of which warrant additional discussion prior to final action. As a result, this report provides information on these matters.

Due to the fact that a full presentation of the schematic plan was made at the October 10 meeting, one is not planned for this meeting. However, included as Attachment 1 to this report is the Commission's October 10, 2013 agenda report that includes information on the Oak Woodland area. Notwithstanding this, it should also be noted that for design and functional reasons, the project architect has eliminated the "observation mound" proposed for a central area location and replaced it with more natural landscape and topography. Other than this amendment, all areas remain as presented to the Commission in October.

RECOMMENDATION

1. Review and recommend City Council approval of the Bernal Property Oak Woodland Schematic Plan with the following modifications:
 - a) Include an additional access trail entry point on Valley Avenue to create an "extension" of the Marilyn Kane Trail
 - b) Direct the project designer to include interpretative signage denoting the historic use of the property as an agricultural site
2. Determine that further study of a new additional dog park should occur as part of the City's Park Master Plan review and implementation process.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

There is no financial impact associated with this report.

BACKGROUND

The City Council has allocated funding for the Bernal Community Park, Phase II Lighted Multi-Purpose Sports Fields and the Oak Woodland area with the expectation that additional funding will be provided through cooperative arrangement with the sports groups that will use the park most heavily. At the time this matter was presented to the Commission in August 2012, there was uncertainty regarding the inclusion of the 38-acre Oak Woodland area however, the City Council's funding allocation assumes full development of this area. The Oak Woodland area is the grand open space at the heart of the Bernal property referred to in the Bernal Specific Plan as the "Grand Meadows". Occupying nearly 40 acres immediately west of the community park's Phase 1 and Phase 2 park areas, the Oak Woodland will provide a passive open space not found in many existing city parks. This area generally adheres to the 800-foot buffer for the homes on Oak Vista Way.

Staff is encouraging the project architect to proceed with all aspects of park/ Oak Woodland design with the goal of being in a position to issue a construction bid in spring 2014. To that end, staff is intending to present Oak Woodland Schematic Plan to the City Council at its February 4, 2014 meeting and as a result, it is requesting your Commission's recommendation be forwarded to the City Council as part of that report.

DISCUSSION

Location for an Additional City Dog Park

Over the past few years the Commission has expressed an interest in an additional dog park to meet the need for this type of facility and this matter was discussed most recently as part of the Staples Ranch Park Master Plan process and the current Pleasanton Master Plan process. Prior to that time, there was considerable discussion regarding the potential for inclusion of a dog park as part of the Bernal Community Park Master Plan. As a result, this report will touch on all three of those areas with the intent on providing a pathway for addressing this matter.

Bernal Property

In August, 2006 the City Council adopted the Bernal Property Specific Plan which designated 168 acres of the Bernal property for private commercial development (Phase I) and 318 acres to be owned by the City (Phase II). This Specific Plan anticipated that the 318 acres owned by the City would be more specifically developed in accordance with a future plan (referred to as the Phase II Land Use or Specific Plan) to be approved by voters. In 2002, voters approved Measure V which prohibited any additional housing on the City owned land, required voter approval for the sale of any of the City land, and established that there be a public planning process to assure that the City property be used for a "Central Park" with uses including an arts center, youth facilities, community and botanical gardens, sports fields and open space. In 2004, voters approved Measure X which eliminated the possibility of a future City Council deciding on or amending a future land use plan without voter approval.

As part of the Bernal property planning process, the City utilized significant public participation including the Bernal Property Task Force, the Bernal Community Park Task Force, and input from various City commissions. As an outcome of this planning process, the City developed the Bernal Property Phase II Specific Plan (Bernal Specific Plan) and the Bernal Community Park Master Plan (Bernal Park Master Plan) the latter of which addresses the approximately 50 acres of the 318 acres covered by the Bernal Specific Plan. The conclusion of this process occurred

at a May 16, 2006 City Council meeting during which the Council approved the planning documents, including an "Illustrative Site Plan" that identified specific uses for various areas of the Bernal property.

The May 16, 2006 City Council meeting is important in relation to a dog park as it was at this meeting that the Council considered recommendations from the Planning Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission and the Youth Master Plan Implementation Committee to amend the Bernal Specific Plan/ Illustrative Site Plan to include a dog park. The Park and Recreation Commission's recommendation was the most specific in that it stated "add a ¼ to ½ acre dog park to the Bernal Specific Plan's Illustrative Site Plan in an area located away from the railroad tracks." The addition of a dog park was also detailed in the agenda report as a decision issue.

During the course of the May 16 meeting, Mayor Hosterman requested input regarding the addition of a dog park, but its inclusion was rejected by the City Council. As such, the final Bernal Specific Plan/ Illustrative Plan was approved without a dog park. Following this action, the City Council placed the Bernal Specific Plan on the November 6, 2006 general election as Measure P where it was subsequently approved by the voters.

At the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on October 10, 2013, the Commission reviewed the Schematic Plan for the Oak Woodland area of the Bernal Property and expressed general approval of the overall plan, however asked staff as to why an off-leash dog area was not included in the Plan. In response, staff expressed that inclusion of a dog park on the Bernal Community Park or Oak Woodland would be inconsistent with the Bernal Specific Plan adopted by the voters. As a result, the Commission elected not to take action on the plan pending further review of the potential for including of a dog park as part of this phase of Bernal Property development.

Notwithstanding the above, following the Commission's October 10, 2013 meeting, staff received an email from Chairperson Streng requesting additional clarification regarding opportunities and restrictions related to siting a dog park on the Bernal Property. A summary of the requested clarification is "how is the inclusion of a dog park in the Community Park prohibited by Measure P particularly when the Bernal Park Master Plan the Specific Plan states that other uses may be approved by the City Council?"

In addition to the information detailed above, there are actually two dimensions to this question. First, the potential for including a dog park within the 318 acre Bernal Specific Plan area and second, including a dog park within the 50 acres designated for the Bernal Community Park. Regarding the Bernal Community Park area, the adopted Bernal Park Master Plan includes a listing of facilities/uses that are included in the Plan's Master Site Plan (Attachment 2) and this list includes a dog park. However, the list is not intended to be general but is specifically intended to highlight the facilities/uses included in the Master Site Plan which does not include a dog park. Staff's position is that the inclusion of a dog park in this list (Attachment 2) is a document editing oversight that may be related to a previous draft Master Site Plan (Attachment 3) that included a dog park. However, the dog park was eliminated from the Illustrative Plan prior to the City Council's May 6 action and as indicated above, the Council rejected recommendations from various commissions to include one in the final document. Further,

looking at the Master Site Plan, there is no undesignated land space and as such, this forms the foundation for staff's position that a dog park is an inappropriate use for the Bernal Community Park.

Regarding the larger Specific Plan area, the Bernal Specific Plan also includes a dog park as one of the many potential land uses. Here again, staff is of the opinion that this reference was retained by error as a holdover from a previous draft document. This is further evidenced by the fact that a dog park is not included in the listing of the Potentially Permitted Land Uses that was included as part of Measure P. Notwithstanding this situation, a case could be made that sub-areas 5, 12, and 13, of the Bernal Property could be used for a dog park because they permit *general park and recreation land uses determined to be compatible with the surrounding land uses by the City Council.*" (Attachment 4 includes the listing of *Potentially Permitted Land Uses* and the Sub-area Land Use Plan.) As a result, if the Commission has an interest in exploring one of these sub-areas, it can request the City Council provide direction regarding its willingness to consider a dog park.

Regarding the Oak Woodland area specifically, Measure P and the Bernal Specific Plan state that this area is reserved for agriculture, open space, passive recreation, public utilities and trails. Further, the Illustrative Site Plan is clear in defining the Oak Woodland as the Grand Meadow intended to be reserved as passive open space and as such, staff's position is that a dog park is an inappropriate use for this site.

Staples Ranch Park Master Plan

The Staples Ranch planning process resulted in the development of three park plans. The first, a Conceptual Site and Use Plan, was prepared in 2007 and provided a general design concept for the 17-acre community park including a Sharks ice skating center. The second, the Staples Ranch Community Park Master Plan, was prepared in June 2008 and addressed the 17-acre community park in more detail and the then recently acquired 5-acre neighborhood park conceptually. The third, the Neighborhood Park Master Plan, was prepared in 2009 and provided the planning detail for the neighborhood park. This later plan was used for the existing Stoneridge Creek Neighborhood Park which was opened to the public in November of this year.

In reviewing these plans, both the Conceptual Site and Use Plan and the Staples Ranch Community Park Master Plan, included a site designated for a dog park. However, a dog park was not included in the final Neighborhood Park Master Plan and at the time it was presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission for review staff indicated that a dog park was impractical for the following reasons:

- The inclusion of the restroom, which was not included in the Staples Ranch Community Park Master Plan, limited available space at the western portion of the park
- The limited amount of parking (eight spaces), and no off street or alternative parking area, would result in an inadequate amount of parking
- The close proximity of a dog exercise area to the tennis courts, public plaza and restroom was of concern

- Overall, the non-storm water detention area of the park (approximately 1.8 acres) was inadequate to accommodate a dog park and other amenities
- Concerns regarding the potential incompatibility between the environmental requirement that the storm water detention basin be maintained for treated storm water

In view of these constraints, the Commission approved the master plan and recommended that staff attempt to change the Staples Ranch Community Park Master Plan to include a dog exercise area and that the City Council consider the placement of a dog park as part of its review of the Neighborhood Park Master Plan.

At its meeting of September 7, 2010, the City Council reviewed and approved PUD-80 for the neighborhood park that is based on Neighborhood Park Master Plan and this review included a discussion of a dog park. In general, during the course of the discussion staff indicated that there were other possibilities for the location and construction of a dog park including East Pleasanton, Shadow Cliffs Park in cooperation with East Bay Regional Parks District and potentially, the later phases of the Bernal property subject to City Council approval. As stated previously, staff perspective is that comment regarding the Bernal property relates to sub-areas 5, 12 and 13. In addition, staff did and does not rule out the potential for studying the potential for a dog park in the Staples Ranch Community Park as recommended by the Commission. The City Council's discussion did not result in any specific action related to a dog park but it did express its understanding of the Commission's concerns regarding this facility.

Based on the above, staff's understanding is the Commission's last official action on a dog park was that it be considered for the Staples Ranch Community Park. However, since that time, there has not been any additional planning for this park and none is planned for the immediate future.

Parks and Recreation Master Plan

The Parks and Recreation Commission and staff have been engaged in a comprehensive public process of preparing a city-wide Parks and Recreation Master Plan (Master Plan). While the plan is not yet complete, it is anticipated, based on the current draft, that it will include a detailed listing of beneficial park enhancements, including both new facilities and modifications to existing facilities. It is also anticipated that one of the identified potential new facilities or modifications will be the addition of an off-leash dog area/park.

Based on the City's typical plan adoption process, staff anticipates that the Parks and Recreation Commission and the City Council will hold a joint workshop for the purpose of reviewing the Master Plan collectively after which the Parks and recreation Commission will review and take formal action on approving it at one its subsequent meetings. If approved, the Commission may very well recommend specific action(s) to the City Council

Assuming this above process unfolds as indicated above, staff's perspective is that the most appropriate way to inform the City Council of the need for a dog park is twofold. First, staff assumes that as part of the Parks Master Plan review process, the Commission will identify

specific areas that are of the highest priority and that it will present that information to the City Council. Secondly, based on the Commission's recommendation, the City Council could consider the Commission's priorities as part of its regular priority setting process during which the Council establishes its annual work plan. If as a result of that process the Council adds a dog park to its annual work plan, then staff and the Commission could begin a more comprehensive process of identifying potential locations for the park. Once a site is located, then the City Council can take steps to consider funding as part of the City Budget or Capital Improvement Program.

As the Commission is aware, the process of developing a park involves an identified need, input from the public, recommendations from the Commission and then finally, approval from the City Council. Often, even after a commission and/or City Council expresses an interest in a new facility, such as the recently completed Firehouse Arts Center or the current Lions Wayside /Delucchi Parks renovation project, it is quite some time before the project is fully funded and constructed. Nevertheless, the critical point is that a final decision resides with the City Council which must approve and fund the amenity and that the above process, involving inclusion of a project on the City Council's annual work plan and funding, has been the most consistent path for facility development. As a result, the preferred step for pursuing a new City facility is to have it included as part of the City Council's work plan and to date, a dog park has not been part of that plan.

Summary of the Dog Park Matters

Based on the information above, staff's perspective is that both Measure P and the Bernal Park Master Plan disallow a dog park on the Bernal Community Park and the Oak Woodland area. However, there is a potential for inclusion of a dog park on sub-areas 5, 12, and 13, assuming the City Council determines that this type of use is compatible with surrounding land uses. Regarding the Staples Ranch area, while it is unfortunate that a dog park was not included as part of the Stoneridge Creek Neighborhood Park, there is still a potential for inclusion of one on the Staples Community Park site. However, there is no timetable for revisiting overall planning for this park. Finally, staff anticipates that the Master Plan will identify the need for an additional dog park and as such, adoption of the plan presents an opportunity for the Commission to inform the City Council of its priorities which can be reviewed by the City Council as part of its annual work plan process. Assuming the Council includes a dog park in its work plan, staff is prepared to work with the Commission as appropriate to identify a potential location for the park. Further, like other park projects, it's anticipated that funding for the design and construction of a dog park would be subject to the City's overall Budget/Capital Improvement Program process.

Based on the above, staff is recommending that the Commission address the dog park issue as part of the Parks Master Plan process as outlined above.

Other Oak Woodland Matters

As indicated previously, staff is also interested in addressing other matters raised by the Commission so that it can be in a position to make a recommendation to the City Council on the Oak Woodland Schematic Plan at the Council's February 4 meeting. These additional matters include, 1) an additional trail entry point in the area adjacent to Bernal Phase I access road on Valley Avenue to create a natural "extension" to the Marilyn Trail; 2) the retention of open space

to accommodate the placement of public art to be identified and installed at some future time, and 3) some recognition of the hay fields that have been farmed on the property for a number of years.

Regarding the first matter, staff supports the additional trail entry point and agrees with the Commission's perspective that it will create a natural "extension" to the Marilyn Kane Trail.

Regarding number 2, during the October 10, 2013 commission meeting, individual commissioners had differing opinions regarding the retention or omission of space for public art. From staff's perspective, retention of this space is prudent in that it represents a future opportunity to enhance the overall park experience with new park features. Further, staff also agrees with the Commission that this feature can be beneficial only if the art is appropriate for the setting and that the art included in the project architects slide presentation was not appropriate for these locations. (Note that the art displayed at the October 10 meeting was presented only to demonstrate potential scale of the art not the actual concepts or themes.) Ultimately, the overall reserved space is minimal and staff has confidence that the public, commissions, including the Civic Arts Commission and the City Council will select works that is appropriate for the setting and the City's budget. Also, it is important to reiterate that art acquisition is not included in the current project budget and it is not included in the City's overall budget.

Regarding the third item, as the project architect plans an "interpretive area" to assist with the public/user understanding of the areas ecology, so too could a modest area be signed to point out the area's agrarian past.

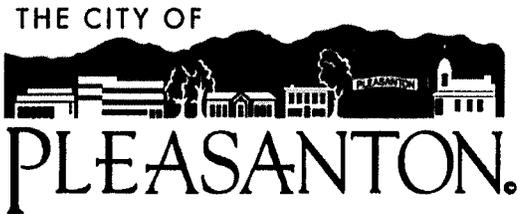
Respectfully submitted,


Steven Bocian
Assistant City Manager

Attachments:

1. October 10, 2013 Parks and Recreation Commission Agenda Report
2. Excerpt from the Bernal Community Park Master Plan
3. Draft Illustrative Site Plan
4. Bernal Specific Plan Sub-use Areas

ATTACHMENT 1



Parks and Recreation Commission Staff Report

October 10, 2013
Item 4

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF ELEMENTS AND DESIGN OF THE OAK WOODLAND AREA ADJOINING AND ASSOCIATED WITH THE BERNAL COMMUNITY PARK, PHASE II

SUMMARY

In response to an August 2012 recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Commission; at its meeting of September 18, 2012, the City Council approved the Schematic Plan for the Bernal Phase II Community Park and the adjacent Oak Woodland area, recommended that Harris Design (Harris) continue preparation of park design and construction documents, approved a preliminary project financing plan, and authorized staff to work with the local sports groups to further develop a financial plan that may involve the formation of a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization as a vehicle to coordinate public fund raising for park development. In June 2013, the City Council approved the City Four Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget appropriating \$14.3 million in funding for the \$16.5 million project. The City Council also approved an amendment to the Harris Design contract to include preparation of design and construction documents for the Oak Woodland area of the Bernal property.

Since the authorization to begin design work on the Oak Woodland area, staff has been meeting with Harris to discuss overall design elements that are consistent with what the Commission reviewed previously and the Bernal Property Phase II Specific Plan. As a result of that effort, staff and Harris are presenting the Commission with a more refined Oak Woodland area plan and are requesting comment on the overall plan and the inclusion of some of the area's features including the interpretive area, park signage and artistic structural elements in order to provide direction for preparation of the final plans that will be presented to the City Council in early 2014.

RECOMMENDATION

1. Review and confirm the Schematic Plan for the Oak Woodland area of the Bernal Property
2. Provide staff and the design consultant with inclusion of certain open space elements including interpretive area, park interpretive signage, and artistic structural elements

BACKGROUND

As indicated above, the City Council has allocated funding for the Bernal Community Park, Phase II Lighted Multi-Purpose Sports Fields and the Oak Woodland area with the expectation that additional funding will be provided through cooperative arrangement with the sports groups that will use the park most heavily. At the time this matter was presented to the Commission in August 2012, there was uncertainty regarding the inclusion of the 38-acre Oak Woodland area, however, the City Council's funding allocation assumes full development of this area. Notwithstanding this matter, staff and the project landscape architect, Harris Design, remain focused on the project budget in an effort to assure that both the park and the Oak Woodlands area will be developed with the amenities needed to assure programming efficiency and with the understanding that additional amenities may need to be added at some time after the initial critical amenities are constructed. A project summary budget is attached to this report.

The Oak Woodland area is the grand open space at the heart of the Bernal property. Occupying nearly 40 acres immediately west of the developed Phase 1 and Phase 2 park areas, the Oak Woodland will provide a passive open space not found in many city parks. This area generally adheres to the 800-foot buffer for the homes on Oak Vista Way.

The foundation for the design is the transformation of an existing, level agricultural field into an undulating natural landscape populated with native trees, shrubs, grasses, and wildflowers. Native plant communities to be introduced include Valley grassland, Valley Woodland, and Valley Foothill Riparian. There will be no irrigated ornamental landscape in the Oak Woodland.

The Oak Woodland is also a place for people. There will be an extensive network of pathways that provide a variety of experiences. The pathway system has a three-part hierarchy. There is a continuous, multi-use perimeter path that circumnavigates the open space, a creek walk path, and paths that will provide access from both Phase 1 and Phase 2 to the residential neighborhood to the west. The pathways provide a sequence of experiences as one travels along them.

Pedestrian park entrances will be provided at three locations along Oak Vista Way. The entrances will include small plazas with seating areas and informational and identification signage.

Site drainage will be directed to the long, narrow swale (shown in blue) which will filter out pollutants and assist with ground water recharge.

There are ample opportunities to place public art in the Oak Woodland. The artwork could create focal points at key locations terminating the strong view corridors that the plan for Phase 2 has created. In this way the more developed park will be visually tied to the less developed natural area.

An interpretive area will occupy the southeast corner of the Oak Woodland. It will include nature trails, group gathering areas, and interpretive signage. The area will be suitable for docent-led tours, and for educational field trips.

Other amenities include benches, seating areas, a small boardwalk, interesting landforms, footbridges, and overlooks. Custom-designed interpretive signage will occur at key locations to explain the site's cultural and natural history.

Discussion

At the October 10, 2013 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, Bill Harris will present an overview of the Oak Woodland area so that he and staff can receive feedback as we prepare the final project design documents. As such, staff is interested in general feedback/comment and specific feedback regarding the following elements:

- The current design anticipates interpretive signage at key locations throughout the area that provide information about vegetation and wildlife in the area. This feature enhances the overall park experience with an estimated cost of approximately \$25,000 for design and \$25,000 for fabrication and installation for a total of \$50,000.
- The current design anticipates three primary locations that could accommodate artistic structural elements and as with the interpretive signage, these could eventually enhance a user's experience. However, there is no funding anticipated for these structural elements in the budget and staff does not anticipate funding in the near future. However, if the Commission values the inclusion of these structures, the landscape architect could incorporate design to facilitate their installation at a later date. One concern with these elements is they could distract from the wilderness/natural setting of the Oak Woodland area.
- Staff and the project landscape architect have also discussed inclusion of an interpretive area that would provide a structured setting for natural history education. It would include a nature trail, interpretive displays, parking for ten vehicles, a group gathering/staging area, benches, and boardwalk. This would be an interesting facility that would allow people to track the establishment of the native plant communities in addition to learning about the area.

Respectfully submitted,



Steve Bocian
Assistant City Manager

Attachments: 1. Revised Oak Woodland Schematic
 2. Project Description
 2. Current Project Overall Budget



BERNAL COMMUNITY PARK, PHASE II LIGHTED MULTI-PURPOSE SPORTS FIELDS



PROJECT DESCRIPTION: In September 2012, the City Council approved the draft financing plan for development of the Bernal Community Park, Lighted Sports Fields and Oak Woodland areas and reauthorized preparation of project design specifications. The project consists of three lighted multi-purpose sports fields, restroom, parking, pathways and open spaces on the Bernal Property adjacent to the existing lighted baseball fields. The project will be bid in late winter 2014.

Projects costs are estimated at \$16,500,000 of which \$12,559,000 is for the multi-purpose sport field area. Identified funding to date includes an existing reserve of \$7,500,000, a \$3,175,000 East Bay Regional Parks Measure WWW grant that will release funding used for the Aquatic Renovation project, a combined \$2,300,000 General Fund CIP transfer occurring in FY2013-14 and FY2014-15, and \$843,171 of In-Lieu Park Dedication Fees and \$843,171. Staff estimates that the additional future funding will be provided by the transfer of In-Lieu Park dedication fees made available through approved development agreements, contributions from local sports groups and additional City sources.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION: This project is a City Council priority that will address the needs for additional lighted sports fields.

PROJECT COST ESTIMATE

| Item | Cost | Funding Source | Amount |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Park Development | \$16,500,000 | Existing Reserves | \$10, 675,000 |
| | | FY 2013-14/14-15 Funding | \$3,646,482 |
| | | Additional Future Revenue Sources | \$2,178,518 |
| TOTAL | \$16,500,000 | Total | \$16,500,000 |

CIP #: 017045 **CATEGORY:** Parks **RECOMMENDATION:** Fund in 2013-14

ATTACHMENT 3

BERNAL COMMUNITY PARK PHASE II LIGHTED MULTI-PURPOSE SPORTS FIELDS (Including Oak Woodland Area) PRELIMINARY FUNDING AND DEVELOPMENT COST ESTIMATES

Revised 5/24/2013

| <u>Source of Funds</u> | <u>Estimate</u> |
|---|---------------------|
| Bernal Community Park Phase II Reserve | \$7,558,317 |
| East Bay Regional Parks Measure WW | \$3,116,683 |
| Projected FY 2013-14/14-15 in this CIP | <u>\$3,646,482</u> |
| Sub-Total | \$14,321,482 |
| Additional Funding (Yet to be Identified) | <u>\$2,178,518</u> |
| Total | \$16,500,000 |
| | |
| EXPENDITURES | |
| <u>Multi-Purpose Sports Fields and Related Amenities</u> | |
| Mobilization and Site/Earth Work | \$1,991,000 |
| Electrical/Utilities | \$1,131,000 |
| Landscaping | \$935,000 |
| Parking and Roads | \$638,000 |
| Restroom Building | \$300,000 |
| Concession Building (Plumbing Only) | \$50,000 |
| Refuse Enclosure | \$75,000 |
| Pathways, Plaza Paving, Mow Strip | \$762,000 |
| Three Synthetic Multi-Purpose Fields with Lighting | \$3,539,000 |
| Scoreboard, Grandstand, etc | \$538,000 |
| Amenities (benches, picnic area, play area, etc) | \$325,000 |
| Storage/Maintenance Building | \$150,000 |
| Architectural Fees | <u>\$675,000</u> |
| Sub-Total | \$11,109,000 |
| Contingency | <u>\$1,450,000</u> |
| Total Multi-Purpose Sports Fields and Related Amenities | \$12,559,000 |
| | |
| <u>Oak Woodland Area (1)</u> | |
| Mobilization and Site Work | \$1,798,000 |
| Pathway System | \$770,000 |
| Site Amenities (benches, signage, etc) | \$197,000 |
| Revegetation | \$679,000 |
| Misc. construction | <u>\$150,000</u> |
| Sub-Total | \$3,594,000 |
| Contingency | <u>\$347,000</u> |
| Total Oak Woodland | \$3,941,000 |
| | |
| Total Bernal Park Phase II Development Cost | \$16,500,000 |

Notes.

1. This aspect of the project has not yet been designed and costs are conceptual.

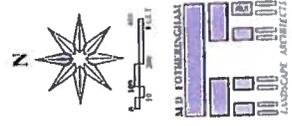
III. PARK FACILITIES

This Master Plan is intended to create a well-organized and attractive setting for active recreational activities by providing lighted sports fields and related facilities within a forested open space setting. Accommodations for sports requiring smaller land areas are also planned, as well as an outdoor amphitheater. The types and arrangement of facilities anticipated at this time are shown on the Master Site Plan (Figure 2) and include the following:

- ◆ Three lighted baseball diamonds, including a stadium, and one informal baseball field that could potentially be lighted in the future
- ◆ One lighted football/lacrosse field
- ◆ Three lighted soccer fields, including a small stadium
- ◆ Concession stands and restrooms
- ◆ Trails
- ◆ Picnic grounds and facilities for other small community gatherings
- ◆ Play areas for small children
- ◆ 1,000-seat amphitheater
- ◆ Dog Park
- ◆ Forested open space
- ◆ Public art
- ◆ Parking
- ◆ Park maintenance facility

All sports fields are intended for shared use, where physically practical. Since the demand for specific sports often evolves over time, the above list is intended to remain flexible and subject to change. Future active recreational sport facilities will be determined by the City Council based upon community input.

The natural setting, consisting of mounded landforms and forested areas in which the active recreational facilities are to be located, however, is generally not intended to change over time. Rather, it is to be preserved in order to maintain tree growth, and to ensure that the consistency of the forested area with the surrounding "grand park" setting is not interrupted.



ILLUSTRATIVE SITE PLAN
FIGURE 3-2

Preferred Alternative
PHASE II SPECIFIC PLAN
ALTERNATIVES ANALYSES
BERNAL PROPERTY



A list of the potentially permitted land uses for each Sub-Area is presented in Table 3-2. Ancillary uses for each permitted use may also be approved through the Planned Unit Development (PUD) approval process by the City Council.

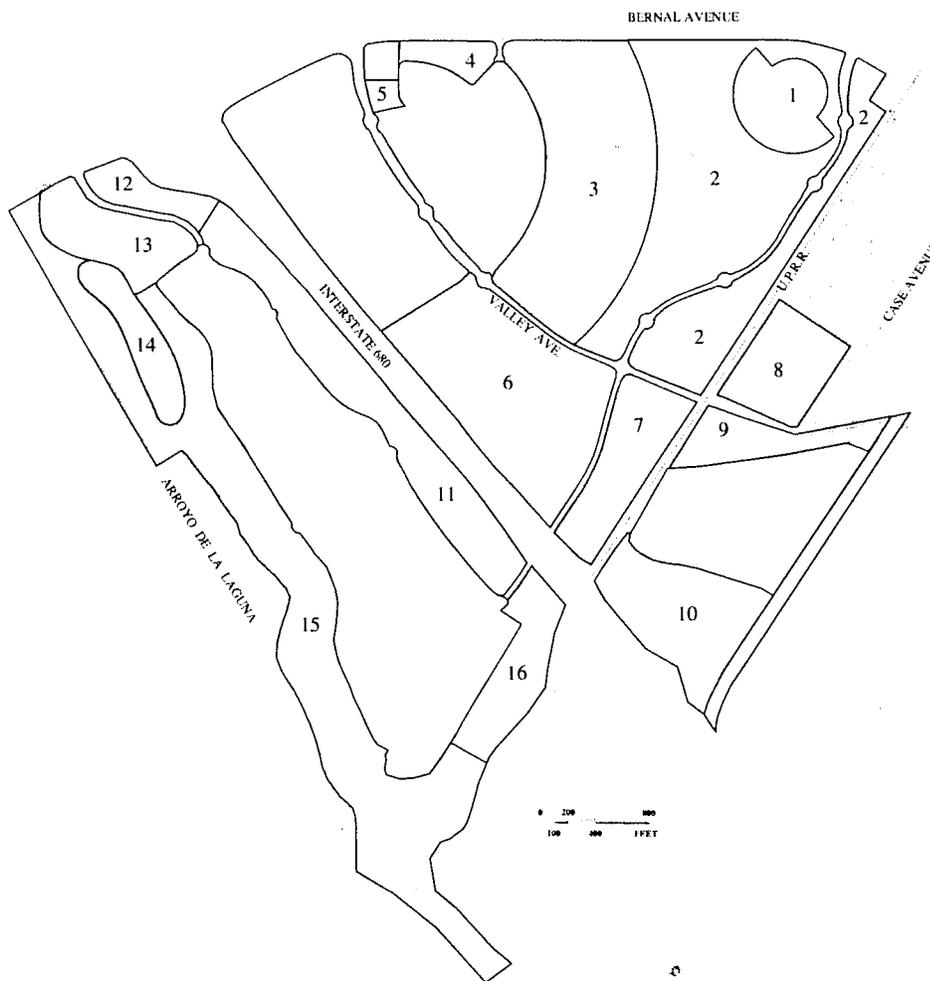
Table 3-2 Potentially Permitted Land Uses by Sub-Area

(Refer to Figure 3-1 for Sub-Area locations)

| Sub-Area | Potentially Permitted Land Uses |
|----------|--|
| 1. | Cultural arts center with or without shared educational facilities, agriculture, open space, park and recreation, public utilities, trails |
| 2. | Agriculture, open space, park and recreation (including lighted sports fields), public utilities, trails, youth/community center |
| 3. | Agriculture, open space, passive park and recreation facilities, public utilities, |
| 4. | Fire station, landscaped open space, public utilities, trails |
| 5. | Child care, open space, park and recreation, public utilities, trails, and other public and quasi public uses determined by the City Council to be compatible with the surrounding land uses |
| 6. | Agriculture, open space, passive recreation facilities, public utilities, trails |
| 7. | Agricultural club, agriculture, community vegetable garden, open space, passive recreation facilities, public utilities, trails |
| 8. | Existing elementary school, open space, park and recreation, trails |
| 9. | Open space, public utilities, trails |
| 10. | Open space, park and recreation, trails |
| 11. | Open space, passive recreation, public utilities, trails |
| 12. | Open space, park and recreation, park-and-ride lot, public utilities, trails, and other public and quasi public uses determined by the City Council to be compatible with the surrounding land uses |
| 13. | Environmental education center, Native American history reflective area, open space, park and recreation, public utilities, trails, other public and quasi public uses determined by the City Council to be compatible with the surrounding uses |



Figure 3-1 Sub-Area Land Use Plan



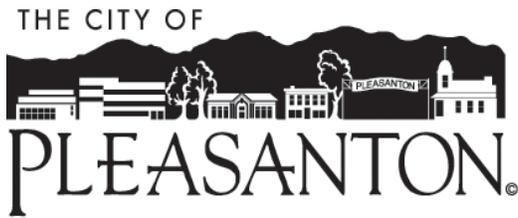
Refer to Table 3-1 for potentially permitted land uses by Sub-Area

 Phase I Planning area

SUB-AREA LAND USE PLAN
FIGURE 3-1

BERNAL PROPERTY
PHASE II SPECIFIC PLAN





Parks & Recreation Commission Agenda Report

December 12, 2013
Item 5

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF THE COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2014

SUMMARY

Annually, the Parks and Recreation Commission reviews its annual meeting schedule to consider canceling or re-scheduling meetings due to holidays or other conflicts.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Commission review its meeting schedule for 2014 and revise as necessary.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

There is none.

BACKGROUND

As noted in Section 2.32.080A of the Pleasanton Municipal Code, regular meetings of the Parks and Recreation Commission “shall be held on the second Thursday of each month at a time and place set by the Commission. The Commission may approve an alternate meeting date.”

The Commission may revise its regularly scheduled meetings during 2014 due to possible scheduling conflicts.

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Schedule

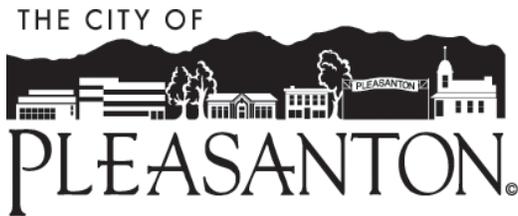
- January 9, 2014
- February 13, 2014
- March 13, 2014
- April 10, 2014
- May 8, 2014
- June 12, 2014 (PUSD Middle School Graduations) - *Alternative Date, Thursday, June 5, 2014*
- July 10, 2014
- August 14, 2014
- September 11, 2014
- October 9, 2014
- November 13, 2014
- December 11, 2014

ALTERNATIVE ACTION

Any other action as determined by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Submitted by:

/s/
Susan Andrade-Wax
Director of Community Services



Parks and Recreation Commission Agenda Report

December 12, 2013
Item 6

SUBJECT: SELECTION OF COMMISSION CHAIR, VICE CHAIR, AND COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

SUMMARY

Annually, the Commission selects a Chair and Vice Chairperson to facilitate meetings. The Commission also reviews committee appointments and makes any necessary changes.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Commission select a new Chair and Vice Chairperson and review committee assignments and project representatives for the period January – December 2014.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

There is none.

BACKGROUND

Per the City of Pleasanton Commissioner's Handbook Chapter 2.28, Item 2.28.070 Organization, Section A, Commissioners shall meet in regular session and elect a chairperson and vice chairperson. The election shall be by majority vote of the Commission, to be held in December of each year. The term of service for these offices shall be one year, beginning in January of each year. No commissioner shall serve more than two (2) consecutive full terms as chairperson of the Commission.

Each year, City commissions review committee assignments and the rotation of officers. The latest list of committee appointments and project representatives is attached for the Commission's review. Commissioners should be prepared at the meeting to nominate and select a new chairperson and vice chair for the period January – December 2014, and discuss any amendments to the committee assignments and project representatives.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION

Any other action as determined by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Submitted by:

/s/

Susan Andrade-Wax
Director of Community Services

Attachment

1. Parks and Recreation Commission Committee Appointments: January – December 2013

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

January – December 2013

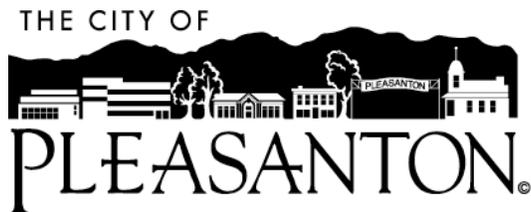
Committee Appointments

- Community of Character – Ted Kinzer; Jack Balch Alternate
Meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at 1:30-3:00 p.m., Chamber of Commerce, 777 Peters Ave.
- East Bay Regional Park District/City Liaison Committee – Brad Hottle; Deborah Wahl, Alternate
- Heritage Tree Board of Appeals – Joe Streng; David Lambert, Alternate
- Sports Council – Ted Kinzer; David Lambert, Alternate
Meets Quarterly the 2nd Monday at 7:00 p.m., Softball Complex
- Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee – Joe Streng; Deborah Wahl, Alternate
Meets the 4th Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m., City Council Conf. Rm.

Project Representatives

- Bernal Community Park – Ted Kinzer; Brad Hottle, Alternate
- Kottinger Place Redevelopment Task Force – Jack Balch; Joe Streng, Alternate
- Lions Wayside and Delucchi Parks – Deborah Wahl; Brad Hottle, Alternate
- Public Art Selection Sub-Committee (PASS) – Joe Streng; Brad Hottle & Sophia Brown, Alternates
- East Pleasanton Specific Plan Task Force – Brad Hottle; Jack Balch & Davide Lambert, Alternates
- Parks and Recreation Master Plan Steering Committee – Jack Balch; Joe Streng
- Cultural Plan Update Steering Committee – Ted Kinzer; Brad Hottle, Alternate
- Pioneer Cemetery Master Plan Oversight Committee – Brad Hottle, Deborah Wahl

12/4/2013 10:22 AM



Bicycle, Pedestrian & Trails Committee Minutes

Pleasanton Senior Center Classroom, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton, CA
October 28, 2013 – 6:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairperson Arne Olson called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited.

ROLL CALL

Committee Members Present: Richard Duffy, Lori Franklin, Donald Johnston, Rick Romine, and Vice Chairperson Arne Olson.

Committee Members Absent: Justin Brown, and Chairperson Joe Streng.

Staff Present: Janis Stephen, Traffic Engineering; Sgt. Leong, Police Department; and Edith Caponigro, Recording Secretary.

Agency Representative: Sean Dougan, East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD)

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

It was suggested and agreed that item 7 be moved forward on the agenda.

MINUTES

1. Approve regular meeting minutes of August 26, 2013

A motion was made by Rick Romine, seconded by Don Johnston, to approve the minutes from the August 26, 2013 meeting. **The motion was approved.**

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

2. Introductions/Awards/Recognitions/Presentations

Ms. Stephen introduced new Committee member Richard Duffy.

3. Public Comment from the audience regarding items not listed on the agenda

Wilhelm F. Schaeffler, 2506 Trailside Court – advised that he was a resident of the new Stoneridge Creek retirement development who liked to walk the local trails, but was concerned

why El Charro Road trail gates, that had initially been open were now closed, making it difficult to make the loop and return on the trail.

Ms. Stephen provided information about the location of the gates on the trail and advised that she would need to do some research to determine why the gate(s) were no longer open.

Mr. Johnston noted that the south side gate had been closed for some time, and Sgt. Leong thought there had been some safety issue with people accessing the fish ladders in the area.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

7. Updates from Project/Program/Agency Representatives

Mr. Dougan advised that he had been contacted and asked to provide information about the East Bay Regional Park District's closing time of the Pleasanton Ridge. Ms. Stephen noted that at the last meeting a member of the Committee had questioned why there was an inconsistency between EBRPD's closing of the Pleasanton Ridge Park trail and that of the City of Pleasanton's Augustin Bernal Park.

Mr. Dougan advised that according to a Code of Ordinance in place, EBRPD's hours of access to the Pleasanton Ridge Park trail are 5:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m.

Mr. Romine noted that the City of Pleasanton's closing time was 8:00 p.m. He discussed night riding possibilities and questioned why the closing time of the trail under the jurisdiction of the City of Pleasanton could not be adjusted to be in line with that of EBRPD.

Ms. Stephen provided information from the Pleasanton Municipal Code and suggested this was an item that may need coordination with the Parks and Recreation Commission since a determination regarding park hours was involved. Vice Chairperson Olson agreed that the Parks and Recreation Commission should be involved. .

Mr. Romine felt this Committee had been very responsive in resolving other matters and finding solution and would like for this matter to now be considered. Ms. Stephen indicated that she would contact the Director of Community Services, Susan Andrade-Wax, and request clarification on the process to resolve this issue.

Sgt. Leong suggested that an "Exception to the Code" be sought for the ridge, with the purpose being cited that the ridge is not usable in the midsection for night riding.

Mr. Romine suggested the City of Pleasanton work in conjunction with EBRPD on alternative hours for accessing the ridge trail and any updated signage that might be required. Ms. Stephen advised she would contact Ms. Andrade-Wax and determine if a recommendation on this matter in the form of a motion would be needed to present this item to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Mr. Romine asked about some temporary blocks on the Pleasanton Ridge trail that has been in place for approximately a year near a bench that overlooks Bernal. Mr. Dougan advised he would check on this and provide the Committee with information.

A “closed” sign on the Pleasanton side of the Alamo Canal undercrossing near Club Sport was also discussed. Ms. Stephen will check on this and request it be removed.

Mr. Dougan provided an update on the Iron Horse Trail project advising that the work is being done in three phases. He noted that the project is behind schedule, however, depending on weather, a completion date of January 2, 2014 is planned. Ms. Stephen advised that three mid-block traffic signals were included in the project.

Mr. Romine questioned whether the trail would be going under BART and Mr. Dougan advised that discussions were still taking place with BART regarding this matter.

MATTERS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

4. Proposed Arroyo Mocho Trail Bicycle and Pedestrian Access Gate Near Intersection of Stoneridge Drive at Guzman Parkway

Ms. Stephen advised that a project is currently being designed to pave eastern segments of the Arroyo Mocho Trail. As part of this project, it is proposed that a bicycle and pedestrian trail access gate be constructed on the Arroyo Mocho Trail near the intersection of Stoneridge Drive at Guzman Parkway. The access gate would reduce the distance local residents would have to travel to access the Arroyo Mocho Trail, and would provide a convenient connection point from the Arroyo Mocho Trail to Amaral Park and the Martin Avenue Trail.

Ms. Stephen provided Committee members with a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the areas in question and the planned paving for the different sections. She advised that staff supports the proposed recommendations and has received no negative comments about this proposed access gate project. Ms. Stephen also noted that the proposed preliminary gate opening design may need to be modified.

Committee members discussed various aspects of the projects proposed trail access point and location.

Mr. Johnston discussed the estimated cost of \$14,500 of the project with Ms. Stephen, who advised that the cost could be lower when included with the larger paving project.

A motion was made by Mr. Romine, seconded by Ms. Franklin, to approve the proposed Arroyo Mocho Trail bicycle and pedestrian trail access gate near the intersection of Stoneridge Drive at Guzman Parkway.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Committee members Duffy, Franklin, Johnston, Romine, and Vice Chairperson Olson.

NOES: None

ABSENT: Committee member Brown and Chairperson Streng.

ABSTAIN: None

5. Trails Project Status Report.

Ms. Stephen reviewed with Committee members the Trails Project Status Report.

Arroyo Mocho Trail/Staples Ranch – Environmental reviews are nearing completion; project is 35% design complete.

Iron Horse Trail – North (Santa Rita Road to BART Station) – Estimated project completion has moved to January 2014 due to utility coordination issues.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

6. Updates from Parks and Recreation Commission

No report.

7. Updates from Project/Program/Agency Representatives

No report.

8. Other brief reports on any meetings, conferences, and/or seminars attended by the Committee members

No reports.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

There were none.

STAFF COMMENTS

9. Schedule of Upcoming Meetings of Interest

Ms. Stephen reviewed the report with Committee members.

The Committee was informed by Ms. Stephen that the Old Vineyard Avenue Trail project could come before them at the December meeting.

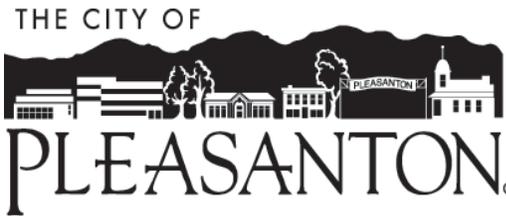
10. **November/December 2013 meeting dates for Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee**

Ms. Stephen advised that since the regularly scheduled Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee meetings in November and December are close to holidays, that the Committee may wish to consider alternatives. She reviewed with the Committee several options for their consideration.

After considering the options provided by staff the Committee agreed to cancel the regularly scheduled November 2013 and December 2013 Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee meetings and replace with one meeting to be held on Monday, December 16, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.



MEMORANDUM

Date: December 12, 2013
To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Susan Andrade-Wax, Director of Community Services
Subject: Schedule of Upcoming Meetings and Events of Interest

| Date | Time | Meeting/Event | Location |
|-------------|-------------|--|---|
| December 11 | 7:00 pm | Youth Commission | Operations Services Center, Remilard Conference Room 3333 Busch Road, Pleasanton |
| December 12 | 7:00 pm | Parks & Recreation Commission | City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton |
| December 16 | 6:30 pm | Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee | City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton |
| December 17 | 7:00 pm | City Council | City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton |
| December 19 | 3:30 pm | Parks & Recreation Master Plan Steering Committee | Operations Services Center, Remilard Conference Room 3333 Busch Road, Pleasanton |
| 2014 | | | |
| January 6 | 7:00 pm | Civic Arts Commission | City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton |
| January 15 | 7:00 pm | Human Services Commission | City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton |
| January 21 | 7:00 pm | City Council | City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton |
| January 27 | 6:30 pm | Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee | Senior Center, Classroom, 5353 Sunol Boulevard, Pleasanton |

Civic Arts Commission – normally meets on the first Monday of each month.

Human Services Commission – normally meets on the first Wednesday of each month.

Parks and Recreation Commission – normally meets on the second Thursday of each month.

Youth Commission – normally meets on the second Wednesday of each month during the school year.

Planning Commission – normally meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month.

Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee – normally meets on the fourth Monday of each month.